

Development Charges Treasurer's Annual Statement

Purpose

This report provides detail for the following items relating to Development Charges (DC):

1. Provide a financial statement relating to development charges collected during 2016 including reserve fund transactions and balances.
2. Provide an update on the residential development charges deferral program as approved by Council in late 2015.

Overview - How Development Charges Are Recorded

Development charges collected are included in an obligatory reserve fund by each service area as outlined in the 2014 DC background study. At the end of each year, staff reviews the spending on growth related projects as identified in the background study and transfers the DC's collected that can be earned during the year. The funds are transferred to fund the respective growth related projects, which creates a project surplus and is transferred to the respective Capital Financing Reserve Fund. These reserve funds can then be used towards future capital projects.

DC's are not shown as a funding source in the annual Capital Budget as the funding amount is unknown until collected as dependent on the development activity which varies year to year, as well as exemptions from the DC Act and By-Law 2014-151.

1. Treasurer's Annual Statement

The Development Charges Act, section 43(1) states that "The treasurer of a municipality shall each year on or before such date as the council of the municipality may direct, give the Council a financial statement relating to development charge by-laws and reserve funds established under section 33." In addition, Paragraphs 12 and 13 of Ontario Regulation 82/98 indicate the information to be included in the report.

Schedule "A" provides a summary of the development charges collected during 2016 as per this By-Law including reserve fund transactions and balances. Schedule "B" provides a list of growth related capital projects that have received contributions from the development charges reserve funds in 2016. The City prefunds the growth related portion of capital projects until development charges are collected in future years. Therefore, the funding of the growth related portion of capital projects resulted in unspent dollars in the capital cost centres which was transferred to the respective capital financing reserve fund for the affected departments.

A summary of the Development Charges activities and obligatory reserve funds relating to by-law 2014-151 is detailed below:

January 1, 2016 – opening balance	\$ 1,320,730
Development Charges received	3,879,116
Interest earned	51,106
Transfers to capital projects	(3,699,691)
December 31, 2016 – closing balance	<u>\$ 1,551,261</u>

The balance in the obligatory reserve funds is made up of the following major categories:

General services	\$ 1,551,261
Engineered services	<u>0</u>
Total Development Charge reserve funds	<u>\$ 1,551,261</u>

Funds remaining in the Development Charges Reserve Funds are considered to be committed for projects as identified in the 2014 Development Charges Background Study. The funds will be transferred to the capital projects when growth related costs are incurred.

No amounts have been borrowed from the funds during the year or in any previous years. Therefore, no amounts have been repaid for any previous borrowings as there have been no previous borrowings.

Furthermore, the City is in compliance with respect to the following “A municipality shall not impose, directly or indirectly, a charge related to a development or a requirement to construct to service related to development, except as permitted by this Act or another Act.” This statement prohibits municipalities from requesting “voluntary, but mandatory” payments for the 10% discount, ineligible services and post period shared, etc relating to the DC background study.

Update on Residential Deferred Development Charges Program

City Council approved a deferred development charges program for residential development in late 2015. Since its implementation, a total of two applications have been received and approved for a total of four residential properties. In addition, Council approved the deferral for St.Vincent de Paul until the building is sold or transferred. During June 2017 to the date of this report, there has been another two applications received for a total of five residential unit properties.

Conclusion

Pursuant to Section 43 of the Development Charges Act, the Treasurer shall furnish to Council a financial statement (Schedule A and B) relating to the Development Charges By-Law and reserve funds.