



Budget Committee Minutes

Meeting No. 3

October 13, 2021, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Live streamed

Members	Councillor Andrew Keyes, Vice-Chair Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio) Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton Regional Councillor Jack Heath	Councillor Keith Irish Councillor Reid McAlpine Councillor Karen Rea Councillor Khalid Usman
Regrets	Councillor Amanda Collucci, Chair	
Roll Call	Regional Councillor Joe Li Regional Councillor Jim Jones Councillor Alan Ho Councillor Isa Lee Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer Trinela Cane, Commissioner, Corporate Services Arvin Prasad, Commissioner Development Services Claudia Storto, City Solicitor and Director of Human Resources Joel Lustig, Treasurer Bryan Frois, Chief of Staff Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk Adam Grant, Fire Chief Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation Services Biju Karumanchery, Director of Planning and Urban Design Graham Seaman, Director, Sustainability & Asset Management	Catherine Biss, Chief Executive Officer Morgan Jones, Commissioner Lisa Chen, Senior Manager, Financial Planning & Reporting, Financial Services Jay Pak, Senior Financial Analyst Alison , Senior Financial Analyst Jemima Lee, Senior Financial Analyst Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst Laura Gold, Council and Committee Coordinator Mary-Jane Courchesne, Acting Council/Committee Coordinator Eddy Wu, Director, Environmental Services Alice Lam, Director of Operations Stephanie DiPerna, Director, Building Standards Richard Fournier, Manager, Parks & Open Space Development Heena Mistry, Senior Financial Analyst Germaine D'Silva, Senior Financial Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Budget Committee convened at 9:05 AM with Councillor Andrew Keyes in the Chair.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interests.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Keith Irish

That the Minutes of the October 6, 2021 Budget Committee be approved as presented.

Carried

4. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

4.1 Public Art Briefing Note

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea

1. That the Public Art Briefing Note be received.

Carried

4.2 2022 Capital Project Requests Related to MiX Innovation District Secondary Plan

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea

1. That the presentation "2022 Capital Project Requests Related to MiX Innovation District Secondary Plan" be received.

Carried

5. CONTINUATION OF THE 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET

5.1 Capital Summary

Committee continued its review of the 2022 Capital Budget.

Development Services Commission Capital Budget Items

Engineering

Staff provided the following responses to inquiries from the Committee:

Capital Budget Item No.	Project	Discussion
22028	Downstream Improvements Program (Construction)	Staff advised that the detailed design for the Rouge River projects are complete and indicated that the construction work is anticipated to begin in the spring and finish by the end of 2022. The detailed design for Berczy will be completed shortly. The design budget was already approved and the current funding is being requested for the construction.
22026	North Markham Employment SP (MIX+) – Transportation	Staff provided a presentation in response to Committee’s request for an explanation of the project requests related to the MiX Innovation District Secondary Plan.
22030	Hwy 404 MBC, N of 16 th Avenue (Utility Relocation)	Staff advised that the requested budget represents preliminary estimate of the City’s share of the cost-shared work with both York Region and the City of Richmond Hill. The reason for the City’s higher share was explained by Staff. Engineering will provide update to Council at a later date based on discussions with Region of York and Richmond Hill.
22032	Markham Centre Trails – Phase 2 (Construction)	Staff advised that as part of the Active Transportation Workshop, a presentation will be provided to Council on the criteria used to determine the type of trail will be built (multi-use pathway versus separate facilities). The workshop is anticipated to be held in November. The safety of cyclists and pedestrians on the MUPs will be emphasized throughout the design process of the Markham Centre Trails. The material to be used for the trails will be reviewed by staff.

		Mayor Scarpitti mentioned that he supports this project and noted that the Markham Centre Trails will be heavily used given the location. It was suggested that Staff not rush the completion of the design and construction without fully examining all design options, taking into account the safety of both cyclists and pedestrians.
22034	Rouge Valley Trail – Phase 4B (Detailed Design)	Staff advised that parking areas will be incorporated during the design process of the Rouge Valley Trail so that nearby residents living near the trail openings are not inconvenienced.
22035	Rouge Valley Trail (Kennedy Road North) – Construction	Staff advised that a site visit to the Rouge Valley Trail can be arranged imminently with Committee to determine any minor design issues. Mayor Scarpitti mentioned that this project will be receiving a contribution from York Region and recommended approving the project. It was proposed that if after the site visit, a major design change is requested, then the project can be brought back to Council for reconsideration.
22036	Markham Road MUP Cross-rides (Construction)	Staff provided clarification on the principle of cross-rides: (i) cyclists and pedestrians can safely cross intersections parallel to one another and (ii) cyclists would not have to dismount. Cross-rides are being proposed at several private accesses and intersections that have been identified as higher risk locations, having more pedestrians/cyclists to traffic movement
22037	Markham Cycles & Active Transportation Awareness Program	Staff advised that the project cost is the City's contribution to a joint project it is working on with Markham Cycles. The project promotes active transportation through community outreach and education.
22039	Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CPAC)	Staff advised that the CPAC budget has been underspent the last few years due to the pandemic.
22041	Various walking and	Staff advised that these funds will be used to complete the gaps in the hiking and cycling network, and to implement the Open Streets Markham program.

	cycling initiatives	
22042	Sidewalk Program (Construction)	Staff explained that the City adheres to the depth and material standards. Quality control such as confirming that the compaction of granular material is satisfactory will be undertaken. Further, engineering design guidelines will be reviewed to ensure all are adhered to. Staff asked Committee to provide locations of concern for investigation.
22043	Development of Road Safety Strategy	Staff confirmed that speed mitigation measures on(i) Carlton Road (Kennedy-McCowan) and (ii) Main Street Markham (16 th Avenue – Bullock), and community consultation are included as part of this project. It will take approximately two years to develop the Road Safety Strategy and complete the traffic calming measures at the 2 locations.
22044	Apple Creek Blvd. Traffic Operations & Safety Corridor	<p>Staff advised that the study will be looking at a number of mitigating strategies that would improve traffic flow which are causing operational and safety issues. Many concerns of the Apple Creek Boulevard corridor have been received from residents. Data on risks and traffic counts have been identified and the project cost would result in recommended measures to address the issues.</p> <p>Mayor Scarpitti emphasized that the project area is a mix of residential, employment, industrial, commercial and further, includes a high school. The volume of traffic and activity have increased overtime. Staff's work on reviewing all the different elements of the project is supported.</p>
22045	Copper Creek Drive Pedestrian Cross-Overs (PXO)	Staff advised that Operations will visit the Copper Creek pedestrian cross-overs (PXO) locations to assess the pruning of trees blocking the view of the lights/equipment. Complaints received are being addressed as staff is working with consultant to add a light on a beam at existing locations. Staff will ensure the new cross-overs will be constructed with a light on top as well.
22046	(PXO) Implementation at Supervised School Crossings	Staff advised that type B PXOs are being proposed to be installed at 25 elementary school crossings, not flashing beacons or road markings. The PXOs are being installed as a safety improvement measure at these particular schools as they have playground amenities that families access all year round and during the day

		when a crossing guard may not be in attendance. The PXOs would be monitored and if further improvement is recommended, the City will address it.
22051	Parking Master Plan and Implementation Strategy	Staff advised that the project addresses the need for an overall parking master plan to identify the City's current and future parking needs. Staff further advised that the parking availability for different types of development is being addressed through the City's Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw update.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Reid McAlpine

That the Budget Committee approve the Engineering Capital Budget Item Nos. 22024, 22026, 22028 through to 22049 and 22051.

Carried

Engineering Project No. 22050 - Parking Lot for York University Campus

Claudia Storto advised that negotiations are currently taking place and thus any discussions are required to go in camera.

CAO, Legal, HR & Fire

Legal

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hamilton

That the Budget Committee approve the Legal Capital Budget Item No. 22052.

Carried

Fire & Emergency Services

Moved by Councillor Khalid Usman

Seconded by Councillor Reid McAlpine

That the Budget Committee approve the Fire & Emergency Services Capital Budget Item Nos. 22053 and 22055 through to 22059.

Carried

Corporate Services

IT Services

Staff provided the following responses to inquiries from the Committee:

<p>22060</p>	<p>IT Lifecycle Asset Replacement</p>	<p>Staff advised this project is to address IT assets that are due for lifecycle replacement.</p> <p>Committee questioned whether this will address the assets that are considered requiring improvements as per the recent Asset Management presentation. Staff advised asset conditions that require improvements are currently being addressed through previously approved projects.</p> <p>The project cost would include funding for the initiatives of the strategic plan implementation relating to autonomous shuttles, digital trails, e-scooters/e-bikes and digital counter service queuing. Whitby’s and Toronto’s autonomous shuttles are being monitored. Grant funds for this project are available to the City. The pilot has not yet commenced but is being considered.</p> <p>The City met with an e-scooter vendor who was willing to conduct a free pilot, but there are some issues when the City’s trail systems cross different jurisdictions and have to be investigated further in order to have a meaningful pilot. Staff will consider a campus-type pilot, which could be located in the Markham Centre.</p> <p>Staff advised that free Wi-Fi opportunities are in the discussion phase at this time. The potential pilots would be for new development areas which currently do not have sufficient Wi-Fi coverage. Regular status reports of pilot(s) can be provided by Staff to Council on a bi-annual or quarterly basis.</p>
<p>22062</p>	<p>Momentum CRM (CivicTrack)</p>	<p>Mayor Scarpitti mentioned that the Mayor’s Office has not been using Momentum but has been requesting a robust software to track and improve interactions with residents (other than for election purposes). Staff was thanked for bringing this project forward to benefit Members of Council and some departments.</p>

		Staff confirmed they had reviewed other options and determined Momentum is the relatively better solution for Markham. Training on this software will be provided to Council.
--	--	---

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea

Seconded by Councillor Khalid Usman

That the Budget Committee approve the IT Services Capital Budget Item Nos. 22060, 22061 and 22062.

Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

Cenotaph – Phase 2 – Markham Village

Councillor Rea inquired if a capital budget item could be added to include the names of fallen veterans at the Cenotaph.

Mayor Scarpitti reminded Committee that the Markham Village Cenotaph project has already been fully approved and was included in the scope of the project. The Mayor requested to see the final design of the project. Councillor Rea was advised to follow up with Staff on the completion of the last phase.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on October 20, 2021.

9. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

The Budget Committee entered a confidential session at 11:37 AM and did not return to the open session.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Reid McAlpine

That, in accordance with Section 239 (2) (a) of the Municipal Act, Budget Committee resolve into a confidential session at 11:37 AM to discuss matters pertaining to negotiations relating to Project No. 22050.

Carried

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Budget Committee adjourned at 11:37 AM.