



**FOURTH MEETING OF THE  
2012 BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE  
CANADA ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE  
October 21, 2011  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Session 2**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

**Members Present:**

Deputy Mayor Heath (ex-officio)  
Regional Councillor Gord Landon, Chair  
Councillor Valerie Burke  
Councillor Colin Campbell  
Councillor Alex Chiu  
Councillor Don Hamilton  
Councillor Alan Ho  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Councillor Carolina Moretti  
Councillor Howard Shore

**Regrets:**

Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio)  
Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Regional Councillor Joe Li

**Staff Present:**

Gary Adamkowski, Director of Asset Management  
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services  
Catherine Biss, Chief Executive Officer, Markham  
Public Libraries  
Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Development  
Laurie Canning, Manager, Fleet & Supplies  
Noeline Chipun, Senior Financial Analyst  
Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation Services  
Dennis Flaherty, Director of Communications &  
Community Relations  
Kimberley Kitteringham, Town Clerk  
Morgan Jones, Acting Manager, Roads Operations  
Bob Nicholson, Manager of Business & Technical  
Services  
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire  
Services  
Karen Liu, Senior Financial Analyst  
Joel Lustig, Treasurer  
John Ryerson, Director of Culture  
Veronica Siu, Financial & Client Services  
Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning  
Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Bob Walters, Acting Manager, Parks Operations  
Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Budget Sub-Committee reconvened at 2:09 p.m. with Regional Councillor Gord Landon presiding as Chair.

# **1. FOLLOW-UP FROM MORNING SESSION**

The following items from the morning session were approved:

## Establishment of New Ward Boundaries – Capital Budget Item No. 12089

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the Legislative Services Capital Budget Item No. 12089 be approved.

CARRIED.

## Mobile Stage – Capital Budget Item No. 12115

Moved by Councillor Howard Shore

Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

That the Communications & Community Relations Capital Budget Item No. 12115 be approved as a placeholder.

CARRIED.

## Approval of the Minutes from Budget Sub-Committee No. 2

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the Minutes from the October 11, 2011 Budget Sub-Committee be approved.

CARRIED.

**2. REVIEW OF CAPITAL BUDGET- CONTINUATION**

Recreation Services		
12181	<p>Recreation - Pool Sanitization (Phase 3 of 4) – these funds are for the installation of an ultraviolet sanitization system at Angus Glen pool.</p> <p>There was a question regarding the costs and benefits associated with the use of this type of sanitization system. Staff advised that this is the third Town pool to be installed with this type of sanitization system and that it is a viable and safe low chlorine solution.</p>	135,700
12182	<p>Centennial C.C. - Upgrade Upper Lounge – the funds will be used towards the complete renovation of the existing bar area.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the windows will be updated as part of this upgrade.</p>	60,400
12183	Centennial/Mt. Joy/Markham Village Cleaning Equip.	60,300
12186	Recreation Aquatic Equipment	71,400
12187	<p>Recreation Fitness Equipment – these funds will be used for the annual replacement program for the fitness equipment at Town owned Facilities.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding whether the fitness equipment should be replaced, as membership is down. Staff advised that the Recreation Steering Committee will be reviewing its pricing strategy and that this is a capital budget item for the replacement of fitness equipment based on its lifecycle. It was noted a formula is used to determine when equipment should be replaced. Staff felt that it was important to update the fitness equipment as it ages, otherwise the Town risks losing more members.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding the type of equipment that will be purchased. Staff advised the type of equipment can be decided at a later date.</p> <p>There was a question regarding what happens to the fitness equipment that is being replaced. It was noted that the vendor will buy back the equipment for parts. It was suggested to consider donating the equipment to a seniors fitness centre.</p>	128,000
12188	<p>Recreation Program Equipment – these funds will be used to replace town wide program/camp equipment.</p> <p>There was an inquiry if the recreation program equipment includes karate equipment. It was clarified that this budget request is to replace all existing recreational equipment at the end of its lifecycle.</p> <p>There was a request that the Town provide karaoke classes. Staff advised that this was possible, as most of the centres have the equipment. It was noted that seniors like karaoke.</p>	74,300

12189	Recreation Tables & Chair replacement	49,800
12191	Recreation Thornlea Pool program	66,100
12192	<p>Angus Glen - Gymnasium Flooring Refinishing –These funds are for the refinishing of the gymnasium floors</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding finding space to play pickle ball. Staff advised they are researching options for playing pickle ball and that they are trying to create time in the gymnasium for pickle ball.</p>	21,900
12193	<p>Thornhill Hall Divider Partitions Replacement – the funds will be used towards the replacement of the existing two hall dividers to section the hall into 3 separate halls.</p> <p>There was an inquiry whether the dividers will be soundproof. Staff confirmed the dividers will be soundproof.</p> <p>A member inquired if the rooms could be further divided into 4 halls rather than 3. Staff advised they will look into this matter.</p>	231,400
12194	Armada Mill Work	15,300
12195	Angus Glen Sump Pump Replacement	21,400
12197	Angus Glen - Blind Replacement	12,100
12198	Thornhill Refrigeration Plant Renovations – both pads	739,800
12199	<p>Angus Glen - Interior Painting – these funds will be used to paint two stucco walls in the pool area, all arena walls in the East &amp; west arena including top of stands &amp; wall at north end.</p> <p>There was an inquiry regarding whether it is common to use stucco on the walls of pools rather than the ceramic tiles. It was confirmed that it is not uncommon and clarified that this request is for the painting of existing stucco.</p> <p>It was noted that there are many capital requests for Angus Glen considering it was only recently built. It was reported that it is the most heavily used community centre.</p>	19,100
12200	Angus Glen - Exterior Wood Sealing and Siding	17,300
12201	Angus Glen - Viewing and Youth Lounge Furniture	24,400
12202	Rouge River C.C. Rubber Flooring Replacement – These funds will be used to replace the existing rubber flooring in the main hallway and entrance to the golf course.	7,600

	There was an inquiry regarding whether the basement at the Rouge River Community Centre is being used. It was reported that a number of groups are using the space on a regular basis. The challenge is that the basement is not accessible. There was a discussion on how the space could be made more accessible.	
12203	Milliken Mills C.C. Arena Painting	23,900
12204	Centennial/Mount Joy Relining Hot Water Tanks	16,900
12205	Centennial C. C. Change Arena Glass – these funds will be used to remove 3 foot high glass and support stanchions along the east and west side of the arena. It will be replaced with 5 foot high glass and stanchions in the same configuration.  A Member questioned the difference in cost between glass and netting. Staff reported that some of the clubs that play in these arenas are required to have 5 foot glass.	35,500
12206	Centennial C. C. Replace Pool Basement H/V Unit	179,100
12207	Mount Joy Soccer - Replace Soccer Field Netting	8,400
12208	Thornhill and Clatworthy Arena Equipment	5,700
12209	Thornhill and Clatworthy Ice Edger Replacement	14,000
12210	Mount Joy -Ice Rink Replacement	839,500
12216	Milliken Mills C.C. Millwork	10,700
12217	Thornhill Library interior Window Frames Painting	15,100
12218	Thornhill Door and Hardware Replacement	23,900
12219	Milliken Mills C.C. HVAC unit replacement	61,100
12221	Seniors Centre - Gymnasium Floor Refinishing	16,300
12223	Rouge River Pool Heater Replacement	15,000
12224	Angus Glen - Arena Heaters	30,500
Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  That the Recreation Services Capital Budget items listed above be approved.  CARRIED.		
Operations - Roads		

12225	<p>Asphalt Resurfacing – these funds are used for the asphalt resurfacing of roads throughout the Town using a pavement management program to select rehabilitation candidates.</p> <p>Members requested staff to provide a list of streets being resurfaced. It was confirmed that unused funds are carried over to next year's budget.</p>	5,399,400
12226	<p>Huntington Park Permeable Paving Program – through collaboration with the University of Waterloo, Operations will construct test sections of permeable paving in Huntington Park Parking Lot.</p> <p>A member inquired why the main pathways at Huntington Park are not being paved. It was reported that this program is a pilot project and that the project will be expanded depending on its success. It was requested that staff compile a frequently asked questions document to educate members of the public on the program.</p>	76,300
12227	Parking Lots	218,100
12228	Secondary Roadwork	254,400
12229	Localized Repairs - Curb & Sidewalk	539,900
12230	Emergency Repairs	108,000
12231	<p>Railway Crossing Improvements – maintenance repairs to level railway crossings Town wide.</p> <p>A member inquired about the status of the anti-whistling report. Staff advised that the Director of Engineering has been working on the cost estimate, noting staff do not recommend this initiative due to the uncertainty of the effectiveness and the expense . It was requested that staff provide a status update on this matter.</p>	54,000
12232	<p>Retaining Walls Program – these funds are used to repair failing retaining walls.</p> <p>Staff were asked to inspect the structural health of a few walls between 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Warden, South of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue.</p>	74,100
12236	Storm Sewer Inspection	107,800
12237	Storm Water Retention Pond Maintenance Program	26,500
12238	<p>Upgraded Guiderail Installation – these funds are used to upgrade existing guiderail to meet new provincial standards and minimize maintenance.</p> <p>It was clarified that all guiderails are inspected.</p> <p>There was an inquiry on whether the Town could fund the replacement of the fence surrounding Thornhill Cemetery through the capital budget. Staff advised they will look into this matter to see what can be done. It was noted that the</p>	85,500

	Town recently took over the ownership and management of the cemetery.	
12239	Boulevard Repairs	54,000
12240	Bridge Structure Preventative Maintenance	46,500
12241	Town Owned Fence Replacement Program – these funds are used to remove and replace failing fences.  It was clarified that all Town fences are inspected.	122,400
<p>Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell  Moved by Councillor Alan Ho</p> <p>That the Operations-Roads Capital Budget Items listed above be approved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>		
Operations – Parks		
12242	<p>Bleachers (Concrete) Replacement-Milliken Mills Park – these funds will be used to replace 5 concrete bleachers at Milliken Mills Park.</p> <p>A Member noted that a lot of funds are being invested to the Milliken Mills Park. It was felt that the specific park details should not be determined until after a workshop on the park and its usage is held.</p> <p>It was explained that this funding request is for large bleachers that are more expensive than the concrete ones. Staff advised that the expense is justified as the old concrete bleachers are very hard to maintain.</p> <p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell</p> <p>That Operations-Parks Capital Budget Item Nos. 12242 and 12243 be approved; and,</p> <p>That the Departments not proceed with these projects until a workshop on the Milliken Mills “Campus/Park” is held.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>	809,900
12243	Bleachers (Metal) Replacement-Milliken Pk-Diamond 1	16,200
12244	<p>Floodlights &amp; Poles Replacement – these funds are for floodlights and poles at Milliken Mills Park baseball, Toogood Tennis &amp; Duncan Park due for replacement based on life expectancy.</p> <p>There was a question regarding whether the lights can be manually turned on and off. Staff advised that lights are on timers and that it is possible to override the system, but it is not advisable.</p>	377,300

	<p>A Member requested that the lights shine down, so that Markham is not contributing to light pollution.</p> <p>It was questioned if there is technology to regulate the lights remotely. Staff advised they would investigate both if technology exists to monitor the lights remotely and the cost and benefits associated with the technology. It was suggested that a pilot project be conducted if the technology exists.</p>	
12245	<p>Highgate Park Basketball Court – these funds are for the construction of a basketball court at Highgate Park, as requested by the local Councillor.</p> <p>It was questioned if the basketball court could also be used to play volley ball, as most school gyms are set up for both. It was clarified that volley ball and basketball dimensions are different.</p>	22,400
12246	<p>Volleyball Court Pilot Project - these funds are for a volleyball pilot project at a park to be determined.</p> <p>Staff advised that the location of the pilot project is still under review.</p>	63,800
12247	Johnsview Park Basketball Court	35,600
12248	<p>Public Realm-Markham's Shared Places Our Spaces – Markham's Public Realm is a long term plan to create dynamic, beautiful public spaces that reflect our diverse social cultural identity.</p> <p>Staff advised that this project will commence once the new Committee is appointed. It was noted there are plans to beautify the entrance to the Markham Civic Centre.</p>	300,000
12249	<p>Adopt a Park &amp; Colour Your Corner – these funds promote community engagement &amp; stewardship of local parks &amp; green spaces. Funding provided by the Town is limited to 20 locations at \$500 per location and a volunteer appreciation event.</p> <p>A member requested that a workshop be held on the adopt a park program. Staff advised that the program will be discussed as part of the Public Realm Workshop.</p>	10,000
12250	Electrical & Cabling	88,100
12251	<p>Paving Pathways &amp; Facilities - these funds are used for paving and repairs of pathways and facilities at various parks and locations.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the pathways and trails. There was inquiry whether there will be a workshop on pathways and trails and when signs will be put up marking the trails. It was noted that multiuse pathway on Major Mackenzie is closed. A Member questioned if staff knew the trail would be closed when they scheduled the opening of the pathways and trails. The Commissioner of Development Services was requested to look into this matter and report back.</p>	112,300
12252	Markham Trees for Tomorrow – the funds are part of the Council approved program to plant 90,000 trees by 2014.	120,000

	<p>It was clarified that this is an ongoing program and that ash trees are not being planted. Staff advised that an inventory of all it trees in Markham will be taken so that they can be included in the Life Cycle Reserve &amp; Capital Replacement Fund.</p> <p>There was a question where the funds to cover extra-ordinary events come from. It was reported that the Corporate Rate Stabilization Fund is used for extra-ordinary events like the Thornhill flooding or the ash tree infestation.</p> <p>There was a question regarding whether it is better to use the funds to increase the survival rate of the trees planted from 70% to 90% or to plant more trees. Staff advised that naturally some of the trees will not survive and recommended that the funds be used to plant more trees.</p>	
12253	Replacement/New Boulevard/Park Trees	162,000
12254	<p>Playstructure &amp; Safety Resurfacing – installation of playground equipment. For safety structure like sand or rubberized structure.</p> <p>There was a request to replace the sand at the Park on Hazelton Lanes with a rubberized structure. Staff advised it is very expensive to install a rubber surface. A work order will be placed to investigate the type of sand that is currently at the park, as Markham is now using a heavier more durable sand that does not blow as much.</p>	224,600
12255	Sportsfield Maintenance & Reconstruction	123,500
12256	<p>Town Park Furniture / Amenities – This is an annual replacement program to provide and replace furniture at parks.</p> <p>There was a question regarding the type of garbage cans at parks. Staff advised that large multi-purpose bins are being placed in parks.</p> <p>There was an inquiry regarding whether a structure providing shelter could be added to some parks. This will be discussed as part of the park amenities policy review 2012.</p> <p>A Member inquired about the ownership and maintenance of tennis clubhouses in Markham. Staff advised there is currently no existing policy that covers tennis clubhouses. Currently, the tennis clubs are responsible for all maintenance and repair (both inside and outside) for their respective clubhouses. In the spring of 2012, Operations will be working with Asset Management and Recreation on a new Tennis Club Policy that covers the ownership, maintenance and repair for clubhouses along with several other outstanding issues related to both infrastructure management (Operations / Asset Management) and programming hours (Recreation).</p>	134,800

12257	TRCA 50/50 Community Projects	40,000
12258	Volunteer Ice Rink Program	30,500
12259	Court Resurfacing/Reconstruction – lifecycle program	602,300
12261	Pomona Mills Park Stairs Modification – these funds are being used towards the modification of the stairs in the west side of Pomona Mills Park.  The project is being reviewed by an engineer to determine if it is feasible.	40,700
12262	New Outfield Fences/Warning Tracks-Aldergrove –	45,800
12360	Parks Furniture-Public Space Recycling Program – funds will be used to provide special event and public space furniture. This includes waste receptacles.  Staff were asked to confirm the total number of waste receptacles that will be on Main Street Unionville.	125,600
12369	Parks Amenities Policy Review – these funds will be used to hire a consultant to provide town wide policies for drinking fountains, water play features and park public washrooms preferred locations.  There was a discussion on the hiring of a consultant. There was some concern regarding the cost of hiring a consultant to review Markham's drinking fountain strategy, when residents often bring their own water when going to the park. Staff advised the expertise is required to know where to install the water fountains. It was noted that the consultant will be hired in the new year and that a report will later be brought to Council for approval.  A Member requested that a message be placed on the website regarding why water fountains are not working.	50,000

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

That the Operations-Parks Capital Budget Items listed above be approved.

CARRIED.

12270	New Fleet – Operations- Growth	
12370	New Fleet – Operations – Forestry – these funds will be used to accommodate growth in the urban forest area through the purchase of vehicles and equipment. It is also for a personnel requirement to address the immediate requirements for dealing with the emerald Ash Borer.	

	It was advised that a student is being hired to answer phone calls related to the emerald ash borer trees infestation. This will allow supervisors to respond to forestry related issues.	
<p>Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton</p> <p>That the Operations–Fleet Capital Budget Item Nos. 12370 &amp; 12270 be approved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>		
Operations – Traffic		
12263	<p>Traffic Signals Upgrades – to update, modify and replace traffic signal system equipment.</p> <p>A Member inquired about installing red light cameras at problematic intersections. It was explained that red light cameras need to be approved by the Province.</p>	79,400
12264	Pedestrian Countdown Signal Retrofit Program	50,900
12265	<p>Pedestrian Accessibility Improvements-Ph 2 of 6 – the program involves the installation of accessible pedestrian signals to improve pedestrian accessibility.</p> <p>It was confirmed that this item includes audible intersections.</p>	356,200
12266	<p>Traffic Control Signal Design &amp; Construction – these funds are for the design and construction of traffic signals at 2 locations.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding installing traffic lights at John Street and Henderson Avenue to improve vehicle flow. Councillor Valerie Burke was opposed to the installation of the lights, as residents are not in favour of installing traffic signals at this intersection.</p>	379,400
<p>Moved by Councillor Alan Ho Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell</p> <p>That the Operations –Traffic Capital Budget Items listed above be approved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>		
Operations - Fleet		
12267	Corporate Fleet Refurbishing	35,400
12268	Corporate Fleet Replacement – these are the funds for the 2012 annual fleet replacement program based on the Council adopted Corporate Fleet Policy	1,498,000

	<p>Guidelines.</p> <p>There was a question regarding the number of vehicles being replaced. It was noted 34 vehicles are being replaced.</p> <p>There was an inquiry regarding what Markham does with its vehicles that are no longer in use. Staff advised they are placed in an auction where the town gets a return on its investment. It was noted that 3 hybrid vehicles are included in this project.</p>	
12366	Winter Maintenance Vehicles	200,000
<p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho</p> <p>That the Operations-Fleet Capital Budget Items listed above be approved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>		

### 3. NEXT MEETING

That next meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee will be held on Monday, October 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Canada Room.

### 4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

That the Budget Sub-Committee adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

CARRIED.