

City Council Strategic Priority and Leadership Initiative – 2023 Q4 Update

ISSUE

Section 7 of [Policy No. C01-029](#) “City Council Strategic Priority and Leadership Initiative” provides for optional quarterly updates to be given to City Council by Council Member Leads on their respective Strategic Priority Areas through the Governance and Priorities Committee.

BACKGROUND

In its 2017 strategic planning process, City Council adopted a leadership model that empowered Councillors to take leadership roles in ten strategic priority areas. Engaging citizens and stakeholders to develop real community ownership in addressing these challenges for the city was a critical piece of the new approach.

At its November 18, 2019 Regular Business meeting, City Council formalized the approach by adopting a Strategic Priority and Leadership Initiative Policy (C01-029).

In 2021, there was a renewed commitment to continue using this leadership model in the development of the [2022-2025 Strategic Plan](#). The new Strategic Plan was approved by City Council on January 31, 2022, and the 2022-2025 Strategic Priorities and corresponding Council Member Leads are identified below.

Council Policy C01-029 established a fund to be accessed by Council Member Leads in relation to their strategic priority areas, separate and apart from the Council Communications and Constituency Relations Allowance. Section 7 of the policy provides for quarterly updates on expenditures to be given to City Council, through the Governance and Priorities Committee, related to Strategic Priority. A summary of projects funded, and the current balance of the Strategic Priority Fund is attached as Appendix 1.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

This information report also facilitates Council Member Leads the opportunity to provide an optional update on the Projects in their Strategic Priority Area.

At the March 21, 2022 meeting of the Governance and Priorities Committee, the reporting structure for Council members on their priority areas was discussed, with the ability confirmed for any member of Council to provide a verbal report on their area through these quarterly updates, but also at any meeting within the verbal updates section of Governance and Priorities Committee agendas.

The Council Member Leads, identified in the strategic planning process and confirmed in the new Strategic Plan, for each of the Strategic Priority Areas are as follows:

- Mayor Clark - Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Councillor Hill – Economic Development
- Councillor Gough – Community Safety and Well-Being
- Councillor Kirton – Engagement on Infill and Growth
- Councillor Donauer – Regional Planning
- Councillor Loewen and Councillor Gersher – Environmental Sustainability
- Councillor Dubois – Transportation
- Councillor Davies – Recreation, Culture and Leisure
- Councillor Block – Downtown Development
- Councillor Jeffries – Smart City

More information on each of the portfolios is available [here](#).

An update on the Women Leading Civic Engagement Project is attached as Appendix 2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Future application for use of the Strategic Priority Fund will be processed in accordance with the approval process outlined in the policy.

It should be noted that at its Regular Business meeting held on February 28, 2022, City Council approved amendments to the City Councillors' Travel and Training Policy C01-023 to include a provision to entitle Councillors to use the Common Travel and Training Budget to attend any conferences, meetings or training provisions that are specific to their strategic priority area.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social, or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

A first quarter update will be provided to the March 2024 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting.

APPENDICES

1. Strategic Priority Fund Usage and Balance November 2023
2. Women Leading Civic Engagement Project Update

Report Approval

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