

**2. Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits –  
Information and Options**

**Cadre stratégique pour les dons volontaires à vocation communautaire –  
Information et options**

**Committee Recommendation(s) as amended**

That Council :

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. **Approve policy framework updates to prohibit Members of Council from soliciting and/or facilitating voluntary donations to the City of Ottawa in accordance with Option 2 as described in the staff report titled, “Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits – Information and Options,” by amending the Donations to the City for Community Benefit Policy as set out in Document 6 of the staff report;**  
and
3. **Direct staff to:**
  - a. **Review the potential effects of adopting a community benefits framework for the City of Ottawa, as described in this motion, as well as any measures that would be required for the City to implement such a framework; and**
  - b. **Include in this review the experiences to date of relevant municipalities that have a community benefits framework in place, and a consideration of which city department(s) would lead implementation of a community benefit framework in Ottawa should one be pursued; and**
  - c. **Report back to the Finance and Corporate Services Committee and City Council no later than the end of Q4 2025.**

**Recommandation(s) du comité telles que modifiées**

Que le Conseil municipal :

1. Prenne acte de ce rapport à titre informatif; et
2. **Approuve une nouvelle version du cadre stratégique interdisant aux membres du Conseil de solliciter ou de faciliter des dons volontaires à la Ville d'Ottawa, suivant l'option 2 décrite dans le rapport du personnel intitulé « Cadre stratégique pour les dons volontaires à vocation communautaire – Information et options », en modifiant la Politique en matière de dons à vocation communautaire destinés à la Ville comme le propose le document 6 joint au rapport du personnel; et**
3. **Demande au personnel :**
  - a. **d'étudier les effets potentiels d'un cadre relatif aux avantages communautaires pour la Ville d'Ottawa, comme l'explique la présente motion, ainsi que les mesures qui seraient nécessaires pour mettre en œuvre un tel cadre; et**
  - b. **d'inclure dans cet examen l'expérience acquise à ce jour par les municipalités pertinentes qui ont mis en place un cadre relatif aux avantages communautaires, et de déterminer quelles directions générales de la Ville pourraient diriger la mise en œuvre d'un tel cadre à Ottawa; et**
  - c. **de présenter un rapport au Comité des finances et des services organisationnels et au Conseil municipal au plus tard à la fin du quatrième trimestre de 2025.**

**Documentation/Documentation**

1. City Clerk's report, submitted 20 June 2024 (ACS2024-OCC-GEN-0011)  
  
Rapport de la greffière municipale, daté le 20 juin 2024 (ACS2024-OCC-GEN-0011)

2. Extract of draft Minutes, Finance and Corporate Services Committee, July 2, 2024

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Comité des finances et des services organisationnels, le 2 juillet 2024

**Finance and Corporate Services  
Committee  
Report 16  
July 10, 2024**

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**Comité des finances et des services  
organisationnels  
Rapport 16  
Le 10 juillet 2024**

**Extract of Draft Minutes 16  
Finance and Corporate Services  
Committee  
July 2, 2024**

**Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 16  
Comité des finances et des services  
organisationnels  
le 2 juillet 2024**

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Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for  
Community Benefits – Information and Options

File No. ACS2024-OCC-GEN-0011 - Citywide

Committee heard from the following public delegations:

- Martin Adelaar,
- Jason Burggraaf, Greater Ottawa Homebuilders' Association\*
- Mary Huang

[ \* Individuals / groups marked with an asterisk above either provided comments in writing or by e-mail; all submissions are held on file with the City Clerk. ]

Ms. Caitlin Salter MacDonald, City Clerk, Office of the City Clerk (OCC) along with Mr. Kiel Anderson, Manager Governance, Elected Officials and BSS, OCC and Mr. Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services, Planning, Development and Building Services Department (PDBS), Mr. Dan Chenier, General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services (RCFS) and Cyril Rogers, Interim General Manager and Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Corporate Services Department (FCSD) responded to questions. Following discussion on this item, the Committee Carried the report recommendations as amended by Motions FCSC 2024-16-01 and FCSC 2024-16-02.

**Report recommendation(s)**

**That the Finance and Corporate Services Committee recommend City  
Council receive this report for information.**

**Carried as amended**

**Motion No. FCSC 2024 16-01**

Moved by L. Dudas:

**WHEREAS** the City of Ottawa’s current policy framework for voluntary donations to the City for community benefits is set out in the Donations to the City for Community Benefit Policy, which was approved by City Council in 2018 and applies only to City staff; and

**WHEREAS** the staff report titled, “Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits – Information and Options,” describes two potential options for updating the policy framework to address the matter of Members of Council soliciting and/or facilitating donations to the City for community benefit; and

**WHEREAS** Option 2 as described in the staff report would prohibit Members from soliciting and/or facilitating donations to the City, and require any Member approached by a potential donor to:

- Direct the potential donor to City staff to address any donation in accordance with the existing Donations to the City for Community Benefit Policy, or
- Bring forward the proposed donation and/or a proposed facilitation approach for Committee and/or Council consideration and approval by way of Councillor’s report or motion; and

**WHEREAS** adopting Option 2 and the associated requirements would provide for the City to continue to receive donations for community benefit through City staff under the Donations to the City for Community Benefit Policy, without any concerns related to Member solicitation and/or facilitation;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that City Council approve policy framework updates to prohibit Members of Council from soliciting and/or facilitating voluntary donations to the City of Ottawa in accordance with Option 2 as described in the staff report titled, “Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits – Information and Options,” by amending the Donations to the City for Community Benefit Policy as set out in Document 6 of the staff report.

For (7): M. Sutcliffe, M. Luloff, L. Dudas, C. Curry, G. Gower,  
T. Tierney, and G. Darouze

Against (4): R. King, J. Leiper, R. Brockington, and S. Menard

Carried (7 to 4)

**Motion No. FCSC 2024 16-02**

Moved by R. King:

**WHEREAS the staff report titled, “Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits – Information and Options,” provides examples of broader “community benefits frameworks” and “community benefit agreements” measures adopted by municipalities, including:**

- **The City of Toronto’s Community Benefits Framework, which “focuses on ways to maximize the use of City of Toronto levers (such as procurement, real estate transactions, or financial incentives for specific sectors and uses) to create inclusive and equitable economic opportunities through community benefits initiatives,” and**
- **The City of Vancouver’s Community Benefit Agreements Policy, which seeks to ensure that developers promote growth for the communities they are investing in through local hiring and social procurement; and**

**WHEREAS the staff report also notes that certain Council-approved initiatives may incorporate community benefits, such as Council’s approval on November 22, 2023, that Build Ottawa be directed to “incorporate potential community benefits including, but not be limited to equitable hiring practices, funding for training, public realm enhancements; and greater accessibility when developing evaluation criteria for the disposal of surplus lands”; and**

**WHEREAS consideration of broader community benefits frameworks/agreements was not in the scope of staff’s current review and report regarding matters relating to the solicitation and/or facilitation of donations to the City by Members of Council; and**

**WHEREAS** instead of considering community benefits initiatives in an ad hoc manner, it would be beneficial for City Council to understand the potential effects of adopting a broader community benefits framework, as well as any measures required to implement such a framework;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that City Council direct staff to:

1. **Review the potential effects of adopting a community benefits framework for the City of Ottawa, as described in this motion, as well as any measures that would be required for the City to implement such a framework; and**
2. **Include in this review the experiences to date of relevant municipalities that have a community benefits framework in place, and a consideration of which city department(s) would lead implementation of a community benefit framework in Ottawa should one be pursued; and**
3. **Report back to the Finance and Corporate Services Committee and City Council no later than the end of Q4 2025**

**Carried**

**Motion No. FCSC 2024 16-03**

Moved by J. Leiper:

**WHEREAS** Option 1 as described in the staff report would expressly permit Members to solicit and/or facilitate donations to the City with a value of up to \$250,000 in accordance with various limitations as well as requirements regarding matters such as staff concurrence, transparency mechanisms and disclosure. This would be set out in new Donation Procedures for Members of Council, under the existing policy; and,

**WHEREAS** multiple jurisdictions have frameworks to permit Members to negotiate public benefits with developers in the public interest and there is strong interest by many councillors to continue the practice subject to strong new governance;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City council approve a policy framework to permit Members to negotiate public benefits in accordance with Option 1 as described in the report**

For (4): R. King, J. Leiper, R. Brockington, and S. Menard

Against (7): M. Sutcliffe, M. Luloff, L. Dudas, C. Curry, G. Gower, T. Tierney,  
G. Darouze and

**Lost (4 to 7)**

**Motion No. FCSC 2024-16-04**

Moved by J. Leiper:

**BE IT RESOLVED that Item 5.1 – Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations for Community Benefits – Information and Options – be laid on the table.**

Mayor Sutcliffe ruled Motion FCSC 2024 16-04 out of order. Councillor Leiper appealed the Chair's decision pursuant to Subsection 44(2) of the Procedure By-law, and a vote was called on the following question:

**Shall the Chair be sustained?**

The Chair was sustained on a division of 7 Yeas to 4 Nays as follows:

For (7): M. Sutcliffe, M. Luloff, L. Dudas, C. Curry, T. Tierney, R. Brockington  
and G. Darouze

Against (4): G. Gower, R. King, J. Leiper, and S. Menard

**Carried (7 to 4)**