Finance and Corporate Services Committee / Comité des finances et des services organisationnels

Motion

Meeting date / Date de la réunion : 2 July 2024 / 2 juillet 2024

Agenda No. / Ordre du jour nº: 16

Item Title / Titre du point de l'ordre du jour : Policy Framework for Voluntary Donations

for Community Benefits - Information and Options

ACS File No. / Dossier no (ACS): ACS2024-OCC-GEN-0011

Item No. on Agenda / Point nº de l'ordre du jour : 5.1

Re / Objet : Review of Community Benefits Framework

Moved by / Motion de : Councillor 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