

City Council, Standing Committee and Commission
Conseil, comités permanents et commission

Motion

Notice of Motion / Avis de motion

Committee /

Comité / Commission :

OR / OU

Council / Conseil

Item / Article: Item/ point 1 – 2018 Draft Operating and Capital Budget/ Budgets préliminaires de fonctionnement et d’immobilisations de 2018

Moved by / Motion de: Councillor J. Leiper

Seconded by / Appuyée par: D. Deans

WHEREAS the proposed 2018 budget proposes a residential tax increase of 2% as directed by Council for its consideration; and,

WHEREAS the City Clerk has established that “budget directions do not bind Council as a whole from amending the draft budget as it deems appropriate”; and,

WHEREAS the draft budget does not address critical municipal needs that were identified by residents during budget consultations as necessary for a balanced, affordable and progressive budget approach consistent with sound financial management; and,

WHEREAS public infrastructure is the foundation on which our communities are built; and,

WHEREAS maintaining our assets such as roads, sidewalks, recreation facilities and parks in a state of good repair is essential to preserving a good quality of life and to the overall health and well-being of our city; and,

WHEREAS The City of Ottawa currently owns \$19.4 billion in assets, with a depreciated value of \$14.5 billion (2016) and an estimated replacement value close to \$42 billion; and,

WHEREAS The state of these assets continues to decline and the risk of service impacts and interruptions is increasing; and,

WHEREAS: failing to keep our assets in a good state of repair costs taxpayers more in the long-term; and,

WHEREAS there is a current annual funding gap of \$70 million for the renewal of tax-supported capital assets based on the current need identified in the most recent CAM report; and,

WHEREAS a dedicated infrastructure levy would allow us to make strategic investments in our infrastructure, advance needed repairs and avoid excessive future repair costs, and

WHEREAS a 0.5 percent one time infrastructure levy would contribute 8 million dollars towards closing the infrastructure gap, saving money in the long-term with a 2018 impact for the average urban homeowner of 1 dollar a month.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That City Council approve a one time dedicated infrastructure levy set at 0.5 percent to be added to the citywide property tax bill with all revenues directed towards tax-supported capital asset renewal.