



For the Committee of the Whole Meeting June 22 2017

Date: June 19 2017

From: Mayor Helps and Councillor Lucas

Subject: Neighbourhood Association Engagement in Pre-Budget Process

Background

In February, the City of Victoria held a workshop to develop a Public Engagement Road Map. At the meeting a suggestion was made by members of Neighbourhood Associations that neighbourhoods be engaged early in the City's annual budget process. At the same time as staff begin their pre-budget work in the summer, the neighbourhoods would like an opportunity to give their input early and not just to respond to the budget in the fall. This is particularly important for neighbourhoods that do not yet have Local Area Plans. Once Local Area Plans are developed the short, medium and long-term actions identified in each implementation plan should help to guide the budget process. Nonetheless, even when Local Area Plans are in place, a check in with Neighbourhood Associations each summer with regard to budget development is still a good idea as there may be new and emerging priorities that arise.

Recommendation

1. That Council direct the Neighbourhoods Team to canvas their respective Neighbourhood Associations each summer to gather input from the neighbourhoods to help shape the budget for the following year.
2. That Council direct staff to add this input gathering with Neighbourhood Associations to the Public Engagement Road Map for 2017 and 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mayor Helps


Councillor Lucas