



Report
Staff Report
The Corporation of the City of Brampton
9/18/2024

Date: 2024-09-09

Subject: **Budget Amendment Request- Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association - Ward 6**

Contact: Peter Gabor, Manager, Building Design and Construction

Report number: Public Works & Engineering-2024-710

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Peter Gabor, Manager, Building Design and Construction to the Council Meeting on Sept 18, 2024, re: **Budget Amendment Request- Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association – Ward 6**, be received; and
2. That Council approve a funding swap to replace the initially approved funding of \$3,500,000 for the Design phase from Reserve #4 Asset Repair & Replacement with Reserve #136 - Development Charges PW Building & Fleet for project #235180-002 – Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association.
3. That a budget amendment be approved for in the amount of \$2,000,000 to expand the scope of project #235180-002 – Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association, with funding to be transferred from Reserve #136- Development Charges PW Building & Fleet.
4. That a budget amendment be approved to substitute funding of \$3,500,000 in capital project #235180-002-Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association, from Reserve #4 Asset to Repair to Reserve #136- Development Charges PW Building and Fleet.

OVERVIEW:

- **The City of Brampton is procuring an architect to design a new multi-purpose facility to serve its growing population, expected to reach 695,000 by 2026.**
- **The Environmental Education Centre will be the facility's central feature, envisioned by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority as a gateway to the Credit Valley Trail and a hub for nature and history education.**
- **The facility will also include a new approximately 25,000 sq. ft. Animal Services facility, which will offer enhanced spaces for animal care, public outreach, and accessibility.**
- **Additional components include the Centre for Community Energy Transformation and the Post Traumatic Growth Association, supporting environmental initiatives and providing services for veterans and first responders.**
- **A Request for Proposal (RFP#2024-245) was issued to hire an Architect, but the lowest compliant bid exceeded the \$3.5 million budget due to the expanded project scope, necessitating additional funding.**
- **This report seeks council approval for a budget amount of \$2M to proceed with the award of the contract to the successful lowest bidder.**

BACKGROUND:

The City of Brampton is a new multi-purpose facility to address the needs of its growing population, projected to reach 665,000 by 2026.

Central to this facility will be the Environmental Education Centre, envisioned by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority as a flagship building and the gateway to the Credit Valley Trail. This landmark centre will offer generations of children and youth the opportunity to learn about nature, local landscapes, and history, with a design that seamlessly integrates indoor and outdoor spaces.

Additionally, the facility will house a new approximately 25,000 sq. ft. Animal Services facility. The new shelter will provide expanded space for animal enrichment, medical services, public outreach, and accessibility improvements, addressing the current and future needs of Brampton residents.

The facility will also include:

- **Centre for Community Energy Transformation:** A nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting a low-carbon future in Ontario.
- **Post Traumatic Growth Association:** A nonprofit supporting veteran, first responders, and law enforcement through workshops, community events, and support groups.

A Memorandum of Understanding outlining the roles and responsibilities of the City, Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Centre for Community Energy Transformation, and Post Traumatic Growth Association during the design phase has been drafted. The City Council has approved \$3,500,000 in the 2023 Capital Budget for the design and contract administration services for this project.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The Purchasing Agent issued a public Request for Proposal (RFP 2024-245) to hire an Architect on June 13, 2024. The RFP closed on August 2, 2024, yielding two bid submissions. The lowest compliant bid submitted exceeds the current project budget of \$3.5 million. The budget shortfall is due to an expanded project scope, which now includes additional square footage for the Environmental Education Centre, as well as spaces for the Centre for Community Energy Transformation and the Post Traumatic Growth Association. As a result, the project will require an additional \$2,000,000 in funding to meet its objectives.

The project design is expected to take 24 months to complete, followed by an additional 24 months for construction. The anticipated completion date is the fourth quarter of 2028.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

The recommendations in this report require a budget amendment in the amount of \$2,000,000 to expand the scope of capital project #235180-002 – Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation and Post Traumatic Growth Association, with funding to be transferred from Reserve #136 - Development Charges PW Building & Fleet, subject to council approval.

The City's 2024 Development Charges Study has identified the new Animal Shelter as a growth project, making it eligible for funding through Development Charges up to the limits set out in the study. Therefore, a funding swap is recommended to replace the initially approved funding of \$3,500,000 for Design Phase from Reserve #4 Asset Repair & Replacement with Reserve #136 - Development Charges PW Building & Fleet, subject to council approval.

The budget for this initiative will increase from \$3,500,000 to \$5,500,000 as shown in the table below:

Funding Source: Project 235180 Environmental Education Centre and Animal Shelter and Post Traumatic Growth Association Space	Approved Funding	Funding Swap	Budget Amendment	Total Funding
Reserve #4- Asset R&R	3,500,000	(3,500,000)	-	-
Res #136- Development Charges PW Buildings & Fleet	-	3,500,000	2,000,000	5,500,000
Total Project	3,500,000	-	2,000,000	5,500,000

There is sufficient funding to proceed with the recommendations in this report.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications with this budget amendment request.

Purchasing Implications:

A public Procurement Process has been conducted and the bid submissions have been evaluated in accordance with the published evaluation process within the bid document. Purchase approval shall be obtained in accordance with the Purchasing By-law.

All communication with Bidders involved in the procurement must occur formally, through the contact person identified in the Bid Document.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

Health & Well-being: Focusing on citizens' belonging, health, wellness, and safety. The **Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation,** and **Post Traumatic Growth Association** will provide expanded medical care for pets and wildlife, along with public education programs. The Post Traumatic Growth Association will also support veterans, first responders, and law enforcement through peer support and workshops.

Growing Urban Centres & Neighbourhoods: Focusing on an economy that thrives with communities that are strong and connected. Brampton's new Animal Shelter will set a high standard for animal services in Ontario, fostering a strong and connected community. The facility will incorporate universal design and accessibility standards, ensuring inclusivity for all visitors.

Environmental Resilience & Sustainability: Focusing on nurturing and protecting our environment for a sustainable future. The facility will contribute to Brampton’s sustainability goals, with energy-efficient designs that align with the Brampton 2040 Vision. The Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation, and Post Traumatic Growth Association will be part of the city's sustainable infrastructure.

CONCLUSION:

This report seeks Council Approval for a budget amendment of \$2,000,000 to award the contract for design and contract administration services for the Environmental Education Centre, Animal Shelter, Centre for Community Energy Transformation, and Post Traumatic Growth Association project.

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