

CITY OF HAMILTON

***CORPORATE SERVICES
Finance & Administration***

Report to: Chairman and Members Grants Sub-Committee	Submitted by: Joseph L. Rinaldo, General Manager
Date: August 4, 2006	Prepared by: Carmen R. Bian ext. 2187 Anna Bradford ext. 3967

SUBJECT: Continuation of Multi-Year Funding in the Community Partnership Program for the term of Council 2007-2010 (GRA006016) (City Wide)

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) That the length of time for multi-year funding that can be provided to eligible Community Partnership Program applicants be extended from two years to three years to coincide with recent changes in the Municipal Act extending the term of municipal council to four years.
- b) That the option of providing multi-year funding for eligible Community Partnership Program applicants in the social and public health sphere be extended to those in categories E to H.

Joseph L. Rinaldo, General Manager
Finance and Corporate Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Grants Sub-Committee recommended and Council approved a multi-year funding policy for the Community Partnership Program in 2004 (see GRA04003). At that time, a term of municipal council spanned three years. Recent changes to the Municipal Act have resulted in a change of the length of a term of municipal council to four years. This change requires a technical edit to the previously approved multi-year funding policy.

In addition to this technical change, Grants Sub-Committee also wanted to extend the option of multi-year funding to all eligible applicants within the social and public health funding stream and not restrict access to this option to only those within the Council approved priority categories.

BACKGROUND:

In 2004, the Grants Sub-Committee recommended and Council approved the option of providing multi-year funding to eligible Community Partnership Program applicants (see GRA04003). At the time of writing that report, changes were pending to the Municipal Act extending the term of council from three years to a four year term. This anticipated change will be in place for the 2006 municipal elections necessitating a change in our multi-year funding policy.

Aside from this technical change, a suggestion was made during the 2006 Grants Sub-Committee grant deliberations to extend the privilege of multi-year funding for eligible applicants in 2007 to include those from non-priority categories (categories E to H) in the social and public health stream. Currently, for those in the social and public health stream, only those programs eligible in the Council approved priority categories of A-E can be approved for multi-year funding.

The intent of the multi-year funding policy is that all applicants would complete a full application form in Year One (first term of a new council) as an initial request, and if eligible, would be recommended for multi-year funding. After their initial full application, the agency would then be required to submit annual progress reports (including financial statements) in each subsequent year until the end of the term of council (three years).

To be eligible for multi-year funding, the current eligibility requirements are as follows:

- 1. That the organization has at least a three-year history of consecutive Community Partnership funding from the City of Hamilton.***
- 2. That the organization meets a priority need as identified by each of the funding streams under the Community Partnership Program, or funding priorities as approved by the Grants Sub-Committee. The intent is that funded organizations would meet needs and priorities consistent with the overall Mission, Vision and Values of City Council.***
- 3. That the organization scores 80 points or more when assessed against the criteria of merit, organizational capacity, and community impact regardless of the funding stream.***
- 4. That the organization does not owe the City an outstanding financial debt.***
- 5. That any organization in the midst of addressing either an organizational capacity issue, program delivery issue, or any other issue identified by staff will not be recommended for multi-year funding regardless if they have met all other eligibility criteria.***

SUBJECT: Continuation of Multi-Year Funding in the Community Partnership Program for the term of Council 2007-2010 (GRA006016) (City Wide) - Page 3 of 5

Multi-year funding can be maintained for eligible applicants if the following conditions exist:

- 1. That there are available funds in the Community Partnership Program Budget.**
- 2. That the program is in compliance with service level agreements, staff deems that the organization still meets eligibility criteria, and the recommendation to continue the multi-year funding is approved by the Grants Sub-Committee.**
- 3. That no new organizational capacity issue, program delivery issue or other significant issue has been identified by staff requiring attention since the organization submitted their original application in Year One.**

Programs not eligible for multi-year funding are required to continue to submit a full application on an annual basis. These applicants will continue to be evaluated each year annually as to their eligibility for funding under the Community Partnership Program.

ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:

Due to recent changes under the Municipal Act, the current multi-year funding policy for the Community Partnership Program must be revised in 2007 to reflect that the term of a municipal council is now four years.

Due to the nature of programs funded within the social and public health services stream, the move to multi-year funding was supported by staff in 2004 with the suggestion to limit access to this option to those within the Council approved priority categories (categories A-E).

Social & Public Health Services Funding Categories

- A. Access to Basic Needs: Food **
- B. Access to Basic Needs: Housing **
- C. Access to Basic Needs: Freedom from Violence**
- D. Community Planning/Coordination**
- E. Employment & Life Skills**
- F. Access to Support in Times of Crisis*
- G. Self-Esteem Prevention*
- H. Support Programs*
- I. Transfer Station Fees*

During the 2006 Community Partnership process, Grant Sub-Committee members wanted the opportunity to extend the option of multi-year funding all categories within

SUBJECT: Continuation of Multi-Year Funding in the Community Partnership Program for the term of Council 2007-2010 (GRA006016) (City Wide) - Page 4 of 5

the social and public health stream and not limit access only to those eligible within categories A-E.

If the Grants Sub-Committee recommends and Council approves this change, the eligibility criteria would have to be revised to the following:

- 1. That the organization has at least a three-year history of consecutive Community Partnership funding from the City of Hamilton.**
- 2. That the organization scores 80 points or more when assessed against the criteria of merit, organizational capacity, and community impact regardless of the funding stream.**
- 3. That the organization does not owe the City an outstanding financial debt.**
- 4. That any organization in the midst of addressing either an organizational capacity issue, program delivery issue, or any other issue identified by staff will not be recommended for multi-year funding regardless if they have met all other eligibility criteria.**

ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES:

Grants Sub-Committee members could decide to continue to limit the multi-year funding option to eligible applicants in categories A-E only in the social and public health stream.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The continuation of the multi-year funding option for eligible Community Partnership Program funding recipients will not affect the overall Community Partnership budget nor will it impede the Community Partnership Program budget in future years. As multi-year funding is contingent upon the Community Partnership Program budget, any fluctuations in the budget level could affect organizations approved for multi-year funding, not only those organizations that must apply annually.

Staffing Implications - There are no staffing implications.

Legal Implications - There are no legal implications.

POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

This report requires a change to the current multi-year funding policy approved in 2004.

CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES:

SUBJECT: Continuation of Multi-Year Funding in the Community Partnership Program for the term of Council 2007-2010 (GRA006016) (City Wide) - Page 5 of 5

This report was prepared in consultation with representatives from the Community Partnership Technical Team and Corporate Services (Finance) as well as Joe-Anne Priel, the General Manager of the Community Services Department..

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

By evaluating the “**Triple Bottom Line**”, (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

Community Well-Being is enhanced. **Yes** **No**

Funding provided to programs through the Community Partnership Program enhance the quality of life in the specific areas including: social/public health, arts/heritage/culture, special events and sports.

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. **Yes** **No**

The multi-year funding option results in a reduction of the amount of paperwork and photocopies that eligible applicants are required to submit to the City of Hamilton.

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. **Yes** **No**

The multi-year funding option provides eligible programs funded through the Community Partnership program to better plan for the programs, both in the short term in their current fiscal year, but over the term of council..

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines?

Yes **No**

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants?

Yes **No**