

RE: COMPUTER DATA BASE FOR THE HOUSING COMPACTION STUDY

Municipal Manager's Recommendation:

1. THAT Council authorize the expenditure of up to \$7,500 from the Budget Contingency Fund for the purpose of engaging a consultant programmer/analyst for the pilot area phase of the Housing Compaction Study.

REPORT

SUMMARY

The Management Committee has reviewed the proposal to create a data base for the Housing Compaction Study and has concluded that it would be an appropriate and positive use of the graphics computer. The Management Committee has recommended that the work be undertaken on a pilot area basis in order to test the feasibility and to determine other important aspects before proceeding with the overall project. It is proposed that staff would be assisted in the pilot area work by utilizing the services of a consultant programmer/analyst.

BACKGROUND

Council on 1982 June 14 approved the recommendations

- (a) "THAT Council approve in principle the concept of establishing a graphic computer data base for a housing compaction study utilizing Municipal Incentive Grant funds up to a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).
- (b) THAT Council request the Management Committee to review this proposal and provide their comments to Council."

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMMENTS

The Management Committee has reviewed the proposal and provided the following comments:

1. The creation of a housing data base is an appropriate use of the graphics computer facility, is complementary to the creation of an overall Municipal Data Base, and serves to accelerate the process of creating that overall data base.
2. The study should be implemented on a 'pilot area' basis. This would provide staff an opportunity to test the feasibility, to determine equipment capability, to refine the costs, and to define the overall magnitude of the project prior to undertaking the work for the entire Municipality.
3. The services of a programmer/analyst should be engaged to assist staff in assessing each data item and its use to determine whether it is feasible to undertake and then to outline how each item or activity should be dealt with in relation to the graphics computer. The cost of a programmer/analyst is approximately \$50.00 per hour based on a 7.5 hour day, or a total of \$375.00 a day. This refinement and overall design work could take up to 20 days to complete and cost up to \$7,500.
4. Funds for a programmer/analyst should be taken from the Municipal Budget Contingency Fund until the bylaw required to release the monies from the Municipal Incentive Grant fund has been prepared and approved by Council and the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

5. The Director Planning and Building Inspection will continue to coordinate and administer the project with the assistance of the graphics computer staff of the Engineering Department.

CONCLUSIONS

The Municipal Manager is in agreement with the Management Committee's support of this project and its proposal that it be undertaken on a pilot area basis with assistance from a consultant programmer/analyst. For purposes of paying for the consultant, the Municipal Manager recommends that up to \$7,500 be taken from the Municipal Budget Contingency Fund until appropriate bylaw approvals have been obtained to secure the monies from the Municipal Incentive Grant Fund.

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