



SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE #1 PUBLIC REPORT PUBLIC

Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 6:00 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario

Trustees Present: Christine Boothby, Erica Braunovan, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, Mark Fisher, Wendy Hough, Jennifer Jennekens, Keith Penny, Sandra Schwartz, Lynn Scott

Staff Present: Camille Williams-Taylor (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director), Mike Carson (Chief Financial Officer), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Karyn Carty Ostafichuk (Manager of Planning), Ian Baxter (Assistant Manager of Planning), Megan Faraday (Planner), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), John MacKinnon (Audio-Visual Technician), and Sue Baker (Senior Board Coordinator)

1. Call to Order - Vice-Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair Braunovan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Territory and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Boothby

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Delegations

There were no delegations.

4. Matters for Discussion:

4.1 Report 19-005 Education Development Charges - Existing By-law Policy Review (M. Carson ext. 8207)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-005 providing information to support a legislatively required meeting in order to review the policies contained within the District's existing Education Development Charges (EDCs) By-law. No. 02-2014.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Carson advised that the Background Study was prepared, in consultation with other area school boards, and in accordance with section 257.61 of the *Education Act*.

Manager Baxter advised that EDCs fund the acquisition and preparation of land for new schools and additions required as a result of growth from new development. They are collected by the City of Ottawa on behalf of the OCDSB at the time of building permit issuance.

Current charges are \$723 per new residential unit and \$0.52 per new square foot of non-residential development. The charges are based on recovering 80% of education land costs from residential development and 20% of non-residential development. The existing By-law has generated over \$27 million in revenue which was used to fund sites for four elementary schools and one secondary school.

The current By-Law was adopted by the Board in 2014 and will remain in force until March 2019. Staff is scheduled to present a recommendation to adopt a successor By-law at the Committee of the Whole meeting on 19 February 2019.

During discussion, and in response to queries, the following points were noted:

- The Background Study was posted on the District's website on 18 December 2018, and there have been no requests for hard copies from the public;
- If the District did not have an EDC by-law, it would be reliant on the Ministry of Education to advance money for land purchases; funding would not be taken from the District's operating budget;
- EDC charges are calculated using enrolment projections, the number of schools in the area, the requirement for additional schools over the next 15 years, the number of acres required, and cost per acre;
- Land costs per acre under the existing by-law range from approximately \$400,000 per acre for land outside the Greenbelt to up to \$1.5 million for land in the downtown area. If land costs rise significantly, the Board may have the ability to increase the EDC rates mid-term. The OCDSB has not done this in the past;
- The 80-20 split is between residential and non-residential development. Non-residential development has an impact on how

quickly residential growth will occur. The District has received feedback from developers in the past that this is an equitable split;

- The Province passed a regulation in October 2018 prohibiting school boards from imposing EDC rates higher than the current by-law rates until the Province has had an opportunity to review the EDC legislation;
- EDC charges are imposed for new building permits wherever they may be within the District. Some school districts with overall declining enrolment only charge EDCs for areas within their districts where there is growing enrolment; and
- EDC charges are also used to make the site ready to build, for example, clearing rock from an abnormally rocky site.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Erica Braunovan, Chair