

2011 Responses to City Council Questions on the Proposed Budget

**The following report is sorted
alphabetically by councillor.**

2011 Budget Questions By Councillor

over the three-year period to Active Transportation (averaging \$5.7 Million per year, less than 1.5% of the Transportation Department's total capital budget, excluding LRT). In November, 2009, City Council directed the Administration to prepare the 2012 - 2022 Capital Priorities Plan with a guideline of 5% of the Transportation Capital Budget (not including LRT) toward Active Transportation Projects.

Program: *Public Transit*

Asked By: *Councillor Leibovici*

Question #: *11-085*

Budget Page #:

Please detail the cost savings achieved by the decommissioning of the trolley's and where the dollars were re-allocated?

Question Answer:

In 2009, savings of \$760K for trolley bus operations was realized. \$400K was related to cost reductions to maintain the overhead traction power system and \$360K was a reduction in Fleet Maintenance Services charges to service and maintain the trolley buses. Savings were re-directed to Corporate funding to help manage a balanced budget.

In 2010, an additional savings of \$875K was realized. \$510K was for maintenance of the overhead system and \$365K was for Trolley Service Support. The \$510K was removed from the budget to be redirected to Corporate funding to help manage a balance budget.

In 2011 and 2012, additional savings of \$1096K and \$259K respectively will be realized related to maintaining the overhead system. The savings proposed in 2011 and 2012 are slated to be re-directed to the Corporate funding to help manage a balanced budget.

In terms of the decommissioning work, the overhead contact wire and hardware, aerial feeders, and most of the substation equipment has been removed. Underground feeders are partially removed. Environmental assessments and possible cleanup remain to be done. A number of trolley poles still need to be removed and/or replaced.

Program: *Federation of Community Leagues*

Asked By: *Councillor Leibovici*

Question #: *11-086*

Budget Page #:

Would it be helpful to have advertising permitted on outdoor rinks as a revenue generator?

Question Answer:

Yes, it would be helpful to allow the sale of rink board advertising. We don't think it is a major revenue source, as a league would be doing well to raise \$500 in the course of a season through rink board advertising. However, approximately 70 community leagues have one or more outdoor rinks, so it is a revenue generating opportunity for a significant number of leagues.

Program: *Federation of Community Leagues*

Asked By: *Councillor Leibovici*

Question #: *11-087*

Budget Page #:

Please detail the sponsorships that you have received to date and your strategies for increased revenue

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Please also provide the actual funds used from reserves to fund operating expenses (including Ed Tel, Financial Stabilization reserve, Utility Reserves and EPCOR Dividends) for 2005-2010 (per year).

Question Answer:

The table below outlines the payments made from the Financial Stabilization Reserve to fund operating expenses from 2005 to 2009, with projections for 2010. Also shown are the dividends received from 2005 to 2009 and the projected dividends for 2010 from the Ed Tel Endowment Fund and EPCOR.

(\$000's)	Projected 2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Financial Stabilization Reserve¹	\$ 36,329	\$ 15,727	\$ 19,060	\$ 9,128	\$ 7,514	\$ 1,981
Dividends and Transfer Fee						
Ed Tel Endowment Fund						
Regular Dividends	\$ 24,698	\$ 34,991	\$ 35,200	\$ 31,964	\$ 30,258	\$ 28,788
Special Dividends	-	-	8,800	7,991	7,565	-
	\$ 24,698	\$ 34,991	\$ 44,000	\$ 39,955	\$ 37,823	\$ 28,788
EPCOR						
Dividends	\$ 135,786	\$ 133,700	\$ 130,435	\$ 127,600	\$ 125,100	\$ 122,669
Gold Bar Transfer Fee	\$ 15,250	\$ 16,500				

Note:

1) The Financial Stabilization Reserve is primarily used to address timing differences that exist when payments cannot be made within the same fiscal year as operating budget approval. The 2009 draw from reserve of \$15.7 million consists primarily of \$6.0 million for the Art Gallery, \$4.0 million to offset lower investment earnings, \$2.4 million for Rexall Indy, \$0.7 million for the Worlds Fair, \$0.5 million for the Humane Society, \$0.5 million for Council Initiatives and \$0.4 million for the Telus World of Science. The 2010 projection of \$36.3 million consists of the following significant amounts: \$9.0 million Go Centre, \$6.0 million Affordable Housing, \$4.0 million budget strategy, \$4.0 million Trolley Decommissioning, \$1.7 million Aboriginal Transitional Component of Boyle Renaissance, \$1.0 million Art Gallery and \$1.0 million Family and Community Support Services Funding.