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2009 INTERIM APPROPRIATIONS

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report, November 3, 2008, from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Council approve 2009 interim appropriations for Regional operations at an amount not to exceed 50% of the 2008 gross operating budget for each department as detailed in Attachment 1.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request Council's approval of 2009 interim appropriations prior to the completion of the review and adoption of the 2009 Business Plan and Budgets. Approval of interim appropriations is required to fund ongoing Regional operations prior to anticipated approval of the operating budget in February 2009.

3. BACKGROUND

Prior to Council approving the 2009 Operating Budget, the Regional Treasurer requires authority to make payments for ongoing Regional operations commencing January 1, 2009

Prior to the Region's 2009 Business Plan and Budgets being considered for approval by Council, the Commissioner of Finance requires the authority to make payments for ongoing Regional operations, commencing January 1, 2009. This authority is normally provided by means of an interim appropriation for operations that would not exceed approximately 50% of its prior year gross expenditures.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

2009 interim appropriations for operations does not exceed 50% of 2008 gross operating expenditures

The Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer requires authority to make payments for ongoing Regional operations commencing January 1, 2009. The amount of the interim appropriations authority is \$639,628,000 which represents approximately 50% of the 2008 approved gross operating budget.

The 2009 capital budget is expected to be adopted by Regional Council on December 18, 2008 and therefore is not anticipated to require interim appropriations authority.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Recommended interim appropriation for 2009 totals \$639,628,000

Attachment 1 identifies the 2008 gross budgeted expenditure for each of the Region's major operations and the recommended interim appropriation for 2009 which totals \$639,628,000. This represents approximately 50% of the Region's total gross expenditure budget for operating purposes for fiscal 2008.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

In order to make payments for ongoing Regional expenditures, authority is given to the Regional Treasurer in the amount of 50% of the prior years gross operating budget.

7. CONCLUSION

The report recommends the 2009 interim appropriation be \$639,628,000 as detailed in Attachment 1.

For more information on this report, please contact Kelly Strueby at Ext. 1611.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the agenda for the December 4, 2008 Committee meeting.)