



CENTRAL YORK FIRE SERVICES

CYFS Draft 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets Fire Services Report

Report Number: JCC-2024-05
To: Joint Council Committee
Author: Central York Fire Services - A. Gibson, Supervisor, Financial Reporting & Analysis
Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Recommendations

1. That Fire Services Report JCC-2024-05 Central York Fire Services (CYFS) Draft 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets dated October 1, 2024, Draft 2025 CYFS Operating Budget (Appendix A), and Draft 2025 CYFS Capital Budget (Appendix B) be received; and,
2. That the Joint Council Committee recommends the draft budgets to the Town of Aurora Council for review and then to the Town of Newmarket Council for approval, per the Joint Services Agreement.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the Joint Council Committee's (JCC) approval of the Operating and Capital Budget requests for 2025.

Background

In accordance with the Joint Services Agreement, CYFS Budget guidelines are established by the Newmarket Council, Newmarket Finance works with CYFS Management to develop a Draft Budget. JCC reviews Budgets and makes recommendations to the Aurora Mayor for comment, and then the Newmarket Council reviews the comments and approves the final Budgets.

The target date for 2025 budget approval by the Newmarket Council is December 9, 2024.

The Aurora Mayor’s budget will be released on October 29th, if there are no amendments, then it could be adopted following the Special Meeting of Council on November 25, 2024.

Financial Impact

The proposed 2025 Operating budget target for Central York Fire Services (CYFS) is based on the CYFS 10-year forecast. It is recommended that the growth component be deferred until the CYFS Strategic Plan (formerly Fire Master Plan) is reviewed and endorsed by JCC and both Councils. This approach is consistent with past budgets.

Increases	Total per 10-year financial plan	Deferrals	Revised Target
Base	\$731,160		\$731,160
Growth	374,537	(374,537)	0
Contribution to Asset Management	37,680		37,680
	\$1,143,377	(\$374,537)	\$768,840

CYFS shared fire services allocation is based on a four-year weighted average. This program was adopted in 2015 ([Report 2015-03](#)).

Shared Services Cost Allocations

Cost allocations between the Town of Newmarket (“Newmarket”) and the Town of Aurora (“Aurora”) are based on the 2025 respective allocation splits. The 2025 budget reflects a 0.00% change in the cost allocation – Newmarket’s share remained at 58.31% (2024 – 58.31%) and Aurora’s share remained at 41.69% (2024 – 41.69%).

Budget Year	Aurora	Newmarket
2021	41.42%	58.58%
2022	41.62%	58.38%
2023	41.68%	58.32%
2024	41.69%	58.31%
2025	41.69%	58.31%

Tax-supported Operating Budget

Efforts have been made to represent actual and projected spending trends.

Wages, Benefits, and Lieu Time

Increases to the base budget are largely for salaries and benefits based on the most recent contract. The current collective agreement expired in December 2023, and negotiations are currently ongoing.

Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance

An inflationary increase was added to the budget to account for the size of the fleet and alignment with the previous year's spending trend.

Building Repairs & Maintenance

An increase to the budget was made due to contract increases and inflationary pressures.

Equipment, and Radio Repairs & Maintenance

An increase to the budget was made due to contract increases and inflationary pressures.

Water

The water budget was increased due to increased costs for water usage at Station 4-5 for training and to align with the previous year's spending trend.

Training

The increase in training can be attributed to mandatory firefighter certification that has been mandated by the province to occur on or before 2026. It will be necessary to host or otherwise provide training, so firefighters meet the mandated certification.

Asset Management (AMF)

The contributions to the Asset Replacement Fund were increased based on the CYFS 10-year forecast.

Support Cost Allocations

The Town of Newmarket allocates a proportional share of its overhead costs to CYFS. This includes a share of human resources, payroll, accounting, procurement, legal, insurance, and communications. These costs have been increased by 2.0%.

Fire Recoveries

No change in revenue is proposed.

The retainer portion for the Whitchurch-Stouffville contract will remain the same in 2025. However, there was an adjustment reducing the response portion of the Whitchurch-Stouffville agreement for commercial and industrial buildings, this reduction in revenue will be partially offset by the Fire Marque Inc. agreement.

Emergency Mgmt. Materials, Capital Acquisition, Heat, and Consulting Services budget lines have been reduced to reflect recent spending trends and to allow appropriate allocation to budget lines that are impacted more directly by inflation pressures.

A full list of the 2025 Operating Budget has been included in Appendix A - Draft 2025 CYFS Operating Budget.

Capital Budget

The 2025 Capital Budget is predominately based on replacements which are funded by the Asset Management Fund (AMF). The remaining requests are funded by the CYFS Reserve and a Provincial Grant.

The 2025 Capital Program and 2026 Capital Spending Authority are as follows:

Project Name	2025 Program	Asset Management Fund	Grants	CYFS Reserve	2026 CSA
Bunker Gear & Personal Protective Equipment	100,000	100,000	-	-	110,000
Recruit Firefighter Equipment Attrition	30,000	30,000	-	-	32,000
Replacement of Firefighting Equipment	50,000	50,000	-	-	50,000
Replacement of Fire SUV (CH45)	120,000	120,000	-	-	-
Replacement of Fire Public Education Vehicle	120,000	120,000	-	-	-
Fire Aerial Truck (427)	3,000,000	3,000,000	-	-	-
Station Furniture (4-2, 4-3, 4-4)	20,000	20,000	-	-	20,000
Training Props	20,000	-	-	20,000	22,500
Training Building	1,800,000	-	865,000	935,000	1,200,000
Total - New Capital Budget Requests	5,260,000	3,440,000	865,000	955,000	1,434,500
Replacement of Firefighting Equipment	560,000	560,000	-	-	60,000
Renovations to Station 4-1	775,000	650,000	-	125,000	-
Total - Pre-Approved Capital Requests (2024 Budget)	1,335,000	1,210,000	-	125,000	60,000
Total - Central York Fire Services	6,595,000	4,650,000	865,000	1,080,000	1,494,500
*CSA = Capital Spending Authority					

For projects that span more than one year, efforts have been made to identify the future year's spending, which makes up the future year's capital spending authority (CSA). Additionally, pre-approval for the Fire Aerial Truck (427) is being requested for 2025 in order to secure the funds and start the procurement process. The lead time from procurement to delivery can take between 20-24 months, and the expected delivery date is 2027.

Please note: some projects were previously approved through the 2024 Budget as part of the 2025 and 2026 Capital spending authority and are classified separately in the above table.

The 2025-2026 Capital spending list has been included in Appendix B - Draft 2025-2027 Capital Budget.

Conclusion

The 2025 Budget presented is in accordance with the 2014 CYFS Strategic Plan (formerly Fire Master Plan). Newmarket is targeting the council's decision on the 2025 Budget in December 2024. Currently, the next scheduled JCC meeting is November 5, 2025. If JCC requires more time for budget deliberations a special meeting for budget discussions may be scheduled.

Consultation

This report has been prepared by Newmarket finance staff based on budget submissions from Fire Services Management and reviewed by Aurora Finance.

Impact on CYFS Strategic Plan

The 2025 Budget is based on the CYFS 10-year forecast. The 2025 budget continues to address the implementation of the 2014 CYFS Strategic Plan.

Attachments

Appendix A - Draft 2025 CYFS Operating Budget

Appendix B - Draft 2025-2026 CYFS Capital Budget

Contact

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