



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

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May 8, 2023

SENT BY EMAIL

Ann-marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca

Ms. Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of Niagara
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON
L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

Re: 911 Back Up Centre - Special Equipment Budget Transfer

At its Public Meeting held April 27, 2023, the Niagara Police Services Board considered Service report dated April 12, 2023 seeking Board approval to transfer funds from the Niagara Regional Police Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS-Communications Back-Up Centre to the Niagara Region Capital Project 20001271 20-911 Back-Up Rationalization in the amount of \$3,024,000.

The following motion was passed:

'That the Board approve a capital budget transfer in the amount of \$3,024,000 gross from the Niagara Regional Police Service approved 2021 Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS Communications Back-Up to the Niagara Region Capital Project 20001271 20-911 Back-Up Rationalization;

And further, that the Board forward this proposal to the Regional Council for approval.

Carried.'

Further to Board direction, I would ask that you take the appropriate action. I have enclosed a copy of the report.

Yours truly,

Deb Reid
Executive Director

:dc

Encl.

c. Mr. T. Harrison, Commissioner of Corporate Services, Niagara Region
Chief of Police B. MacCulloch, Niagara Regional Police Service



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE
Police Services Board Report

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APR 18 2023

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: 911 Back Up Centre Special Equipment Budget Transfer
Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board
Report Date: 2023-04-12

Recommendation(s)

1. That the Niagara Regional Police Services Board approves a capital budget transfer in the amount of \$3,024,000 gross from the Niagara Regional Police Service approved 2021 Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS Communications Back-Up to Niagara Region Capital Project 20001271 20-911 Backup Rationalization.
2. That the Niagara Regional Police Services Board forwards this proposal to the Regional Council for approval.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to transfer funds from: Niagara Regional Police Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS Communications Back-up, to the Niagara Region Capital Project 20001271 Backup 911 Call Centre Relocation.
- 21-NRPS Communications Back-up was approved as part of the 2021 Capital Budget for a total of \$4,600,000 for the purchase of the specialized equipment and furniture required for the new Back-up Centre.
- This transfer will allow Niagara Regional staff to purchase and install the furniture, and add the specialized wiring, building systems and equipment to the General Contractor construction contract.
- The transfer exceeds \$150,000 and therefore requires the authorization of the Police Services Board in accordance with Police Services Board By-Law 384-2019 Section 9.2.

Financial Considerations

The approval of this recommendation will allow for Niagara Region staff to procure portions of the Backup 911 Call Centre that were originally anticipated to be spent out of Niagara Regional Police Capital project 20001462. The project budget will be reduced by \$3,024,000, from \$4,600,000 to \$1,576,000. The remaining funds in this project will be

used to procure specialized equipment directly related to the NG911 function including IT equipment, computers, audio-video equipment and telephones.

Despite the movement of funds, the Service will be allocated any debenture costs related to the facility and specialized equipment. Debenture costs are allocated to the Service as part of the indirect allocation budget that is not within the scope of the Net Operating Expenditure before Indirect Allocations Budget approved annually by the Board.

Analysis

In 2020, the Board approved Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS Communications Back-up as part of the 2021 Capital budget and the 9-year forecast. The funds were required for the purchase and install of NG911 compatible equipment, specialized building systems and equipment, and furniture to accommodate the 911/Communications Unit, and the Real Time Operation Centre (RTOC) at the new 911 Backup Centre (Region project 20001271).

As part of a new strategy consolidating all facility construction budgets for Agencies, Boards, and Commissions (ABCs) under the Region managed capital projects, Regional Council approved a separate project of \$7.76M for the construction of the NG911 Backup Centre facility in 2020. The project includes all costs associated with the design and construction of the new facility, but does not include moneys for the specialized equipment, building systems, and the furniture related to the NG911 function as described above.

The separate budgets for construction and infrastructure/furniture allows for better accountability and fiscal management, as the Region and the NRPS proceed with the development of the new facility and is in keeping with section 4(3) of the Police Services Act, which states "the responsibility of the Niagara Region to provide the infrastructure and administration needs of the Service". The Service will still bear the responsibility for maintaining the furniture and infrastructure once the project is completed.

The construction project was initiated last year and in consultation with the Region, it was decided that the Service would transfer funds related to the furniture, the generator, and other specialized building equipment and IT infrastructure to the Region's budget. This will allow Region staff to procure the furniture separate from the construction project, while ensuring that the associated design requirements are fully reflected in the construction documents. As well, the design and construction of the specialized equipment and building systems will be integrated into the general contractor's scope of work.

Alternatives Reviewed

Although the Service considered procuring the aforementioned items, the transfer of funds to the construction project, with the Region staff procuring and managing the purchase, is the optimal strategy to reduce costs, ensure compatibility with the building systems, and minimize schedule disruption during construction.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

The budget preparation process is conducted in consideration of the Regional objectives, with efforts to balance the information requirements of the Region as outlined in the Municipal Act with the accountabilities of the Police Services Board under the Police Services Act.

Relevant Policy Considerations

By-Law 384-2019 - Financial Reporting, Control and Procurement of Goods and Service
Police Services Act

Other Pertinent Reports

CSD 40-2015 Initiation of Capital Budgets – Niagara Regional Police Service.
60.2015 New 1 District (St Catharines) Facility –Police 911 Communications Back-Up
Centre
2020 09 Capital Budget 911 Back Up Centre- Budget Year 2021

This report was prepared by Nicole Wolfe, Director Construction, Energy & Facilities Management, Niagara Region, in consultation with Richard Frayne, Superintendent, Operational Support, Akram Askoul, Director, Technology Services, Adam Niece, Program Financial Specialist, Niagara Region, and recommended by Bill Fordy, Deputy Chief, Support Services.



Submitted by:
Bryan MacCulloch, M.O.M. #5835
Chief of Police

Appendices

None