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**TO:** Chair and Members of Budget Committee

**FROM:** Martin Powell, Commissioner Transportation and Works

**DATE:** February 24, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Roads, Storm Drainage and Watercourses Service Area  
Budget Committee Follow Up Information

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The following information is provided in response to the discussion at the January 31, 2011 session of Budget Committee regarding the FTE request (Assistant Land Surveyor) associated with Budget Request #31.

The changes to the Surveyor's Act (effective June 2010) places additional requirements on all survey plans which increases the time and effort required to complete a plan. This additional workload has resulted in the contracting out of survey work that has traditionally been done in-house. The FTE request for an Assistant Land Surveyor will allow more survey work to be done in-house and reduce the amount of survey work being contracted out.

Typically, costs to complete a survey project with a contractor are three times more that if the work was produced internally. The savings achieved from not contracting out survey work will off-set the cost of adding a new position.

For reference, the total amount of survey projects contracted out in 2010 totalled \$270,000. There is a backlog of survey work (\$89,000) that was not able to be complete in 2010 that would be contracted out in 2011 plus \$50,000 in maintenance work on the survey control network associated with the changes to the Surveyor's Act for a total of \$139,000. This excludes any capital works requirements which have yet to be defined. The 2010 work program was higher than normal due to the BRT Project whereas 2011 will be a more typical year. However overall there will be saving to the City with hiring an Assistant Land Surveyor.

Martin Powell, P.Eng.  
Commissioner of Transportation and Works