

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF OTTAWA-CARLETON  
MUNICIPALITÉ RÉGIONALE D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT  
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf.  
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 20 September 1996

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator  
Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee

FROM/EXP. Finance Commissioner

SUBJECT/OBJET **1997 DRAFT OPERATING AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES  
PROPOSED TIMETABLE**

### **DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee recommend Council approve the proposed timetable as presented in Annex A for the tabling and review of the 1997 draft operating and capital estimates.**

### **BACKGROUND**

On July 10, 1996, Council adopted *Budget Directions 1997*. Within that report, Table 7 outlined the key activities and dates involved in the preparation, tabling, review and approval of the Region's 1997 Budget. The table also indicated the opportunities available for public consultation and input to the budget process.

Specific dates for several key activities were not identified. Those included the dates for:

Tabling of the 1997 Draft Estimates;  
Departmental Budget Open House;  
Policy Committee reviews; and  
Council approval.

The purpose of this report is to recommend specific dates for these key activities.

*Budget Directions 1997* as adopted by Council on July 10, 1996, addressed the issue of the expected 1997 level of provincial support from the OMSP. For purposes of developing the 1997 Draft Estimates, a reduction of 25% or \$10.2 million has been assumed.

It is expected that the Province will not announce the 1997 OMSP allocations before the end of October. Early indications are that the reduction in the 1997 level of provincial support for Ottawa-Carleton will be greater than 25%. The Corporate Review team in conjunction with the Region's Management Committee are reviewing program priorities and areas where greater efficiencies and effectiveness can be achieved to offset any additional reduction in provincial support. These additional program adjustments and efficiencies will be presented to Council for consideration should further reductions be required to achieve Council's primary direction for no tax increase.

The proposed timetable for the review of the 1997 Draft Estimates has been developed to allow Council time to review the budget documents and to consider any additional adjustments that may be required as a result of the Provincial announcement. Annex A outlines the specific dates proposed for the 1997 budget review process. Also included in the timetable for the information of Council are the tentative dates for the review and adoption of the Regional Police Services Budget by the Police Services Board.

Committee reviews would not be held until January 1997. This will allow Council and the public an adequate opportunity to review the budget documents. A *Departmental Budget Open House* is again included in the process and is scheduled for January 8. This will allow the public to meet with staff and obtain answers or clarification about the draft operating and capital estimates.

Final review of the draft estimates along with the Committee recommendations and the Police Services budget is proposed for February 26, 1997.

*Approved by  
J.C. LeBelle*

**1997 Budget Process  
Proposed Timetable**

<b>Approval of Budget Directions &amp; Corporate Review Report Regional Council</b>	<b>July 10, 1996</b>
<b>Release of 1997 OC Transpo Proposed Budget (Tentative)</b>	<b>November 6, 1996</b>
<b>Review of OC Transpo Proposed Budget (Tentative) Regional Transit Commission</b>	<b>November 20, 1996</b>
<b>Tabling of 1997 Police Services Budget (Tentative) Regional Police Services Board</b>	<b>November 25, 1996</b>
<b>Tabling of 1997 Operating &amp; Capital Draft Estimates Regional Council</b>	<b>December 11, 1996</b>
<b>Budget Open House</b>	<b>January 8, 1997</b>
<b><u>Committee Review of Draft Estimates</u></b>  <b>Police Services Board (Tentative)</b> <b>Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee</b> <b>Planning and Environment Committee</b> <b>Transportation Committee</b> <b>Community Services Committee</b>	<b>December 16, 1996</b> <b>January 21, 1997</b> <b>January 28, 1997</b> <b>February 5, 1997</b> <b>February 6, 1997</b>
<b>Consideration of 1997 Budget by Regional Council</b>	<b>February 26, 1997</b>
<b>Rating By-laws</b> <b>Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee</b> <b>Regional Council</b>	<b>March 18, 1997</b> <b>March 26, 1997</b>