

GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Report on Council Priority Funding****Report Purpose**

To report to Council on Council Priority Funding

Motion on the Floor (2017/187)

THAT the Council Priority Funding Program be discontinued effective July 1, 2017; and that Administration prepare a report that provides the required policy amendments for the discontinuation of this program and provides a recommendation on how to address the funds that have been earmarked for this program, including adding the funds to Strathcona Community Investment Program; and that this report be brought to the June 6, 2017 Council meeting.

Recommendation

THAT motion 2017/187 be postponed until the last Council meeting of the first quarter of 2018.

Council History

May 9, 2017 – Council approved “THAT the motion on the floor (2017/187) be referred to the Governance Advisory Committee for further study and report back to Council by the end of the 3rd Quarter 2017.”

Summary

The Governance Advisory Committee reviewed the policy on Council Priority Funds as well as the policy on Strathcona County Investment Program. The Committee met with members of Administration to discuss potential options including, but not limited to, combining the two programs, altering the parameters of the programs, or maintaining the status quo. Ultimately, the Committee felt that it would be appropriate to defer this decision until after the 2017 municipal election and the next strategic planning cycle since the new Council would be best positioned to determine what changes, if any, would align with its priorities.

The Committee noted that in the interim the requirement for Council approval on Council Priority Fund expenditures provides an effective mechanism for vetting proposals and ensuring that they are within the parameters of the current policy.