

TO: HONOURABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
FROM: JOHN MACKENZIE, COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING
DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2013
SUBJECT: COMMUNICATION – COUNCIL MEETING, NOVEMBER 19, 2013

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Item #	3
Report No.	13 (F&A)
Council - November 19/13	

ITEM #3, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - NOVEMBER 4, 2013

**AUTOMATION UPGRADES AND ENHANCEMENTS AMANDA COMPUTER
SYSTEM BUILDING STANDARDS DEPARTMENT**

At the Finance and Administration Committee meeting on November 4th questions were raised by Committee members with respect to the nature of planned system upgrade options and whether additional licenses would be acquired beyond those needed to implement the AMANDA upgrade.

In response, staff notes that additional licenses are purely to meet workload demand and only include staff and departments currently on the AMANDA system (i.e., not expanded beyond current departments and user groups). Any requirements for additional licenses or increased functionality associated with the AMANDA upgrade and upgrades of other systems will be assessed through the report back process outlined in recommendation # 5 of the report.

On the question of planned system upgrade options, staff is aware that programs can coexist (e.g., Brampton experience) and see value in studying options that include upgrades of various programs. Staff is currently researching upgrades to ensure better service for customers. To assist with study of other systems beyond AMANDA including DTA we have successfully recruited a staff position to work with IT and Planning to serve as the DTA Coordinator. Furthermore, City staff is working with Region of York staff to undertake a DTA Pilot Project.

Consistent with the Committee recommendation, staff recommend that we proceed with the proposed AMANDA upgrade in Building Standards (where it is currently used) as outlined in recommendations #1 - 4 of the report while proceeding with parallel DTA upgrades (where it is currently used) through Q1-Q2 / 2014. In addition, we recommend that ICI/ITM, with Planning, Finance, Development Engineering and stakeholders undertake a process review of the entire planning/development cycle (from application submission to assumption) to develop integrated functional requirements and options for achieving an integrated planning/development management system throughout 2014.

In summary, the report back process outlined in recommendation # 5 of the report allows staff to consider various options for integrated technology solutions and associated costs of implementation, maintenance and support and to bring recommendations forward for Committee and Council consideration once the review is complete.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN MACKENZIE
Commissioner of Planning

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