



## REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

**MEETING DATE: January 16, 2008**

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Library Development Charges Study 2008: Overview
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Purpose of Report:	For Receipt and Information Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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### Recommendation

**It is recommended that this report be received.**

### Issue / Opportunity

Every five years, to comply with provincial legislation, the City of London undertakes a review of development charges in order to ensure that the capital projects to be funded reflect the forecasted level of population growth and development in the City

The initiation report for the 2008 Development Charges (DC) review, approved by City Council in March 2007 is available at

<http://council.london.ca/Board%20of%20Control%20Agendas/2007-03-21%20Agenda/1Item%2028.pdf>

**Development charges** are fees paid by developers to the City when property is built on for residential or business growth. Development charges are another source of funding for capital projects. The amount of funding from development charges for a specific capital project is dependent on the identified growth in population in an area between the current population and when the capital project is projected to be undertaken. Development Charges do not fund service improvements to existing populations. The Library receives 95 % of its development charges support from residential growth.

The DC Review process allows the re-examination of past priorities in light of new population growth information. Items previously included in the 2004 DC Review and the capital budget projections are reviewed in light of updated population growth information. New items may be submitted for consideration.

## **Methodology**

The study follows the methodology outlined in the 2008 DC study requirements, issued by the City of London:

### **1. Measurement of Existing Service Levels**

Current levels of service are assessed by a review of facilities, undertaken in cooperation with the City of London Facilities and Engineering Dept. A ten-year review of collections is provided by the Library's Collection Maintenance and Technical Support Services.

### **2. Identification of Growth Related Needs**

Growth needs are analyzed based on population projections provided by the City for the existing library service areas. The ratio of population per square foot is compared to the Library standard based on recent capital projects, previous DC standards, and comparisons with other large libraries in Canada. The Library's Community Mapping project provides information specific to the identified growth areas.

### **3. Review of Long Term Capital and Operating Costs**

Long term capital and operating budgets are developed by reviewing operating budget for branches of similar size and service those being proposed.

## **Next Steps**

Reports on existing service levels (Step 1) were submitted to City Administration for review in September 2007. In February 2008, the Library Board will receive recommendations regarding Library capital projects for consideration by the DC Review, along with background information on related growth needs.