

**Memorandum**

**To:** Mayor Dan Carter and Members of Council  
**From:** Jag Sharma  
**Date:** January 24, 2019  
**Re:** Capital Budget

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In response to inquiries regarding our approach to Capital Budgeting please find the below update:

Through consultation with the appropriate staff, this was the most appropriate decision given the feedback we received from members of the media. Media questioned the Commissioner and myself at different times during which it was explained why this was undertaken. It was made clear to all inquiries that this was an effort to increase the competitiveness of bids for the City and there was no intent to frustrate or not be transparent.

That being said, it was clear that individuals would be pursuing a Freedom of Information (FOI) request in order to acquire the information. In consultation with the Clerk regarding IPC considerations that may keep information from being released, it was made clear that there are no criteria that would keep this information from being released. Accordingly, we elected to reverse the decision.

I must reinforce that staff support our original strategy of trying to improve our competitive bidding process. We have also considered if this should be an item for delegation with the Province and through AMO. We believe this would be appropriately debated at Finance Committee in an effort to continuously improve for future budgets.

Regards,



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Jag Sharma  
City Manager