

Modernizing the Municipal Granting Process

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
October 26, 2015

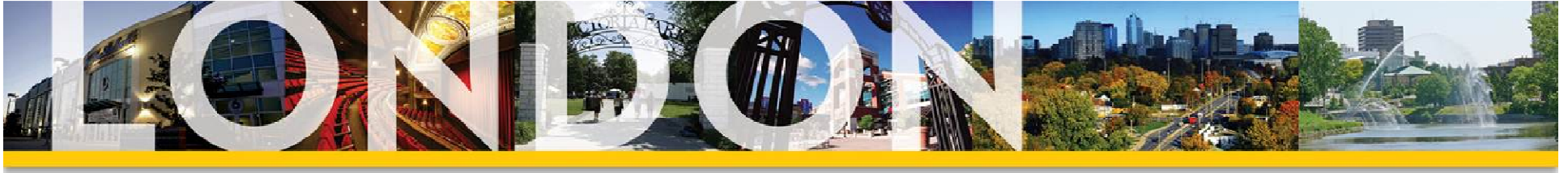


Purpose

As part of the 2015 budget process and the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan, Council requested that Civic Administration review the current process, policy and funding source.

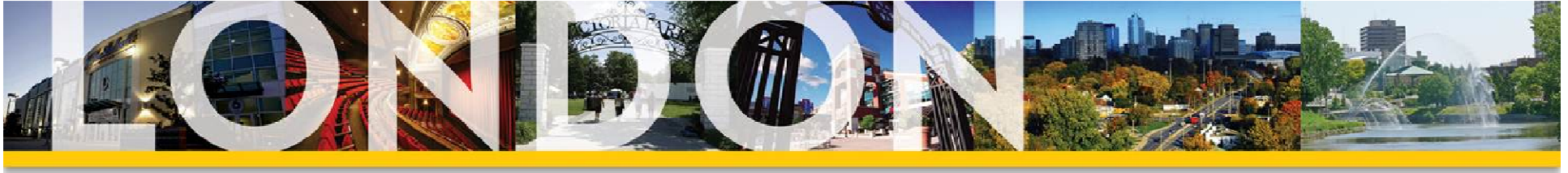
Based on City Council's recommendation, city staff:

1. Reviewed and proposed a modernized 4 year granting model (currently the Strategic Funding Framework) for all new and ongoing funding requests to be implemented as part of the 2016 - 2019 City of London budget process
2. Worked with key community stakeholders to develop the proposed modernized granting model including discussing possible sources of funding



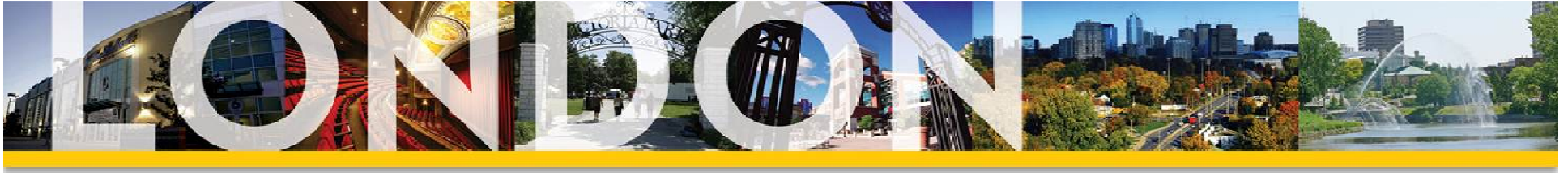
Process to Modernize the Current Model

- Confirmed scope of review (phase one)
- Reviewed what other cities and granting programs are doing
- Held 2 community conversations with stakeholders to gather input and then feedback on the proposed model
- Based on this, we developed a modernized municipal granting model and process



Working Assumptions for the Review

1. Build upon and modernize the current process – Strategic Funding Framework
2. Align with the City’s multiyear budget process: full application process every “4” years
3. Alignment with the Strategic Plan for the City of London as this plan sets Council’s direction for the next 4 years
4. Review Council’s role, Civic Administration’s role, and the community’s role in decision making
5. Explore alternative funding sources (currently tax base)



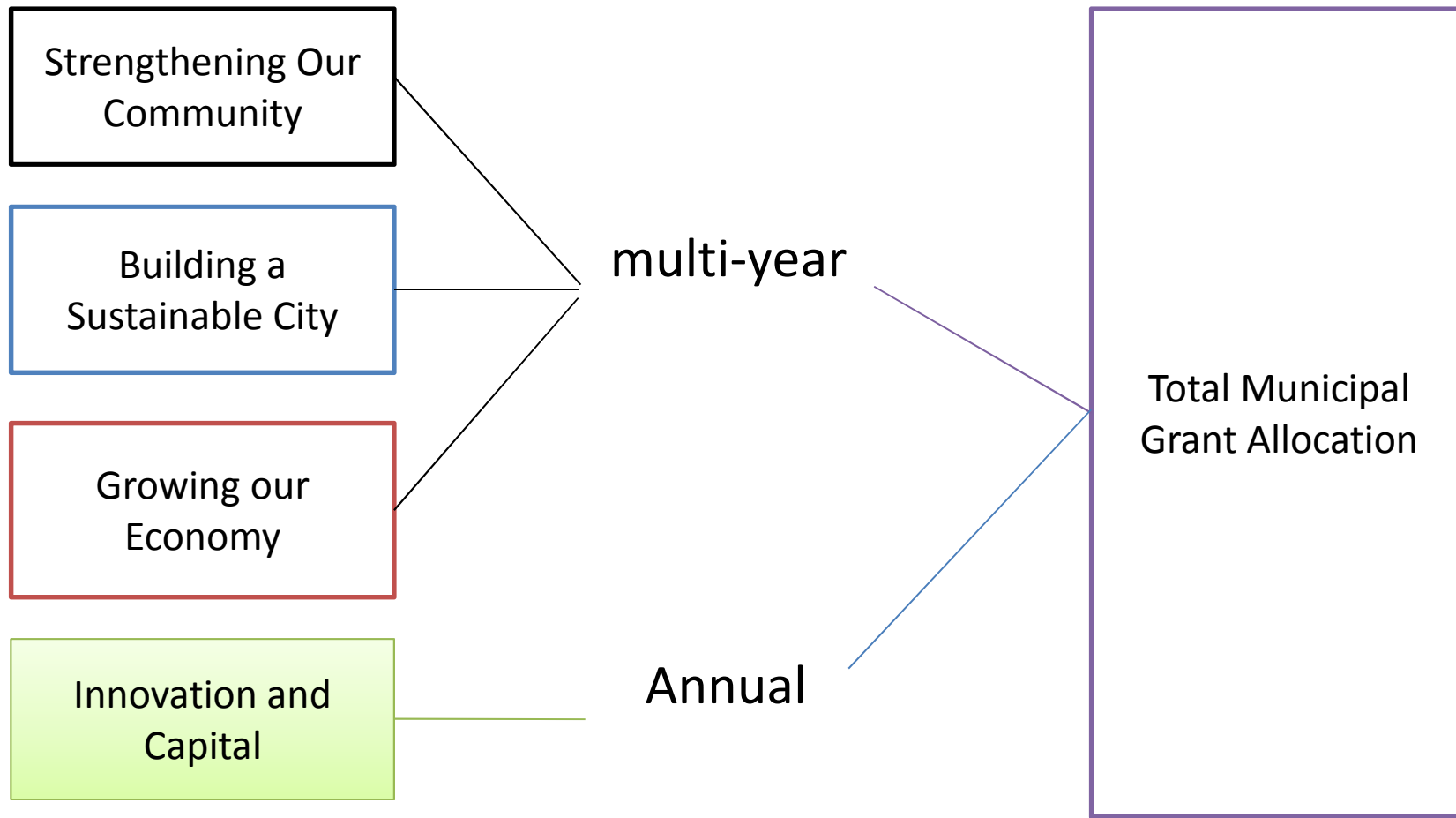
Proposed Modernized Municipal Granting Model: *City of London Community Grants Program*

1. Granting Streams

2. Process
 - Application
 - Decision making
 - Appeal
 - Allocation
 - Reporting and accountability

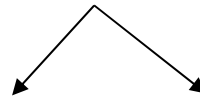


Proposed Four Municipal Granting Streams





Total Amount of Municipal Funding Available: **\$2.4 M (2017)**



Multi-Year Funding Streams

Strengthening our Community
Building a Sustainable City
Growing our Economy

Municipal Funding Available:

2017	\$2.3M
2018	\$2.3M
2019	\$2.3M

Annual Funding Stream

Innovation and Capital

Municipal Funding Available:

2017	\$100,000
2018	\$150,000*
2019	\$200,000*

*annual increases are based on a modest annual increase of approximately 1.5% consistent with the administrative targets established for the development of the 2016-2019 multiyear budget





Proposed Modernized Municipal Granting Model

STEP ONE: Application Process for all organizations regardless if currently funded or not

STEP TWO: Decision Making: Community Review Panel reviews, evaluates and makes decisions regarding the allocation of municipal grants

STEP THREE: Allocation of Grants: Allocation of municipal grants to continue to follow the calendar year

STEP FOUR: Reporting and Accountability: Civic Administration will report annually to City Council highlighting municipal granting outcomes, community impact, and alignment to the City of London Strategic Plan



Roles and Responsibilities

City Council

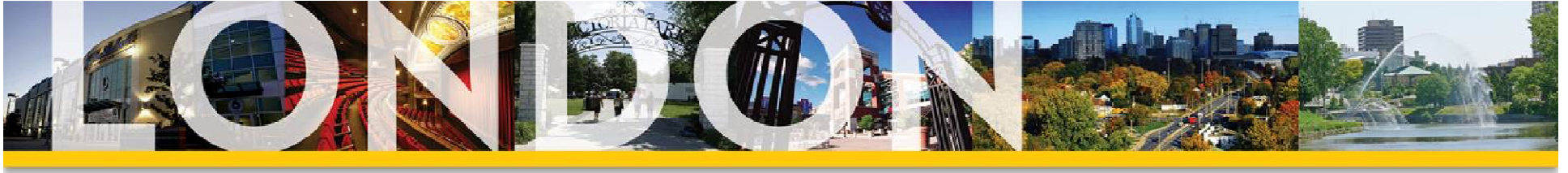
- Council sets the municipal granting streams (align with Strategic Plan)
- Council approves the amount of funding to be allocated for municipal grants through the multi-year budget process

Civic Administration

- Oversee and manage the proposed model and process
- Participate on the Community Review Panel
- Review appeals (member of the Senior Management Team)

Community

- Local residents will be part of the Community Review Panel and review, evaluate, and makes decisions regarding the allocation of municipal grants in all 4 granting streams



Source of Funding

Tax base:

- multi-year granting streams (3)
- Base funding for Innovation and Capital stream (\$100,00)
- Any increases between 2016 and 2019 consistent with the administrative targets established for the development of the 2016-19 multiyear budget

OLG:

- OLG revenues may be allocated towards a portion of the incremental increases to the Innovation and Capital stream



Implementation and Next Steps

- **2016 is the transition year:** organizations currently receiving core funding in 2015, will receive the same amount in 2016. There will be no process for new or increased requests in 2016.
- In **early 2016**, Civic Administration will bring forward for endorsement:
 - revised standard form for Grant Agreement
 - updated City of London Community Grants Policy
 - proposed evaluation criteria to be used to evaluate applications
- Application process (Step One) for the new City of London Community Grants Program (2017 – 2019) will open in **early 2016**



Implementation and Next Steps

- **In 2016/2017**, Civic Administration will:
 - undertake a review of Council directed funding to other community granting programs (such as Community Arts Investment Program Category 2, Community Heritage Investment Program, SPARKS! Neighbourhood Matching Fund, TreeME Matching Fund, etc)
 - explore innovative funding mechanisms for the funding of various small community events



The City of London's Community Grants Program

- ✓ moves to multiyear funding for non-profit organizations
- ✓ aligns funding with the Strategic Plan for the City of London: grants based on an organization's ability to demonstrate outcomes directly linked to the Plan
- ✓ increases accountability and commitment
- ✓ is simple, clear, fair, and transparent
- ✓ supports innovation and collaboration
- ✓ strong/responsible financial management and stewardship of City funds