TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING ON
DECEMBER 3, 2012

FROM: L. STEVENS
DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL HOUSING
HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CAPITAL FUNDING FROM
THE SOCIAL HOUSING MAJOR REPAIRS AND UPGRADES
STABILIZATION RESERVE FUND
FOR ANDOVER GARDENS SENIORS APARTMENT INC.
1 ANDOVER DRIVE LONDON

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Municipal Housing, the following actions BE TAKEN:

1) Andover Gardens Seniors Apartment Inc. BE APPROVED for an allocation of up to $502,279 (incl. HST) for capital repairs at 1 Andover Drive in London, as outlined in the following report, and

2) The funding allocation from the Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund recommended above be as set out in the attached Appendix A – Sources of Financing Report.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Community & Protective Services Committee

October 16, 2006 – Criteria to Access the Stabilization Reserve Fund for Major Repairs for Prescribed Social Housing Providers with Underfunded Capital Reserves

January 29, 2007 – Capital Reserve Shortfalls for Prescribed Social Housing Providers

November 12, 2007 - Revisions to Criteria to Access the Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund

September 27, 2010 - Social Housing Building Condition Assessment and Capital Reserve Fund Study

BACKGROUND

Under the Social Housing Reform Act 2000 (SHRA), the City of London was identified as the Service Manager responsible for administering the delivery of social housing in the City of London and the County of Middlesex.

The City of London Housing Division requires Social Housing Providers to adopt a planned maintenance program and a multi-year capital plan. The maintenance of the social housing stock in a state of good repair is a fundamental requirement of each Housing Provider. These plans are reviewed carefully by Housing Division staff. Housing Providers contribute funding to their capital reserves annually, the amount of which is determined by which program that they fall under.

Provincial funding of non-profit housing and co-operative housing capital reserve contributions was frozen in 1992. In 1995, provincial contributions resumed but only at 1/3 of the original contribution amounts. Most of the projects are in the 25 to 30 year old range. In 2006, Council approved a Major
Repairs Reserve Fund for non-profits and co-ops, which can only be accessed through specific criteria. Annual requests for future allocations to this reserve are done through the budget process.

The continued annual contributions through the budget process to the Major Repairs Reserve Fund for Non-profits and Co-ops assist in mitigating capital reserve shortfalls. The Reserve Fund can only be accessed through specific criteria approved by Municipal Council in November 2007. The recent contributions from other orders of government under Anti-Poverty, Investing in Ontario and Stimulus Funding initiatives have assisted in meeting the most critical capital needs.

To be eligible, prescribed housing providers must be in a position where the challenges they are facing would jeopardize their project’s viability or the health and safety of their residents. A standardized format was created to process requests.

Request for Capital Funding

Andover Gardens Seniors Apartment Inc. is a Social Housing Provider in the city’s service management area. It consists of a four (4) storey mid-rise apartment building with thirty-five (35) one-bedroom and eighteen (18) two-bedroom units at 1 Andover Drive in London.

The Complex was built in 1984. The group’s current capital reserve fund balance is $39,305 plus this year’s allocation. The group has insufficient funds to complete the required repairs. A business case rationalizing the request, including options reviewed, budget and project plan with technical documentation, was submitted to the Housing Division. The prioritized repair plan and associated costs are recommended by an engineering firm hired by the group and reviewed by the city.

The Building Condition Assessment (BCA) commissioned by the City in July 2009, indicates the overall building is in good condition for the age of the complex. With few exceptions, the capital program recommendations are associated with building elements reaching the end of their life expectancy and requiring replacement. However, the following issues must be immediately addressed:

a) Replacement of eight (8) steel beams, structural lintels over the top floor balconies, seriously corroded by years of water penetration
b) Caulking (construction original) failing in a number of locations, to be removed and replaced with fresh material.

The consultants and engineer have assessed the structural elements and determined that the lintels will be adequate over the coming winter but must be addressed as soon as winter is over.

It is recommended that Andover Gardens Seniors Apartment Inc. receive an allocation of up to $502,279 (incl. reduced HST) for the following repairs at 1 Andover Drive in London:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>$ 8,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>c)</td>
<td>$ 63,365</td>
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<td>d)</td>
<td>$ 22,500</td>
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<td>e)</td>
<td>$ 57,784</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$502,279</td>
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Funds are to be allocated from the Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund. Funds are not allocated in advance. Proof of work completion is required. The group must also comply with all applicable legislation such as the Construction Lien Act.

In order to be approved for the funding, the building and units must be maintained for their prescribed uses. A reconciliation report is required upon completion of work and the funding must be addressed specifically in year-end reporting.

The Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund for existing non-profit and co-op housing projects is an investment in the long term future of social housing. Maintaining the portfolio in a good state of repair not only protects taxpayers’ investment but ensures a full range of affordable housing for every household type as well as a safety net for our most vulnerable population.
Council approval, as Service Manager, is required for amounts exceeding $100,000.

Further to the annual approval by Municipal Council to the Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund, there is no additional impact on the municipal levy as municipal funding for exceptional capital repairs to social housing units is drawn down from the Social Housing Major Repairs and Upgrades Stabilization Reserve Fund.

C.
A.L. Barbon, Manager, C/S Financial & Business Services
A. Dunbar, Mgr Financial Planning & Policy
T. Tapai, Technical Support Officer, Housing Division