

## **SPPC MTG – March 9 /21 – Agenda Item – 2.2 – 2021 Assessment Growth Allocation**

Mayor Holder (Chair) & Members of Council, please consider the following for your review and consideration as “ added agenda “ or public input for this meeting ;

1. Budget Process Consideration Going Forward >>> when you close this agenda item today , the result will be a \$10 M increase or major revision in either or both the 2021 approved Operating or Capital budgets without either your input as a Council or that of the public; just to be received By Law 6151 – Public Notice – Appendix A – clearly states that “ Notice of any public participation meeting(s) with respect to the adoption of the budget “ be posted . This is 33 % of all delta budget changes for 2021, that’s significant ! There is zero reason that going forward this “ Assessment Value Growth “ piece of the budget should not be aligned to be concurrent with the main Budget Meetings ; gaining the value of both Council & Public Input and Feedback to strengthen the quality and the timeliness of the result. The City of London is an “ exception “ here as other locations I reviewed all align this piece with their core budget process, public meetings and more Council input with respect to the outcome.
2. Both City Hall and Council often cite that “ growth pays for growth “ , well this is to reinforce that current taxpayers are paying an increasing annual price for this growth in “ incentive zones “ like the Core / SOHO / and Old East to rebait “ development fees “ over a now 10 year payback scheme to support our increasing London Plan targets to intensify – grow inward and upward. Best I can see this is approximately \$2.5 M annually and growing. This “New Assessment Value Growth “ funding should allocate annually and permanently 50 % of \$\$ taxpayer contributions to this ( CIP? ) fund back to share this burden fairly , making this a perfect circle with “ growth paying for growth “ & reducing the direct burden on already strained taxpayers.
3. I welcome allocations outlined in business cases # 18 / # 21 & #22 in this report, as this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time I have seen a significant recognition by our CFO that taxpayers cannot be expected to bear added burden in Mil Rate to support these challenges without the continuous support of “New Assessment Growth Funding”. We are finally pointing where we are going , not where we have been.
4. I like many on Council; come from a business background where Management & Operations teams are continuous challenged to support growth in their existing operations levels through internal improvements and synergies. I find some of these business cases lacking that challenge but hope to comment more next year when this is a public meeting.

THXS – Chris Butler – 863 Waterloo St