Minutes – Council – October 24, 2024

Minute No. 515
Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment – Notice of Motion

Item No. 1 Retrofit Investments

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council did not concur in the Notice of Motion, and as such, the item was not adopted.

Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment – Notice of Motion

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

On September 26, 2024, the following Notice of Motion was filed with the Clerk, in accordance with section 17(1) of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.

Moved by Councillor Mayes,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS the Public Service estimated a cumulative total carbon tax and utility cost savings of $9.2m by 2030, based on $50.6m in retrofit investments for city infrastructure, as identified in a report adopted by Council on September 29, 2023;

AND WHEREAS that report provided no cost estimate for the social benefit of reducing carbon emissions by 2,735 tonnes per year, which would be the annual reduction resulting from the $50.6m retrofit investment;

AND WHEREAS the appendix titled 'Route 90 Improvements Benefit-Cost Analysis Technical Report', included with the report adopted by Council on June 27, 2024, cites a social benefit of $250 per tonne saved, thereby crediting the Route 90 widening with "environmental benefits" worth $12.6m over 25 years (2,021 tonnes per year for 25 years totaling 50,537 tonnes) ;

AND WHEREAS the "social benefit" of the $50.6m in building retrofits produces 68,375 tonnes in carbon emission savings over 25 years (2,735 x 25), worth $17.1M using the Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) approach;

AND WHEREAS the retrofits wills produce 36% greater social/environmental benefit than the Route 90 widening proposal approved by Council, at less than 1/3 of the cost ($50m vs $164m);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the estimated $50.6 million cost of retrofit investments, as identified in the report titled "Retrofits to Reduce Carbon Tax Payment Obligations" adopted by Council on September 29, 2023, be referred the 2025 Budget Update Process.

Councillor Wyatt called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Orlikow, Schreyer and Wyatt 6

Nay: His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Lukes, Santos and Sharma 9

and the motion was declared lost.

Cyndi Choy, Curt Hull and Lynda Trono submitted communications with respect to the matter.