BR #5508 - New Fire Station 123

Description of Budget Request

This BR is for 20 permanent FTEs beginning in 2027 to appropriately staff a new fire station in the Burnhamthorpe & Winston Churchill area as part of a 10-year plan to improve emergency response time citywide. These FTEs are divided between four shifts. There are five firefighters assigned to each shift to ensure 24/7 coverage.

Why Staff Recommend this Initiative

MFES meets the NFPA travel time target 51 per cent of the time under current conditions. The target is to reach 75 per cent within the next 10 years. This station is a critical part of the 10-year infrastructure and service delivery plan. Response time across the city has increased by one per cent per year as a result of growth-related variables such as density and traffic congestion. This area includes some higher-risk occupancies and higher-than-average call volume.

Details of Service Change

In 2017, MFES conducted a Comprehensive Risk Assessment and developed an associated Infrastructure Renewal Strategy. This work was completed in order to inform decisions regarding the optimal location of fire stations across the city to best support a more risk-based deployment model. Twenty firefighters will be required in January 2027 to operate this station in order to meet appropriate staffing levels of five firefighters for each of the four shifts. The land required to build the station was purchased in 2013.

Service Impact

A new station can be expected to improve response times in the immediate response area by up to ten seconds. This station will be located in the Burnhamthorpe & Winston Churchill area and it is anticipated that it will improve response by two to three per cent citywide as well as having a significant impact on response in the immediate response area. It will provide improved response to all occupancies with particular focus on the higher-risk occupancies such as medium-hazard industrial. Often these have larger building footprints and potential fuel load challenges which makes them more combustible.

BR #5556 - New Fire Station 124

Description of Budget Request

This BR is for 20 permanent FTEs beginning in 2025 to appropriately staff a new fire station in the Cawthra & Dundas area as part of a 10-year plan to improve emergency response time citywide. These FTEs are divided between four shifts. There are five firefighters assigned to each shift to ensure 24/7 coverage.