That, on the recommendation of the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER**

None.

**BACKGROUND**

When it became known that London Hydro would be investing significant funds in a communication network for smart meters, the City of London expressed interest in joining that effort. This interest arose primarily due to the following needs:

- Increasing need for mobile connectivity by London Police Service, London Fire Services and Middlesex-London EMS
- A need to address crowded communication systems
- A desire to provide interoperable communications for first responders to improve public safety
- A need to provide a communication system to support legislated smart meter initiative.

The project vision is to construct a citywide wireless infrastructure to provide broadband two-way interconnectivity among these primary stakeholders. This wireless network would harmonize and consolidate the internetworking needs of these stakeholders and provide a robust and capable network to permit collaboration and improved services to the citizens of London.

In January 2006, the stakeholders formed a steering committee named "Uni-Fi London" with a 50/50 cost sharing between London Hydro and the City of London. The members of the committee are as follows:

- Eldon Amoroso, Senior Director, Support Services Division, London Police Service
- Jeff Craigmille, Director, Information & Technology, London Police Service
- Dan Oldridge, Deputy Fire Chief, London Fire Services
- Gwen Francis, Manager, Finance and Planning, London Fire Services
- Karl Drysdale, Director of Technology Services, City of London
- Lorne Seaton, Associate Director of Technology Services, City of London
- Jim Pretty, Manager IT – Telecommunications, City of London
- Randy Denning, President, Middlesex-London EMS
- Jim Christie, Operations Manager, Middlesex-London EMS
- Vinay Sharma, V.P. Customer Services & Strategic Planning, London Hydro
- Gary Rains, Director of Energy Management Programs, London Hydro
- Joe Lee, Manager of Meter Technologies, London Hydro
- Pat Hewlett, Smart Meter Coordinator, London Hydro
The committee retained a consultant to help develop a system design and business case report. This report indicates the network will include an overall $10.3 million investment shared among the stakeholders including London Hydro. A preliminary review indicates that benefits to the stakeholder groups would result in NPV of the project of $1.5 million at a 5% discount rate. However, please note that significant detailed work still needs to be done; nevertheless in the minds of the stakeholders, this is a most economic investment that we should continue investigating. Subject to design and deployment it is envisioned that this project would be completed between 2010/2011.

RECOMMENDED BY:

V. A. COTÉ
GENERAL MANAGER OF FINANCE
AND CORPORATE SERVICES