

Treasury Board Secretariat

Deputy Minister, Treasury Board
Secretary of Treasury Board and
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Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor

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March 24, 2016

Mr. Stephen LeClair
Financial Accountability Officer
Financial Accountability Office of Ontario
2 Bloor St West, Suite 900
Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3E2

Mr. LeClair,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen".

Thank you for your letter of February 25, 2016, requesting information pertaining to analysis of the fiscal and economic impact of the Province's more than \$134-billion infrastructure plan. As a complement to the information package we delivered on February 26, 2016, we are pleased to provide additional information in response to your request (see Appendix 1 for an overview of Treasury Board Secretariat's response and supporting attachments for details).

As you are aware, subsection 12(1) of the *Financial Accountability Officer Act (Act)* requires every ministry of the Government of Ontario and every public entity to give, upon request, any financial, economic or other information that is in its custody or under its control that you believe to be necessary to perform your duties under the Act.

Subsection 12(2) of the Act notes that a ministry or public entity shall not give the Financial Accountability Office a record described under subsection 12(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)*, unless either of the circumstances in clause 12(2)(a) or (b) of FIPPA exist. Subsection 12(1) of FIPPA creates a non-exhaustive list of records that a head shall refuse to disclose because they would reveal the substance of deliberations that have taken place, or are intended to take place in Cabinet (i.e., the Executive Council) or any of its committees (e.g., Treasury Board/Management Board of Cabinet). A record would reveal the substances of deliberations of Cabinet or its committees if the disclosure would permit the drawing of accurate inferences with respect to the substance of those deliberations.

In the attached backgrounder and appendices, we have provided additional clarification in response to the items requested in your letter of February 25, 2016. Where information cannot be released due to Cabinet confidentiality, we endeavoured to provide available information that is responsive to your request.

If your office has any detailed questions or requires further clarification, please contact Artur Arruda, Assistant Deputy Minister, Capital Planning Division, Treasury Board Secretariat at 416-325-3359.

Sincerely,



Greg Orencsak
Deputy Minister, Treasury Board
Secretary of Treasury Board and Management Board of Cabinet

- C. Howie Bender, Chief of Staff to the President of the Treasury Board
 Ali Ghiassi, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Finance
 Scott Thompson, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
 Karen Hughes, Associate Deputy Minister, Office of the Treasury Board, Treasury Board Secretariat
 Artur Arruda, Assistant Deputy Minister, Capital Planning Division, Treasury Board Secretariat
 Raj Sharda, Director, Capital Planning Division, Treasury Board Secretariat
 Chris Giannikos, Assistant Deputy Minister, Office of the Budget, Ministry of Finance
 Tim Schuurman, Director, Office of the Budget, Ministry of Finance

Attachments:

- 1) Backgrounder
- 2a) Additional Project Information by Ministry (Including Location, Price of Contracts)
- 2b) Net Capital Expense by Ministry
- 3) Copy of Information Package Provided on February 26, 2016

Appendix 1

Information Requested	Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) Response
<p>1. A complete list of projects included in the more than \$134-billion infrastructure plan (as referenced in the recent "Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review"); including basic project information such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • name • location • brief description 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26th package provided a summary of project and program information by ministry included in the Province's infrastructure plan (as of the 2015 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review). Attachment #2a provides additional project information (location, description).
<p>2. For each project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the forecasted and/or actual capital cost by year and total capital cost • the forecasted and/or actual project cash flows by year • the associated forecasted fiscal impact of each project by year • the most recent benefit-cost analysis undertaken • the most recent economic impact analysis undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26th package provided gross infrastructure expenditures of projects and programs. Attachment #2a provides the price of contracts for infrastructure projects delivered through the Alternative Financing and Procurement method. • Total capital cost of projects is not provided as this information forms part of the advice and analysis presented to TB/MBC and Cabinet Committees. • Attachment #2b includes a breakdown of net capital expense by ministry, consistent with the Province's 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates. • Ministries are responsible and accountable for delivering their infrastructure programs and tracking specific projects. When information such as the forecasted fiscal impact of each project is provided to TBS to form part of the advice and analysis presented to TB/MBC and Cabinet Committees, it is confidential to Cabinet. • February 26th package provided a summary of planned infrastructure investments by sector and investment type, which TBS uses for macro-level analysis to inform priority-setting. • Ministries assess and prioritize individual projects based on their sector-level expertise, and when this information is provided to TBS to form part of the advice and analysis presented to TB/MBC and Cabinet Committees, it is confidential to Cabinet.
<p>3. All macro or summary-level analysis of the collective economic and/or fiscal impact of the infrastructure plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26th package referenced some papers that have been recently published on infrastructure investments in Ontario or Canada, and provide insights of the economic impact of infrastructure spending as a whole. Additionally, the summary of planned infrastructure investments provided in the February 26th package could support the analysis of macro-economic impacts of infrastructure investments.