

Government Relations Matters

City Council
March 27, 2024



Government Relations Committee

Thursday, March 28, 2024 @ 11:00 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee

Thursday, 28 March 2024 @ 1:00 PM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

The next Regional Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024.

6.1 Update on Region of Peel Advocacy Priorities (For Information)

Summary:

- The report highlights advocacy efforts undertaken since the last meeting of the Government Relations Committee (GRC), held on October 19, 2023.

Staff Comments (Government Relations):

- The report includes updates on key provincial legislative and policy developments.
- City staff work closely with the Region on priority advocacy issues such as critical infrastructure, housing, supports for asylum claimants and regional governance review.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

6.2 2024 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference (For Information)

Summary:

- The 2024 AMO Conference will take place from August 18 to 21 in Ottawa, Ontario.
- The Conference will present opportunities for Peel Region to advance its advocacy priorities and strengthen relationships with provincial leaders as well as local Peel MPPs.
- Following the Conference, Peel staff will provide the Committee with an update on conference activities and outcomes and follow up on action items and future opportunities to advance Regional priorities.

Staff Comments (Government Relations):

- The report outlines the proposed approach to Region of Peel advocacy at the 2024 AMO Conference with key advocacy priorities in line with Peel's 2024 pre-budget submission.
- City staff collaborate with the regional staff to identify opportunities for joint advocacy, share information, coordinate schedules and delegation requests.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

March 21, 2024

Peel Region Police Auto Theft Summit – Key Takeaways

PRIORITY 1: STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT	PRIORITY 2: COLLABORATION & AWARENESS
ACTION <ul style="list-style-type: none">A federal Action Plan that will formally recognize auto theft as a national priority; strengthen enforcement and inspection of exports, establish legislative and policy tools to address organized auto theft.	ACTION <ul style="list-style-type: none">Continued collaboration between police services, auto manufacturers, insurance bureaus and government partners to identify and address vulnerabilities, and raise awareness.
PROGRESS INDICATORS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strengthen security, investigations, and enforcement capabilities of containers at impacted ports and intermodal hubs.Targeted legislation and policy that identifies auto theft as organized crime and sanctions it as such.Investment into a interprovincial joint force operation.	PROGRESS INDICATORS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Delivering on commitments and progress to address vehicle theft vulnerabilities and implementation of new anti-theft technology in vehicles.Increase public awareness on anti-theft devices and ways to deter auto theft and carjacking through campaigns or programs.

- Peel Regional Police is calling on the federal government to create a "national action plan" to combat auto theft, following the Auto Theft Summit in Peel Region.
- More than 150 representatives from across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, including law enforcement agencies, insurance officials, auto manufacturers, and car dealers, took part in the March 20 summit.
- Key recommendations from the 2024 Auto Theft Summit include:
 - An Action Plan that will formally recognize auto theft as a national priority; strengthen enforcement and inspection of exports, establish legislative and policy tools to address organized auto theft.
 - Continued collaboration between police services, auto manufacturers, insurance bureaus and government partners to identify and address vulnerabilities and raise awareness.

February 27, 2024

Investments for Housing-Enabling Infrastructure

- The province is investing more than **\$1.8B** in housing-enabling infrastructure.
- This funding includes:
 - **\$1B** for the new Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program;
 - Support for core infrastructure projects that help enable housing, with more details about the program expected later in the year.
 - **\$625M** in additional funding for the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund, bringing its total funding to **\$825M**.
- Applications are now open for the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund with deadline to apply by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on April 19, 2024.
- This new funding complements existing provincial investments in housing-enabling infrastructure, including the **\$1.2B** through the Building Faster Fund.



Brampton received \$25.5M through the Building Faster Fund for being on track to meet the 2023 housing targets set by the provincial government.

March 26, 2024



2024 Provincial Budget Highlights

- Following the tabling of the 2024 Ontario Budget, Government Relations staff have provided Members of Council with a summary of the budget document and initial analysis.
- Over the next weeks, staff will analyze the document in detail and identify opportunities for collaboration, funding and additional advocacy.

The budget document will help inform the City's ongoing engagement with the provincial government including advocacy, funding and collaboration on key priorities.

March 21, 2024

Federal Government Agrees to Cancel Highway 413 Impact Assessment



- The federal government has come to an agreement with Government of Ontario to remove a roadblock in the building of Highway 413.
- A joint consent order, which still needs to be approved by the courts, would cancel the federal environmental impact study on the proposed highway.
- The proposed route would travel from Halton to York Region, connecting Highways 401, 407, and 410.

This is a significant announcement as the City's formally endorsed position continues to be a preference for an urban boulevard configuration of Hwy 413 through the northwest part of Brampton.

March 21, 2024

Federal Government to Adjust Temporary Measures Under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program



While the cap exemption for agriculture sector and seasonal employers will remain unchanged, City staff will continue to monitor impacts on food processing industry.

- The Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program experienced a surge in demand due to the post-pandemic economy, low unemployment rates, and vacancy rates in 2022.
- On March 21, the federal government announced that time-limited measures under the TFW Program Workforce Solutions Road Map will not be renewed and will end, earlier than planned. As of May 1, 2024:
 - New Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs) will be **valid for six months** (a decrease from 12 months).
 - All employers identified in the 2022 Workforce Solutions Road Map will have a **reduction from 30% to 20% of their total workforce** that can come in through the TFW Program, under the low wage stream (not applicable to construction and health care sector).
 - Employers will need to **explore every option before applying for an LMIA** — including recruiting asylum claimants with valid work permits here in Canada.



THANK YOU!

