



Report
Staff Report
 The Corporation of the City of Brampton
 3/20/2024

Date: 2020-03-05

Subject: **2024 Emergency Plan and Draft By-law**

Contact: Rick Bernard, Manager, Emergency Management Office,
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Report number: Brampton Fire and Emergency Services-2024-224

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Rick Bernard, Manager, Emergency Management to the Committee of Council Meeting of March 20, 2024, re: the City of Brampton Emergency Management Program and Plan By-law, be received; and
2. That By-law 265-2014, which adopted the previous emergency plan, be repealed.
3. That By-law 56-2016, which adopted the previous emergency management program be repealed.
4. That the By-law be enacted to adopt the City of Brampton Emergency Management Program and Plan.

OVERVIEW:

- The legislation of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter E.9 requires that the municipal Emergency Management Program be adopted by By-law.
- The previous Emergency Plan and the Emergency Program by-laws have been reviewed, consolidated and updated to reflect the most accurate and current information and align with the priority area of Improved Safety of the City of Brampton Strategic Plan

Background:

The *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter E.9* (the Act), requires that:

Municipal Emergency Management Programs

2.1 (1) Every municipality shall develop and implement an emergency management program and the council of the municipality shall by by-law adopt the emergency management program. 2002, c. 14, s. 4.

The Act also provides a checklist of items that are required by the municipality in order to be compliant to the legislation. The City of Brampton meets or exceeds the Provincial standards for the emergency management program, and compliance is reviewed by the Brampton Emergency Management Program Committee and Emergency Management Ontario, on an annual basis.

Municipal Emergency Plan

3 (1) Every municipality shall formulate an emergency plan governing the provision of necessary services during an emergency and the procedures under and the manner in which employees of the municipality and other persons will respond to the emergency and the council of the municipality shall by by-law adopt the emergency plan. 2002, c. 14, s. 5 (1).

The City of Brampton Emergency Plan aims to make provisions for the extraordinary arrangements and measures that may have to be taken to safeguard the life, property, environment, and economy of the municipality, when faced with a large-scale emergency.

Current Situation:

Emergency By-laws

The responsibility to develop and maintain the City of Brampton Emergency Plan By-law 256-2014 and Emergency Program By-law 56-2016 falls under the Brampton Emergency Management Office.

By-law 256-2014 and By-law 56-2016 have been consolidated to enhance consistency, clarity, and ease of use.

Emergency Plan

The responsibility to develop and maintain the City of Brampton Emergency Plan falls under the Brampton Emergency Management Office (BEMO), a division of the Brampton Fire and Emergency Services.

The previous iteration of the City of Brampton Emergency Plan was adopted under By-law 256-2014. Since 2014, emergency management best practices have evolved and the City has faced emergencies (most notably the COVID-19 pandemic) from which lessons have been learned. New and emerging response strategies for managing a major incident or emergency have been incorporated into the 2024 Emergency Plan update.

The 2024 Emergency Plan update was also preceded by a benchmarking analysis of peer municipalities with similar characteristics or who's emergency plans underwent recent updates. The results of this analysis show that the common elements among these benchmarked plans, not included in the City of Brampton's Emergency Plan include the following:

1. Monitoring and escalation to different levels of emergency;
2. The City's top 10 hazards;
3. Evacuation planning description;
4. Emergency communication;

5. Community responsibilities during an emergency; and
6. Continuity of operations planning.

By way of summary, the main areas of revision made to the Plan include the following:

1. Adapting the Plan to current best practices (e.g. the Provincial Incident Management System Guidance 2.0) which included the following key updates:
 - An emphasis on coordination as a core principle;
 - Additional and expanded response functions;
 - New IMS titles and roles;
2. Incorporating COVID-19 response and recovery lessons learned into areas of the Plan with emphasis on:
 - Resident, business, City staff, corporate leadership and external partner roles and responsibilities;
 - Continuity of operations planning;
 - Internal and external communication methods;
 - Virtual emergency operations centre capabilities;
 - The application of IMS in emergency response and recovery;
3. Increasing the Plan's functionality and ease of navigation for the Municipal Emergency Control Group through:
 - Clear and concise wording; and
 - Hyperlinks to useful external sites and internal reference tools.

As with previous iterations, the revised main body of the Emergency Plan shall become a public document.

Corporate Implications:

The Emergency Plan is a document that is available to every department across the Corporation; as, every department has a specific role to play in the Emergency Management cycle, including measures towards mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. While BEMO is mainly responsible for the necessary preparedness actions prior to an incident or emergency, the rest of the corporation plays a large part in response and recovery strategies. For this reason, the Emergency Plan is circulated to those Executive and Director level members of the corporation who are a part of the Municipal Emergency Control Group, their alternates, and any other employee who may be asked to support response and recovery efforts.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Other Implications:

The updated Emergency Plan, as well as the maintenance of the emergency management program through the Brampton Emergency Management Office satisfies Emergency Management Ontario's annual review of Brampton's program, as well as the municipal requirements outlined in the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

Strategic Focus Area:

This report achieves the Strategic Plan priority of **Improve Safety**, by way of following the strategic focus area of **Health & Well-being**. BEMO strives to enhance the emergency

management strategies to ensure effective and efficient response to any incident or emergency, regardless of whether they are minor or major in scale. An updated Emergency Plan to reflect changes in the corporation, and changes and best practices in the Emergency Management industry is one of the ways in which we are enhancing the safety and service experience for the public.

Conclusion:

This Report outlines the project undertaken by the Brampton Emergency Management Office to update the City of Brampton Emergency Plan and By-laws. Plans and policies must continually be updated to accommodate for changes to the municipality, especially as Brampton continues to grow and expand. Updates to the Emergency Program and Plan will allow BEMO and supporting responding agencies to effectively and efficiently manage emergency situations and to continue to serve residents and safeguard and protect life, property, the environment, and the economy of the City of Brampton.

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Attachments:

Attachment A - 2024 Emergency Program Draft By-law and Plan