

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
May 8, 2024



Region of Peel

Council



Regional Council

Thursday, May 9, 2024 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

8.2 Water and Wastewater Bill 23 Resource Implications (For Information)

Summary:

- The report identifies Regional staff resource requirements needed to support the immediate demands of accelerated growth. Further, the report suggests that up to 54 net new FTEs are required to meet the expedited housing growth identified across the Region through Bill 23. These staffing requirements consist of direct and indirect support services related to water and wastewater infrastructure delivery.
- It is also recommended that “strong consideration be given to the addition of a Program/Project Management Office (PGMO)/Technical Excellence Office” to support the efficient delivery of water and wastewater related capital projects.

City Staff Comments (Planning):

- Brampton staff observe that the need for additional net new staffing or the creation of a new ‘centre for excellence’ should be deferred until such time that the Province has made a decision on the future of water and wastewater services at the Region. Therefore, until the full scope of the future state of the utility is determined, it is premature to make assessments on staff resources.

City Staff Recommendation:

- That Council request that item 8.2 be deferred until such time that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has made a decision on the future of Water and Wastewater services provided by the Region.

9.1 Brampton Official Plan - Regional Staff Review and Recommendations (For Information)

Summary:

- The new *Brampton Official Plan*, which was adopted by City of Brampton Council on November 1, 2023, will repeal and replace the *2006 Brampton Official Plan*, as amended, and will establish a city-wide policy framework and land use designations to the 2051 horizon as required to bring it in conformity with the *Region of Peel Official Plan*.
- There are a total 526 recommended modifications to Brampton Plan, the majority of which are minor and seek to provide consistency. Peel staff recommend that Regional Council approve the *Brampton Official Plan*, as modified and refuse Schedule 13a – KIT-2 Bramalea GO Major Transit Station Area, on the basis of non-conformity with the *Region of Peel Official Plan* and *Planning Act*.

City Staff Comments (Planning):

- Staff are generally in support of the recommendations made by the Region of Peel.
- Staff note that there will be outstanding items following approval that need to be addressed – specifically bringing Schedule 13a back for review. Staff require further information regarding approvals post July 1, 2024 (Peel Restructuring).

City Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

11.1 2023 Operating Financial Triannual Performance Report - Year End (Unaudited) (For Information)

Summary:

- Regional Council approved a \$3.2B Operating Budget for 2023 to support ongoing service delivery in Peel Region, ending the year with a \$28.3M surplus in Tax Supported Services, which aligns with the budget accuracy target of plus or minus 3 percent.
- Staff recommendations include reallocating surpluses to various reserves: \$28.1M to the Tax Supported Capital reserve, \$0.2M to the Assessment Services Stabilization reserve, and \$4.1M to the Utility Rate Supported Capital Reserve to help manage a forecasted \$1.8B shortfall in capital reserves over the next 20 years. An accompanying capital performance report was also provided to the Council for further analysis.

City Staff Comments (Corporate Support Services):

- The report presents clear year-end results and is aligned with budget accuracy expectations.

City Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

11.2 2023 Capital Performance and Impact on Capital Reserves and Reserve Funds – December 31, 2023 (Unaudited) (For Information)

Summary:

- The 2023 Region of Peel Capital Budget allocated \$1.1B for Region Controlled programs, leading to \$964.7M spent, a 42% increase over the five-year average. Public Works managed \$721M in capital projects, significantly aiding provincial housing targets and maintenance of public infrastructure.
- By the end of 2023, Peel Region had \$5.1B in ongoing Capital Work across 1,563 projects, with 98% on schedule. Only one major project experienced delays (Mayfield Road – Hurontario Street now starting Q2 2024). Staff recommended addressing a \$5.5M shortfall in the Water/Wastewater program's capital budget. An accompanying operating performance report was also presented to the Regional Council.

City Staff Comments (Corporate Support Services):

- The report highlights a 55% decline in year-over-year Development Charges (DC) revenues, the lowest in over a decade, while Brampton experienced a 6% increase over the same time period.
- Despite the significance of this decline, the report lacks detailed explanations, municipal comparisons or implications to future growth projections at the Region.

City Staff Recommendation:

- Request a report to provide detailed explanations of the 55% decline in DC revenues broken down by each municipality.

May 1, 2024

Connecting Youth with Careers in the Skilled Trades



- The province is introducing new policy and legislative measures to attract more young people to the skilled trades, including adding a new apprenticeship pathway and an online job matching platform.
- These initiatives are designed to promote the skilled trades to youth and workers and help set them on a path to rewarding, well-paying careers as electricians, plumbers, carpenters and other skilled trades.
- Building on the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), Ontario is creating a new stream, called Focused Apprenticeship Skills Training (FAST), that will allow students in Grades 11 and 12 to participate in more apprenticeship learning through additional co-operative education credits while completing high school.

Brampton is home to Sheridan College’s Magna Skilled Trades Centre facility, which links companies of all sizes to Sheridan’s expertise in applied research and training the future advanced manufacturing workforce.

May 3, 2024

Summer Company

Summer Company Program

- The province is providing an additional **\$1.5M** to bolster its Summer Company program, helping an additional 250 young people start and grow a business.
 - The investment will increase total funding for the program to more than \$4.7M over the next two years.
- The Summer Company program provides students between the ages of 15 and 29 with at least 12 hours of business training, one-on-one mentoring and grants up to \$3,000 to start a full-time business.
 - Over the past five years, the program, delivered through Small Business Enterprise Centres, has helped launch over 1,700 businesses across Ontario.

Staff have confirmed that Brampton is receiving 5 additional spots through the Summer Company program this year, for a total of 17 spots. The total increase in funding to Brampton for the Summer Company is \$29,000.

May 6, 2024

Extreme Heat Emergency Preparedness



- The province is hosting *Exercise Heatwave*, a large-scale simulated exercise which will reinforce provincial procedures and response to heat-related emergencies.
 - *Exercise Heatwave* is part of the government's multi-year Provincial Exercise Program to strengthen the province's emergency plans and whole-of-government emergency response.
- The exercise will help enhance coordination and collaboration between government and non-governmental partners during future emergencies. Six municipalities will participate, along with three federal government departments and more than 50 non-governmental organizations.

Staff have confirmed that Brampton will be participating in this exercise on May 8 in conjunction with the City of Mississauga. The City of Brampton will also be leading three exercises on May 14, 28 and June 11 to better prepare our staff and partner agencies to respond to large-scale emergencies.

May 3, 2024

FCM's Annual Conference (June 6 – 9, 2024)

- FCM will be hosting their annual conference and trade show from June 6 – 9, 2024 in Calgary.
- This year's theme is ***Redefining our Future*** and some topics that will be discussed at the conference include housing and infrastructure, climate adaptation, public safety and a new municipal growth framework.
- Government Relations staff are currently preparing briefing materials on the City's advocacy priorities, including:
 - Housing and Infrastructure
 - Transit
 - Municipal Growth Framework
 - Climate Change



Staff are preparing supporting materials including advocacy priorities, areas of potential alignment and collaboration with the federal government and the FCM. The conference provides an opportunity to link Brampton priorities to federal policy initiatives, explore potential new funding opportunities and learn about best practices in municipal service delivery.

THANK YOU!

