



## Minutes

### Environment Advisory Committee The Corporation of the City of Brampton

**Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

**Members Present:**

Rajbalinder Ghatoura (Co-Chair)  
David Laing (Co-Chair)  
Akeem Gardner  
Harripaul Bridgemohan  
Jafir Jaferi  
Davika Misir  
Sherry-Ann Ram  
Stacey Wilson

**Members Absent:**

Tamsen Metcalfe  
Vipul Shah  
City Councillor D. Whillans

**Staff Present:**

Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works  
and Engineering  
Kristina Dokoska, Policy Planner, Environment, Public Works and  
Engineering  
Zoe Milligan, Environmental Project Specialist, Public Works and  
Engineering  
Allan Parsons, Director, Development Services, Planning,  
Building and Economic Development  
Tammi Jackson, Legislative Coordinator

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**1. Call to Order**

Note: In consideration of the current COVID-19 public health orders prohibiting large public gatherings of people and requirements for physical distancing between persons, in-person attendance at this Audit Committee meeting was limited to Members of Council and essential City staff only. Physical distancing was maintained in Council Chambers at all times during the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. and adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

As this meeting of the Audit Committee was conducted with electronic participation by the Members, the meeting started with the City Clerk calling the roll for attendance at the meeting, as follows:

Members present during roll call: Rajbalinder Ghatoura (Co-Chair); David Laing (Co-Chair); Harripaul Bridgemohan; Jafir Jaferi; Davika Misir; Sherry-Ann Ram; Stacey Wilson

Members absent during roll call: Akeem Gardner; Tamsen Metcalfe; Vipul Shah; City Councillor D. Whillans

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered.

**EAC034-2021**

That the agenda for the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of December 7, 2021, be approved, as published and circulated.

Carried

**3. Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

Nil

**4. Previous Minutes**

**4.1 Minutes - Environment Advisory Committee - November 2, 2021**

The minutes were considered by Committee of Council on November 17, 2021 and were approved by Council on November 24, 2021. The minutes were provided for Committee's information.

## **5. Presentations\Delegations**

### **5.1 Presentation by Rob Kerr, Managing Director, Garforth International Canada, re: Heritage Heights Community Energy Plan**

Rob Kerr, Managing Director, Garforth International Canada, provided a presentation entitled "Heritage Heights Community Energy Plan" and answered questions of clarification.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Questions regarding whether or not Highway 413 will run through Heritage Heights Community
- Advised that City staff are in constant communication with external stakeholders
- Questions regarding the possible opportunities for legal action.

The following motion was considered.

#### **EAC035-2021**

That the presentation by Rob Kerr, Managing Director, Garforth International Canada, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of December 7, 2021, re: **Heritage Heights Community Energy Plan**, be received.

Carried

### **5.2 Presentation by Edward Hunwicks, Forestry Supervisor, Community Services, re: Parks Maintenance and Forestry**

Edward Hunwicks, Forestry Supervisor, Community Services, provided a presentation entitled "Parks Maintenance and Forestry" and answered questions of clarification.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Question regarding whether there are requirements for a certain percentage of the contracts to be issued to Brampton businesses.

- Clarification regarding the City's strategy for tracking and measuring the overall urban canopy.
- Concerns expressed regarding trees only having a two year warranty.
- The Forestry Master Plan is currently being worked on which will assist in identifying areas of required focus and to help push forward with the identified needs.

The following motion was considered.

#### **EAC036-2021**

That the presentation by Edward Hunwicks, Forestry Supervisor, Community Services, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of December 7, 2021, re: **Parks Maintenance and Forestry**, be received.

Carried

## **6. Reports/Updates**

- 6.1 Verbal Update from Kristina Dokoska, Policy Planner, Environment, Public Works and Engineering, re: Grow Green Awards

Kristina Dokoska, Policy Planner, Environment, Public Works and Engineering, provided an update regarding the "Green Grow Awards".

The following motion was considered.

#### **EAC037-2021**

That the Verbal Update from Kristina Dokoska, Policy Planner, Environment, Public Works and Engineering, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of December 7, 2021, re: **Grow Green Awards**, be received.

Carried

- 6.2 Verbal update from David Laing, Co-Chair, re: Brampton Environmental Alliance update and December 8th General Meeting.

David Laing, Co-Chair, provided an update on the entitled "Brampton Environment Alliance Update and December 8, 2021 General Meeting".

The following motion was considered.

**EAC038-2021**

That the Verbal Update from David Laing, Co-Chair, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of December 7, 2021, re: **Brampton Environmental Alliance Update and December 8th General Meeting**, be received.

Carried

**7. Sub-Committees**

Nil

**8. Other New/Business**

**8.1 Discussion Item at the request of David Laing, Co-Chair, re: City's Use of Ministerial Zoning Orders and the Potential Environmental Impact on the City**

David Laing, Co-Chair, provided an overview of the entitled "City's Use of Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZO's) and the Potential Environmental Impact on the City", answered questions of clarification and introduced the following motion:

Whereas the Auditor General of Ontario has reported that actions of the Provincial Government indicate a bias prioritizing land development at the expense of environmental protections including species at risk and climate change mitigation,

Whereas the Auditor General has reported, and the Ontario District Court has ruled that the Provincial Government has demonstrated an unlawful disregard for public consultation on environmentally significant decisions,

Whereas a spokesperson for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has stated, "it is our expectation that municipalities have done their due diligence and have conducted proper consultation in their communities before any request for an MZO comes to the Minister for consideration",

Whereas City of Brampton Council endorsed the Brampton 2040 Vision document in May of 2018 and in January 2020, approved an extensive community engagement strategy to assist in building the 2040 Plan,

Whereas Brampton City Council has passed motions of support for submissions of seven Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZOs) to the Minister of Municipal Affairs

and Housing without first providing the substantive opportunity for public consultation

Whereas it is the understanding of the Brampton Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC) that, if these MZO's are approved by the Minister, it effectively removes environmental protections related to the affected land, some of which contain substantial natural capital, environmentally sensitive areas, habitat for endangered species, and flood management issues,

Whereas In 2018 City of Brampton Council created the Brampton Environment Advisory Committee with the purpose to, "engage the community to advance the goals and actions of the City's Grow Green Environmental Master Plan as well as to advise City Council on environmental planning policy and sustainability matters to promote the protection, enhancement, and management of the City's natural and built environment",

Therefore, be it resolved that, it is the position of the Environment Advisory Committee that:

- City Council discontinues supporting the use of Ministerial Zoning Orders as a planning tool until the impact of these orders is better understood in relation to environmental protection and the ability of the City to fulfill the 2040 Vision and meet its carbon reduction targets or;
- In the event City Council decides to continue using MZO's as a planning option then BEAC recommends the City create a procedural bylaw for MZO's mandating the preparation of a staff report accompanying each MZO request, including an analysis of servicing costs, an environment impact assessment of the proposal, as well as two public meetings, all to be completed before Council votes on whether to send the MZO to the Province or not.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Staff provided clarification with respect to the following questions asked by Committee:
  - Why are MZO's required by the City?
  - How Council's recent approval of an unusual and significant number of MZO's aligns with their direction in declaring a "climate emergency"?
  - Do the City's "Sustainable Community Development Guidelines" apply to development projects with an approved MZO? If not, then how will the City ensure these development proposals consider climate/environment, walkable communities and other such elements? What other protections

are being afforded to environmentally sensitive lands that are affected by MZO approvals?

- Was there an opportunity for public consultation for these proposals as part of the planning process prior to MZO application?

The following motion was considered.

**EAC039-2021**

Whereas the Auditor General of Ontario has reported that actions of the Provincial Government indicate a bias prioritizing land development at the expense of environmental protections including species at risk and climate change mitigation,

Whereas the Auditor General has reported, and the Ontario District Court has ruled that the Provincial Government has demonstrated an unlawful disregard for public consultation on environmentally significant decisions,

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Carried

**9. Correspondence**

Nil

**10. Question Period**

Nil

**11. Public Question Period**

In response to concerns from Rosemary Keenan, regarding the increase in use of MZO's, staff indicated that Allan Parsons, Director, Development Services, had provided details and clarification to such questions earlier in the meeting (Item 8.1).

In response to questions from Olga Leonenko, Brampton resident, staff provided further information regarding the use of MZO's and advised that MZO's address one aspect of the planning process, studies will still be undertaken as part of the process and this expedites certain aspects of the planning process.



12. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered.

**EAC040-2021**

That the Environment Advisory Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

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Rajbalinder Ghatoura – Co-Chair

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David Laing – Co-Chair