



# Government Relations Matters

**City Council**  
**January 26, 2022**

**GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS**

## **Regional Council**

Thursday, 27 January 2022 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

February 2022 | Regional Committees begin

*The Public Affairs team reviewed the Council agenda and engaged with relevant department staff.*

## Item 10.1 Vacant Home Tax Feasibility Study (recommendation)

### Overview:

- Report/Presentation seeks Regional approval to proceed to further study the development of a Region of Peel Vacant Home Tax program
- January 2021 Regional Council directed staff to conduct a feasibility study to assess the appropriateness of a VHT in Peel Region
- Ernst & Young conducted the study and found a VHT would be feasible in Peel with some potential risks

### City of Brampton Staff Comments (Corporate Projects, Policy & Liaison Division):

- At this time, it is too early to suggest whether a VHT would benefit the City of Brampton
- Further analysis is deemed reasonable to further identify potential positive and negative outcomes of a VHT

## Item 16.1 – Update on Highway 413 Federal Impact Assessment Process

### Overview:

- The MTO is seeking municipal and public feedback on the Highway 413 project as part of its required submission under the Federal Impact Assessment Process
- As part of the consultation, the Region of Peel indicated:
  - Its opposition to the project;
  - Its position of the need to evaluate alternatives to a highway in the corridor;
  - Concerns regarding the proposal to streamline the project's environmental assessment impacts;
  - An overview of Peel's growth and land use context; and
  - The project's impact on public health, climate change, natural environment and agriculture in Peel

### City of Brampton Staff Comments:

- City staff met with the MTO project team in late 2021 to discuss the Federal Impact Assessment Process and provided correspondence that documents the respective issues that are of concern
- City staff continue to reiterate that a 400-series limited access highway is incompatible with the Council endorsed vision for Northwest Brampton and that an urban boulevard is more appropriate

## Ontario cautiously and gradually easing public health measures



### January 31

- Social gathering limit of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors
- Capacity limit of 50% in indoor public settings, including restaurants
- Spectator capacity limit of 50% or 500 people (whichever is less) at facilities such as sporting events and concert venues



### February 21

- Social gathering limit of 25 people indoors and 100 people outdoors
- Removing capacity limits in indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required
- Capacity limit of 50% at spectator events, including sporting events and concert venues
- Increasing indoor capacity limits to 25% in higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required, including nightclubs



### March 14

- Increase social gathering limits to 50 people indoors with no limits for outdoor gatherings
- Lifting capacity limits in all indoor public settings. Proof of vaccination will be maintained in existing settings.
- Lifting remaining capacity limits on religious services

Dates are subject to stable or improving health indicators



## Brampton's Top Provincial Funding Priorities: Transit

### BRAMPTON'S ASKS PROVINCIAL FUNDING THAT BUILDS BRAMPTON

#### FULLY FUNDED LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) FROM MAIN STREET TO BRAMPTON GO (\$850M)

- Council has agreed on a tunneled option to extend the LRT on Main St (north of Steeles Avenue) to downtown's GO station.
- In early 2021, the federal government announced a suite of public transit funding totalling \$14.9B over the next 8 years. Brampton's Hurontario/ Main Street Light Rail Transit (LRT) is a compelling candidate project for consideration.

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### BRAMPTON'S ASKS PROVINCIAL FUNDING THAT BUILDS BRAMPTON

#### QUEEN STREET-HIGHWAY 7 RAPID TRANSIT / ZÜM EXPRESS REGIONAL CONNECTIONS (\$250M)

- Queen Street is the busiest transit corridor in Brampton, serving close to 30,000 transit customers per day (pre-COVID) on Züm and local routes.
- The Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT project will improve connections between the Downtown Brampton Urban Growth Centre, the Bramalea City Centre area, the Urban Growth Centre in Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, as well as the large concentrations of employment in East Brampton and Vaughan.

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### BRAMPTON'S ASKS PROVINCIAL FUNDING THAT BUILDS BRAMPTON

#### ELECTRIFY THIRD TRANSIT FACILITY FOR E-BUS FLEET (\$75M)

- The City of Brampton has completed the Environmental Assessment (EA) phase and the design work has now started. This new facility is targeted for construction in two phases starting in 2022, with Phase 1 completion estimated for late 2024.
- Phase 1 will provide space for 250 standard bus equivalents (SBE=40ft bus)
- Construction beginning in 2022 with an opening in late 2024. Electrification of this facility is estimated at \$150M.

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## Brampton's Top Provincial Funding Priorities: Local Health

Funding for a 3rd full-service hospital



Peel Memorial  
Phase II expansion



Establishing a Brampton  
School of Medicine



Approval of Osler's Stage 1 Proposal for  
a comprehensive Cancer Care Centre



**Pre-Budget Submission 2022**

- The formal written submission by the City will include the following advocacy topics:

**Health Care**

Third Hospital  
Peel Memorial Phase II  
Medical School

**Transit**

LRT  
BRT  
Electrification of 3<sup>rd</sup> Transit Facility

**Infrastructure**

Riverwalk  
GTA West Corridor EA Study  
Active Transportation  
Network Expansion

**Community Building**

Supports to implement Bill 108  
BEC funding  
Housing Catalyst Capital Project

**Learning, Innovation, Legislation**

Legislate Brampton U  
Auto Insurance reform

- January 24, 2022:** Local MPP Prabmeet Sarkaria provided public comment indicating that the provincial government is committed to moving forward with the Highway 413 project as a 400-series highway.
- January 20, 2022:** New investment of \$1.7 million over 2 years for the Safer and Vital Communities Grant Program to strengthen community safety and well-being across the province by encouraging community collaboration to help fight the rapid increase in cybercrime
- January 19, 2022:** Provincial Government hosted a Housing Summit announcing a \$45 million New Streamline Development Approval Fund and \$8.0 million for the Audit and Accountability Fund to assist municipalities modernize, streamline and accelerate processes for managing and approving housing applications.

- January 13, 2022:** The provincial government is investing \$10 million in new annual funding to provide Indigenous-led, culturally appropriate long-term housing solutions and support services to Indigenous people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- January 11, 2022:** Several components of G-license road tests that are included in the G2-license road test are temporary removed to address the backlog of road tests due to COVID-19. Parallel parking, three point turns and road side stops are among the items removed. G2-license testing requirements are unchanged.

**January 21, 2022** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland met with her provincial counterparts to discuss taxation coordination, continued collaboration to combat COVID-19 and support economic growth in Canada.

The Government of Canada announced an additional \$14 million investment in the Immunization Partnership Fund for projects that address misinformation about COVID-19 and the vaccines used to protect against it.

**January 20, 2022** The Government of Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation outlining how and when Canada will share historical documents relating to Residential Schools. The timing will be set by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and will begin with school narratives.