

# Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council  
March 8, 2023



## Regional Council

Thursday, 9 March 2023 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

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

### **8.1 Canada-Wide Early Learning Child Care Update and Expansion Plan (For Information)**

#### Summary:

- The staff report provides information on the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Access and Inclusion Framework.

#### Staff Comments (Recreation/Government Relations):

- The Region of Peel is the Service System Manager for Early Years and Child Care and it has been allocated 7,621 new child care spaces to be realized by the end of 2026.
- The Gore Meadows EarlyOn Centre is the only partnership for child care delivery between the City and the Region of Peel.
- The socio-economic factors identified by the province, child care demand and additional well-being indicators included in Peel's Neighborhood Information Tool were used to identify 13 priority areas including: Brampton Bramalea, Brampton Northwest, Brampton Southwest and Brampton Southeast.

#### Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

### **15.1 BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program Update (Recommendation)**

#### Summary:

- This regional report provides Council with an update on the BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program and recommends a more flexible approach to determining the per household grant amount.

#### Staff Comments (Government Relations/Planning):

- In 2021, Regional Council approved a one-time grant of \$2.5 million to BNI to provide 50 eligible renter households in Peel with a grant of up to \$50,000, as part of the second mortgage to purchase a home.
- Due to the increases in purchase prices and the interest rate increases for borrowing, regional staff request flexibility to provide grants \$50,000 to \$120,000 per eligible Peel household, to assist 20 to 50 Peel households under the BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program.
- Funds would be provided from the previously approved grant of \$2.5 million.

#### Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

### 17.1 Infrastructure Planning and Requests of the Province to Support Bill 23 Housing Targets

#### Summary:

- This item addresses a request from the February 23, 2023 Regional Council meeting for the regional staff to meet with municipal staff and develop a list of provincial commitments to support local housing pledges.
- **Content not available at the time this presentation was prepared.**

#### Staff Comments (Planning/Government Relations):

- Agenda item that builds on a staff presentation and a discussion at February 23, 2023 Regional Council meeting regarding infrastructure planning to support Bill 23 housing targets in Peel.
- City staff met with Regional staff and it was determined that due to lack of details the \$20B infrastructure needs figure is a high level estimate and there would be great difficulty in breaking it down to individual municipality level.
- The City will continue to work with the province and the region in a collaborative way to ensure infrastructure funding aligns with the housing growth targets for Brampton.

#### Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

### **20.1 Motion Regarding Homelessness**

#### Summary:

- The motion moved by Regional Councillor Vicente calls on the province to take action to address the growing homelessness crisis in Ontario.

#### Staff Comments (Government Relations):

- The motion is part of a campaign by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario encouraging municipalities to pass a resolution ahead of the provincial budget calling on the province to end homelessness.
- The motion also builds on advocacy by the Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) for the provincial government to commit to urgently tackle homelessness in Ontario by:
  - increasing the supply of housing affordable for low and middle income households;
  - working with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and other stakeholders to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

#### Staff Recommendation:

- Support the motion.



**March 1, 2023:** Infrastructure Ontario published its *March 2023 Market Update* listing 38 major infrastructure projects across the province, with an estimated value of \$35 billion.

- Includes transformation of the *Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness* into Brampton's second full-service hospital.

**March 1, 2023:** Announced \$74,605 for the City of Brampton through the *Species at Risk Stewardship Program (SARSP)* for habitat restoration for snapping turtles at Loafers Lake.



### **2023 Annual Conference Advocacy Priorities**

The 2023 FCM Conference takes place May 25-28, 2023 in Toronto. Staff propose the following advocacy themes:

#### **Transit Investments**

- Key transit initiatives (BRT, LRT, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bus Facility)
- Sustained Funding & Electrification

#### **Housing & Thriving Communities**

- Housing Brampton
- Housing Affordability

#### **Economic Development & Innovation**

- Innovation District

#### **Active Transportation**

#### **Climate Action**

- Key initiatives
- Partnership opportunities



THANK YOU!

