

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
April 26, 2023



Regional Council

Thursday, April 27 2023 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

*The Government Relations team reviewed the Council agenda
and engaged with relevant department staff.*

13.2 Peel's Growth Management Program and Development Charge Performance – 2022 Overview and Progress Report (For Information)

Summary:

- This staff report provides an update on the Growth Management Program and report on monitoring of the Region of Peel's growth forecast and development charge performance.

Staff Comments (Planning & Government Relations):

- City staff will continue to collaborate with the Region and other stakeholders to coordinate the phasing of growth areas with the delivery of servicing and transportation infrastructure across the Region.
- Changes introduced through Bill 23, including impacts on DC revenue collections and accelerated housing targets, require more growth related infrastructure with a shorter timeline creating significant financial risks.
- City staff remain committed to working with Regional staff in supporting growth and development across Brampton and identifying a solution to meet the residential and non-residential growth forecasts in a sustainable manner.
- City staff will follow updates related to the findings from the consultant's work on the SGU forecasts and the Integrated Forecast Monitoring Solution, and keep Council apprised of impacts to Brampton.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

13.3 Growth and Infrastructure Planning Update Related to Bill 23 (Recommendation)

Summary:

- This report is a follow up to the March 9, 2023 report to Regional Council from the Commissioner of Public Works, titled “Infrastructure Planning and Requests of the Province to Support Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23) Housing Targets” and provides Regional Council with an update on planning initiatives and master servicing plans.

Staff Comments (Planning):

- City staff have commenced conversations related to updating population growth allocations and completing the Master Servicing Plan and review advancement options.
- City staff are working internally to identify key strategic growth areas for focused growth based on development activity, planning principles and will provide updates to Council, as necessary.
- City staff will follow updates related to the findings from the consultant’s work on the Regional Planning Responsibility Assessment and keep Council apprised of impacts to Brampton.
- City staff remain committed to working in partnership with Regional and Provincial staff in supporting growth and development across Brampton, while meeting the City’s Planning Act requirements and timelines.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

15.1 Budget Policy and Reserve Management Policy Compliance Update – December 31, 2022 (For Information)

Summary:

- The staff report provides an update on the activities for the six-month period ending December 31, 2022, including reporting requirements, the use of delegated authority to adjust the operating budget, capital budget, reserves and reserve funds.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- The Regions Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve is below the target range of 5-10% and currently sits at 4.5%.
- The below target range reduces the Regions financial flexibility and funding available to respond to unforeseen events.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

15.2 2022 Capital Performance and Impact on Capital Reserves and Reserve Funds – December 31, 2022 (Unaudited) (Recommendation)

Summary:

- This staff report provides the third and final update on the financial results of the 2022 Capital Budget as of December 31, 2022. The Budget Policy requires staff report the status of operating and capital services minimum twice annually.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- The Region maintains a backlog of \$4.1 billion as at December 31st, 2022 (2022 Spending amounted to \$793.6 million). Therefore, the Region has over 5 years of Capital backlog approved, based on 2022 spending.
- The City of Brampton has between 5-6 years of Capital backlog approved, based on historical spending.
- The Region of Peel and City of Brampton are maintaining similar capital backlogs.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

15.3 2022 Operating Financial Triannual Performance Report – Year End (Unaudited) (Recommendation)

Summary:

- This staff report provides the third and final update on the financial results of the 2022 Operating Budget as of December 31, 2022 and highlights the impacts of the COVID-19 on overall operations and external funding that was provided and utilized to mitigate the costs and pressures from COVID-19.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- The Regions Operating Budget resulted in a surplus in both Tax Supported Services and Utility Rate Supported Services. Both surplus' are recommended to be contributed to reserves for future capital funding.
- However, the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve includes a \$4.1 billion backlog and the deficit should both surpluses be applied to the Reserve, it would help bring that Reserve back in-line with Regional Council's target.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation

April 21, 2023: Support for Homelessness Prevention in Peel



- The 2023 Ontario Budget included an additional \$202 million annually in the province's Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) and Indigenous Supportive Housing Program
- On April 21, 2023 the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health and Peel Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) announced a 38% increase to the Regional of Peel's HPP allocation from last year, bringing the total investment to more than \$42 million.
- The Homelessness Prevention Program supports municipal service managers to provide affordable housing and support services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The objective of the program is to prevent, address, and reduce homelessness, including chronic homelessness.

Bill 97, Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023

- On April 6, 2023, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 97, the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, which proposes significant changes to the provincial planning framework and increased support for renters in Ontario.
- The Province is soliciting comments to the proposed changes through 12 ERO and ORR postings, 9 of which the City will be commenting on, with three different commenting deadlines.
- Staff will be bringing the first of 3 reports to Council on May 3, 2023. The next reports will be presented prior to the May 21, 2023 and June 5, 2023 commenting deadlines. The June 5, 2023 commenting deadline includes the proposal to integrate the current PPS and A Place To Grow into a new Provincial Planning Statement.



A detailed recommendation report regarding City comments on the proposed amendments through Bill 97 will be presented to Council on, May 3, 2023

Bill 97, Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023 cont'd

- Some of the key proposed changes that will be addressed in the upcoming recommendation report include:
 - Amendments to the definition of an "area of employment" and "development".
 - New ministerial permissions that would apply to a Minister's order.
 - Postponing the fee refund provisions for processing an application to amend by-laws or render a decision on plans and drawings in accordance with Bill 109.
 - Enabling tenants to install A/C units where not provided by landlords.



A detailed recommendation report regarding City comments on the proposed amendments through Bill 97 will be presented to Council on, May 3, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT



April 22, 2023: Volkswagen's new electric vehicle battery plant

- The Prime Minister, Premier of Ontario, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, and Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade announced that Volkswagen is investing \$7 billion to establish its first overseas electric vehicle battery manufacturing plant in St. Thomas, Ontario.
- The largest electric vehicle-related investment in Canadian history.
- The plant will create up to 3,000 direct jobs and up to 30,000 indirect jobs, while generating about \$200 billion in value
- Per battery investment with PowerCo SE (Volkswagen Group) ranges between \$8 billion and \$13.2 billion, depending on production levels - part of an overall electric vehicle battery investment partnership by Canada and Ontario.
- The Government of Ontario is providing \$500 million in direct incentives to the company

OBCM AGM & Conference 2023

Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) held its AGM and Conference in Kitchener.

Roundtable with the Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing:

- OBCM asked for autonomy in how they meet the 2021 housing construction targets the province has set for their cities.
- OBCM also raised “suggestions” related to municipalities potentially not being eligible for compensation for revenue losses caused by housing legislation such as Bill 23, unless they are able to meet the provincial housing targets.
- OBCM passed a motion calling on the province to expedite the process to fully unlock the ability of municipalities to do their part in solving the housing supply crisis.

The OBCM Caucus also passed a resolution supporting **Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act** (private member's bill), that would require codes of conduct for municipal councillors.

- The caucus is calling for the Bill to be fast-tracked and for the province to consult with municipalities and their integrity commissioners when regulations are created.



THANK YOU!

