

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
May 24, 2023



There are no Regional Council or Committee meetings scheduled for this week.

The next Regional Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 8, 2023 at 9:30 AM.

May 18, 2023:

Announces Intent to Dissolve Peel Region

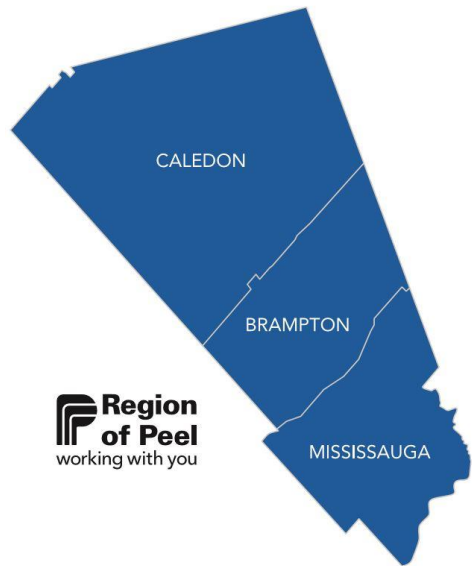
- Province to ensure the continuation of high-quality services for taxpayers while improving the efficiency of local governments.
- Dissolution of the Region of Peel to prepare Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon for future growth, including delivering on their municipal housing pledges.
- The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing introduced the *Hazel McCallion Act*, which would, if passed, begin the process to dissolve the Regional Municipality of Peel and make the municipalities of Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon independent.



The Hazel McCallion Act – Next Steps

Transition Board

- Transition board of up to five people is to facilitate the dissolution of the Region of Peel and, if needed, oversee the financial affairs of Peel and its lower-tier municipalities to help ensure prudent financial stewardship until transition process is complete.
- The transition board will provide recommendations to the province to help Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon prepare to become single-tier municipalities on January 1, 2025, when the proposed changes would come into effect.
- Names of the members of the board will be released in the coming weeks.



The Hazel McCallion Act – Next Steps

Transition Process



- The transition board will help implement the province’s expectation for the affected municipalities work together fairly and in a spirit of partnership to ensure value for money and efficient, high-quality services for taxpayers.
- The dissolution process would help ensure an equitable outcome for shared assets and services to ensure for all residents maintain access to municipal services regardless of location.
- The dissolution process, with the support of the transition board, will help ensure a fair outcome for the three municipalities that prioritizes the preservation of frontline services and workers, respect for taxpayers and government efficiency.
- The process will respect and support the effective administration of local governance during and after the dissolution while providing these fast-growing municipalities with the tools needed to plan for population growth, including the tools needed to meet their housing pledges.



Regional Governance Review

- In December 2022, the Province through Bill 39, the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022, announced that provincially-appointed facilitators will assess the regional governments in Durham, Halton, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo and York.
- On May 18, 2023 the Minister of Municipal Affairs conformed that in the coming weeks, the province will also name regional facilitators to assess the upper-tier municipalities of Durham, Halton, Niagara, Simcoe, Waterloo and York.
- These facilitators will be tasked with reviewing whether the upper-tier government continues to be relevant to the needs of its communities or whether the lower-tier municipalities are mature enough to pursue dissolution.
- Where they recommend that a two-tier government is still required, the facilitators will also make recommendations on how they can more effectively respond to the issues facing Ontario's fast-growing municipalities today, particularly when it comes to meeting municipal housing pledges and tackling the housing supply crisis.



May 23, 2023:

Investing in Women's Futures Program in Brampton

- Announced that the Investing in Women's Futures program will be delivered in Brampton by Roots Community Services through an investment of \$318,590 over three years.
- The 12-week programs will help women heal from past trauma, build confidence, and work towards financial independence through workshops on business, financial resources, and networking as well as peer support, self-care, and mental well-being seminars to prepare them for entering or re-entering the workforce.
- Ontario is expanding the Investing in Women's Futures program to 10 additional locations across the province, as part of a \$6.9 million investment over three years to enhance the program and create more economic opportunities for women.

May 18, 2023:

Lower Credit Card Transaction Fees for Small Businesses

- The Federal Budget 2023 included a commitment to lower credit card fees for small businesses.
- The government has finalized new agreements with Visa and Mastercard.
- More than 90 per cent of credit card-accepting businesses in Canada qualify for lower rates and see their interchange fees reduced by up to 27 per cent from the existing weighted average rate.
- For qualifying small businesses, Visa and Mastercard have agreed to:
 - reduce domestic consumer credit interchange fees for in-store transactions to an annual weighted average interchange rate of 0.95 per cent;
 - reduce domestic consumer credit interchange fees for online transactions by 10 basis points, resulting in reductions of up to 7 per cent; and,
 - provide free access to online fraud and cyber security resources to help small businesses grow their online sales while preventing fraud and chargebacks.





2023 Annual Conference & Trade Show

- The Conference theme is *Local action, national results*.
 - When: **May 25-28, 2023**
 - Where: **Metro Conference Center, Toronto**
- The conference program includes policy discussions, workshops, study tours and networking opportunities, and advocacy.
- **Big City Mayors' Caucus (BCMC)** meets May 25.
- FCM's Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place May 28

Regional Councillor Santos running for re-election to the FCM Board of Directors.

Federal Housing Accelerator Fund

Update & Overview



CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund

- In 2022, the federal government’s housing corporation – Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) – announced the “Housing Accelerator Fund” (HAF) to provide funding to local governments to boost housing supply across Canada.
- The HAF is an application-based fund that will drive transformational change within the sphere of control of local governments regarding land use planning and development approvals to achieve housing supply growth.
- \$4 Billion in funds are available to local authorities across the country.
- The City is submitting an application to CMHC for early consideration by June 14, 2023.



Application Requirements

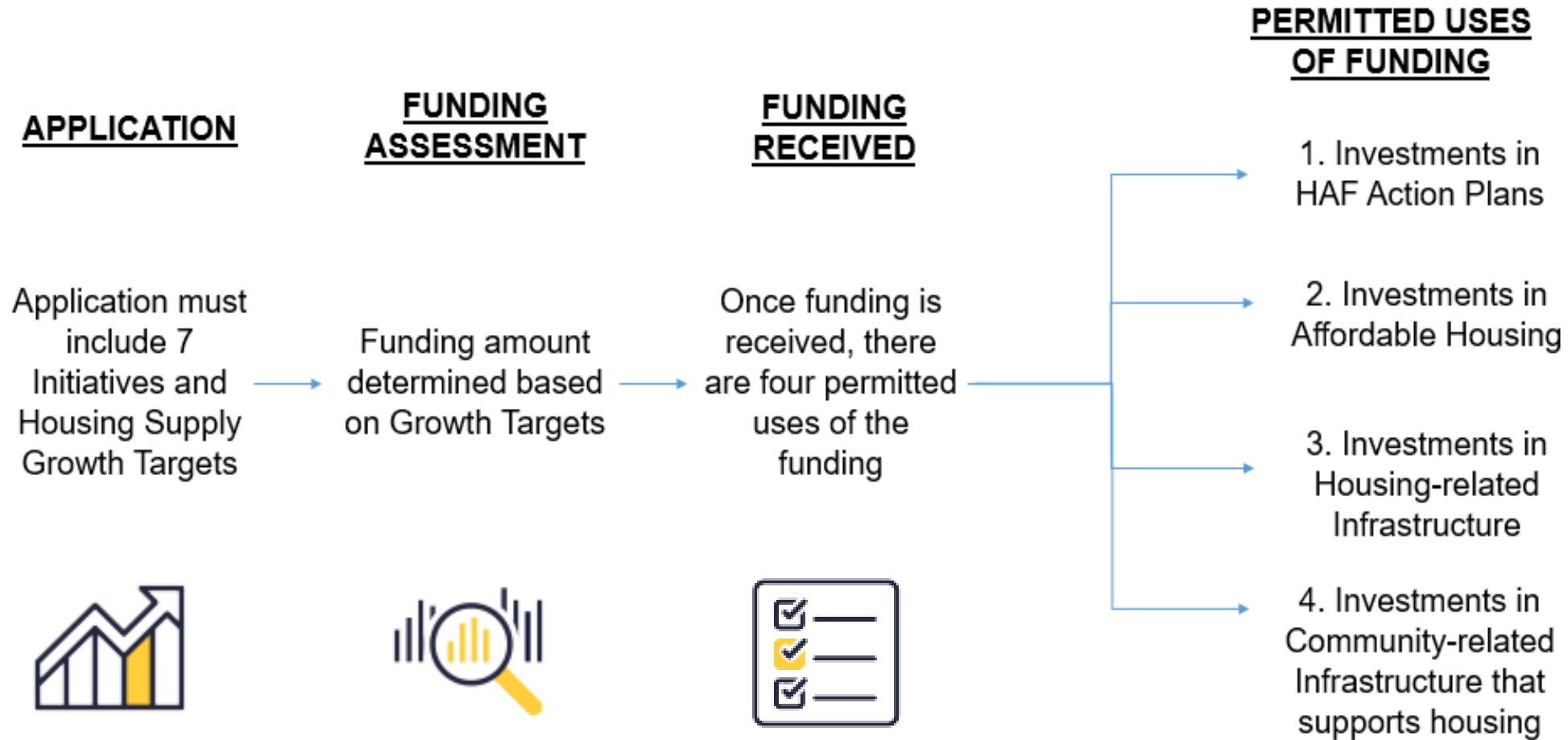
Housing Accelerator Fund

- Applicants are required to develop an 'Action Plan', which must include:
 - A **minimum of 7 initiatives** the City will undertake over the next 3 years to boost housing supply.
 - A **housing supply growth target**, based on two projections over a 3-year period.
 - Projection 1: Total number of housing units projected to be permitted in the city **without** support from the HAF.
 - Projection 2: Total number of housing units projected to be permitted **with** support from the HAF.
 - Additional targets set to identify the total number of housing units projected to be permitted with support from the HAF **according to housing type**. Housing type categories set by CMHC are:
 - Single-detached
 - Multi-unit – in proximity to rapid transit
 - Multi-unit – missing middle
 - Multi-unit – other



Permitted Uses of Funds

Housing Accelerator Fund



- The following 8 initiatives are the key actions included in the City's application to support the delivery of new housing in Brampton:
 1. Incentive Programs: Housing Incentive Program and Housing Catalyst Project
 2. Implementing Inclusionary Zoning
 3. Unlocking Growth Potential via Rapid Transit
 4. Parking Plan Action Items
 5. Detached Additional Residential Units
 6. Missing Middle Units
 7. Pre-Zoning in Strategic Growth Areas
 8. Infrastructure and Servicing Capacity Planning



- Staff project the City will permit a total of **13,500** units over the next 3 years without support from the HAF.
- It is estimated the City could permit an additional **3,150** units with funding through the HAF, for a total of **16,650** units over 3 years.
- This growth target is distinct and separate from the growth target established in Brampton's Municipal Housing Pledge (*11,300 per year*).
- The Municipal Housing Pledge was established following direction from the **provincial government**, through Bill 23 (More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022).
- This growth target was established as part of the City's application for funding to the **federal government**.

Funding and Reporting Requirements

Housing Accelerator Fund

- Funding from the HAF would be given in 4 installments between 2023 - 2026.
- If funding is received, the City would be required to report to CMHC on progress towards the growth target, updates on each of the initiatives, and details on how the funding is being spent.
- Reporting will be required at the end of each reporting year, with a final report to be submitted by November 2027.



THANK YOU!

