

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
June 21, 2023



Regional Council

Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

Peel Living Annual General Meeting

Thursday June 22, 2023 @ 9:00 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

Staff have reviewed the Council agenda and reached out to department staff for comments.

7.3 Embrave Agency to End Violence and the Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA) (Delegation)

Summary:

- A delegation requesting that Peel Region Declare Intimate-Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence an epidemic.

Staff Comments (Community Services & Government Relations):

- City staff continue to participate in the Family Violence Action Table as members of the Peel Community Safety and Well-Being System Leadership Table.
- The delegation is accompanied by a motion calling on the Region of Peel to declare intimate partner violence and gender-based violence an epidemic and that the Region of Peel write to the Premier and the Minister of Health in support of the creation of provincial legislation to address family violence, and requesting that intimate partner violence be formally declared an epidemic in Ontario.

11.1 Approach to the Development of the 2024 Budget (Recommendation)

Summary:

- Staff are developing the 2024 Budget in alignment with the principles to maintain Regional services through the transition period and prepare for the 2024 Budget as approved through the Council report titled, “Bill 112 – Managing Through the Transition.” It is proposed the 2024 Budget be deliberated starting November 16, 2023.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- Forecasted property tax increases on the Region’s share of the bill is 3.0%-3.7%, which is higher than their 2023 approved increase of 2.8%.
- The 2023 tax increase was approved during a period of heightened inflation, and inflation has declined throughout 2023 therefore projecting an increase that is higher than what was approved last year, is concerning.
- The City of Brampton’s 2023 tax bill increased by 5.7% and as mentioned 2.8% of this was from the Region with the remaining 2.9% from the City. For the City of Brampton tax bill to come at or below the rate of inflation for the 2024 budget, it will not be possible for the Region to increase their property tax collections by 3.0%-3.7%.
- However, the report does state that staff are not providing a target and will remain flexible throughout the development of the budget, given the significant uncertainty in the economy and municipal legislation.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

11.3 2023 Capital Financial Interim Performance Report – May 31, 2023 (For Information)

Summary:

- The report provide a status update on the 2023 Capital Program interim Performance Report as of May 31, 2023.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- The Region's year-end unspent capital has been increasing from \$3.9 billion at the end of fiscal 2021 to \$6.1 billion at the end of fiscal 2022 and \$5.9 billion as of May 31, 2023. With estimated annual spending of approximately \$600 million this is equivalent to approximately 9.8 years of work assuming similar annual spending pattern.
- In comparison, the City's unspent capital at the end of 2022 was \$1.1 billion with annual spending of \$237.9 million, which is equivalent to 4.8 years of work again assuming similar annual spending pattern.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the reports.

11.4 2023 Update of the Region of Peel's Financial Condition (For Information)

Summary:

- The report provides an annual update on the Region of Peel's financial condition and management actions under its Long-Term Financial Planning Strategy.

Staff Comments (Finance):

- The Region has a Triple A credit rating and is in a strong financial position.
- The report highlights long-term challenges that apply across the municipal sector, in terms of financial sustainability, vulnerability and flexibility. Appendix I – 2023 Financial Scorecard provides an excellent overview of the financial condition of the Region.
- An operating interim performance report as of May 31, 2023 will be brought to the Regional Council to provide a forecast on the operating budget.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

17.2 Housing State of Good Repair Needs and Funding Gaps (Recommendation)

Summary:

- The report outlines the projected gross capital repair needs of \$872 million for Peel Housing Corporation, the 46 external community housing providers and Peel owned housing, and staff recommend that Regional Council commit to supporting state of good repair needs across the community housing system in Peel.

Staff Comments (Planning):

- The City recognizes that adequate housing is a key element that keeps households in Brampton out of core housing need. As the Region plays a critical role as Service Manager in funding over 85% of community housing in Peel Region, the City recognizes the findings of the State of Good Repair Review and support the ongoing Regional budget requests to fund the approximately \$872M in capital repairs required over the next 10 years.
- The City agrees with the concerns that Bill 112 poses in terms of the long-term protection and support for the capital needs of community housing providers, as this could place a growing number of residents in Brampton in core housing need. The protection of Brampton residents remain critical in the transition and dissolution of Peel Region.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

17.3 Peel Affordable Rental Incentives Program Update and 2022 Results (Recommendation)

Summary:

- The Peel Affordable Rental Incentives Program (“PARIP”) offers incentives to private and non-profit developers to provide affordable rental housing through an annual competitive Call for Applications. The report provides a program update and 2022 results.

Staff Comments (Planning):

- The City supports and continues to promote rental housing developers to apply to the PARIP, which supports the development of affordable rental options in Brampton.
- To respond to uncertainty in the housing market, Regional staff have recommended that going forward, the previously approved \$7.5 million annually in the Housing Support Operating Budget be redeployed from a Grants account to a Contribution to Reserve account with no net impact. The funds will be held in the reserve until disbursements are required based on project approvals. The City recognizes that this will ensure that in future years when Brampton housing projects apply and are approved for funding, there will be available funding within the reserve to access.

17.3 Peel Affordable Rental Incentives Program Update and 2022 Results (Recommendation) ***Continued...***

Staff Comments (Planning):

- The City has maintained ongoing involvement in the Peel Affordable Rental Incentives Program. Brampton currently has \$400K approved in the budget to stack on top of the Region's incentives for rental housing projects specific to Brampton, when relevant projects come about.
- Dissolution of Peel Region will impact all programs including the PARIP. Most notably, accountability for the ongoing administration of the PARIP (over the life of the contribution agreements minimum 25 years), will need to be considered in the transformation of Peel Region. The City has maintained that protecting the affordable housing stock over the long term and providing assurances to Brampton residents who are provided affordable shelter through these programs be protected from any potential impacts that could occur through the dissolution process.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

20.1 Motion Regarding Bill 23 Housing Targets (Motion)

Summary:

- The motion speaks to construction of servicing capacity necessary to meet Bill 23 Housing Targets.

Staff Comments (Planning and Finance):

- As outlined in the motion and to achieve the Bill 23 housing unit targets in Brampton, additional water, wastewater and transportation infrastructure will be required beyond what has been planned in the master servicing plans to 2031. The City has continued to advocate to the Region to support increased growth allocation and subsequent servicing capacity to meet the growing development demands and unmet pressures in Brampton.
- Through this motion, the Region of Peel commits to the immediate financing of the servicing shortfall of \$11.1B to meet the new provincial growth targets adopted by the City. As Brampton is experiencing significant growth and development, including intensification across the city's key growth areas, the implications for failing to provide additional servicing is critical and will impact the ability to meet the City's Housing Pledge of 113,000 new units by 2031.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the motion.

June 16, 2023

Expanding Strong Mayor Powers

Announced expansion of Strong Mayor Powers to the Mayors of 26 large and fast-growing municipalities that have committed to a housing pledge as part of the province's work to build 1.5 million homes by 2031.

Strong mayor powers for Toronto and Ottawa took effect in the Fall of 2022 and will be expanded to mayors in the 26 additional municipalities on July 1, 2023, including:

Ajax
Barrie
Brampton
Brantford
Burlington
Caledon
Cambridge
Clarington
Guelph

Hamilton
Kingston
Kitchener
London
Markham
Milton
Mississauga
Niagara Falls
Oakville

Oshawa
Pickering
Richmond Hill
St. Catharines
Vaughan
Waterloo
Whitby
Windsor



Expanding Strong Mayor Powers... continued

- Strong Mayor Powers are to offer tools to help heads of council cut red tape and speed up the delivery of key shared municipal-provincial priorities such as housing, transit and infrastructure.
- Council may override the mayor's veto of by-laws or budget amendments with a two-thirds majority vote.
- The 26 additional municipalities that would be designated as part of the strong mayor framework are single- or lower-tier municipalities with a population over 100,000, or growing to 100,000 by 2031, that have submitted a housing pledge to the province.
- The strong mayor by-law powers could only be used to support prescribed provincial priorities: Building 1.5 million new homes by 2031 to address the housing supply crisis, and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure, such as transit and roads, to support new and existing housing development.



Empowering
more mayors
to help
build more
homes

Expanding Strong Mayor Powers... continued

Strong Mayor Powers include:

- Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer.
- Hiring certain municipal department heads, and establishing and re-organizing departments.
- Creating committees of council, assigning their functions and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council.
- Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process.
- Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority.
- Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority.



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AMO Annual Conference & AGM

- Requests for Delegation Meetings with Opposition Parties have opened.
- Staff will proceed with requests for delegation meetings with all opposition party leaders.
- The 2023 AMO Conference is the first for Marit Stiles in her roles as Ontario NDP Leader.



Staff have already submitted requests for delegation meetings with nine (9) Ministries.

THANK YOU!

