

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (2)

DATE: Tuesday, September 20, 2022

TITLE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS ADVOCACY EFFORTS

FROM:

Regional Councillor Linda Jackson

Whereas, Vaughan is one of Ontario and Canada's fastest growing municipalities, home and in close proximity to infrastructure that is critically important such as Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, Highways 400, 407, 427, subway stations including Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, Highway 407 Station and the planned Yonge North Subway Extension, the Maple and Rutherford GO stations, CN's MacMillan Yard, CP's Vaughan Intermodal Terminal and the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is a two-tier municipality and works in close collaboration with York Region. From every tax dollar collected in Vaughan, twenty-eight cents remain with the City, whereas 49 cents are allocated to York Region to provide critically important city-building projects; and

Whereas, the City must also work in close collaboration with the provincial and federal governments and stakeholder organizations, including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), to identify grants and apply for funding opportunities that will go toward budgeting and funding Council-approved initiatives. Throughout the 2018-2022 Term of Council, the City has received more than \$ \$93.2 million in grants and payments-in-lieu from the provincial and federal governments. This funding reduces pressure on the property tax base and taxpayers; and

Whereas, annual municipal-stakeholder conferences organized by FCM and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are an opportunity for locally elected officials to meet with provincial and federal counterparts to directly engage, discuss,

inform and advocate for city-building projects. It is critically important for the City of Vaughan to be present and active during these intergovernmental conferences; and

Whereas, intergovernmental relations continues to emerge as a growing corporate service offering in municipalities across Ontario to support both Council and members of the administration to implement Council-approved priorities. Government relations activities can help advance critical city-building initiatives through strategic advocacy efforts; and

Whereas, Vaughan City staff are active members in the Municipal Government Relations Network (MGRN), a working group of local government staff from across Ontario who share professional best practices in intergovernmental relations and advocacy. In 2019, Vaughan hosted an in-person meeting of representatives from the MGRN to discuss ways municipalities can strengthen their advocacy efforts; and

Whereas, intergovernmental relations is an opportunity for the City and for Council to be responsive to constituent needs, including matters beyond municipal jurisdiction for which Council has identified a position, such as auto insurance relief.

It is therefore recommended:

1. THAT staff from the Office of Communications and Economic Development be directed to prepare a report outlining an intergovernmental relations strategy to advocate and advance Council-approved initiatives; and
2. THAT the report be completed and submitted to a future meeting of the Committee of the Whole in Q1 2023.