

## CITY OF VAUGHAN

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2025**

Item 20, Report No. 1, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on January 28, 2025, as follows:

***By receiving the following Communications:***

***C1. Irene Ford, dated January 20, 2025; and***

***C13. Memorandum from the Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development and the Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services, City Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, dated January 28, 2025.***

#### **20. TAKING CHARGE OF OUR ROADS TO FIGHT GRIDLOCK**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. That the recommendations contained in the following resolution of Mayor Del Duca be approved subject to amending the preamble statement and recommendation 1. b. to read:
  1. b. Langstaff Road from approximately 240m east of Creditstone Road to Keele Street; and
2. That staff provide additional information to the January 28, 2025, Council meeting.

#### **Member's Resolution**

Submitted by Mayor Del Duca.

**Whereas**, combating gridlock is critical to local economic competitiveness. Vaughan's strategic location to 400 series highways, airports, and railways are essential to retaining and attracting economic development and job-creating opportunities. Vaughan surpassed regional, provincial and national economic growth rates in 2021, with nearly 19,000 businesses employing more than 236,000 workers, producing a real GDP of almost \$25 billion; and

**Whereas**, the City of Vaughan's 2022 Citizen and Business Surveys say traffic and traffic related concerns are ranked top-of-mind by residents and businesses as the critical issues facing the community; and

**Whereas**, Transportation and Mobility is one of seven strategic priority areas of the Council-approved 2022-2026 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan, with a specific objective to advocate for improve Vaughan's roads and street network; and

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**Whereas**, Vaughan Council has endorsed Mayor Del Duca's Member's Resolution to Fight Traffic Gridlock, consisting of numerous critical infrastructure projects to alleviate gridlock pressures across every ward; and

**Whereas**, addressing current and future traffic issues is paramount to implementing the Ontario Government's Housing Pledge and the City's provincially mandated housing targets to facilitate the construction of 42,000 new homes in Vaughan by 2031; and

**Whereas**, the following key initiatives are identified within both the York Region Transportation Master Plan and the Vaughan Transportation Plan as priority infrastructure improvements:

- a. Teston Road from Keele Street to Dufferin Street;
- b. Langstaff Road connection from Jane Street to Keele Street;
- c. Highway 7 widening from Pine Valley Drive to Martin Grove Road; and

**Whereas**, during the June 2023 Special Committee of the Whole meeting, Vaughan Council unanimously approved a Member's Resolution calling for Vaughan to explore becoming a single-tier municipality and to undertake an analysis required to support further understanding a new governance model. The Member's Resolution specifically states that the status quo governance model in York Region should be changed and modernized to reflect the current future needs of Vaughan's residents; and

**Whereas**, following the analysis performed by Ernst & Young as part of the aforementioned Member's Resolution, Council approved a Member's Resolution from December 2023 which outlined that the City of Vaughan's submission to the Ontario Legislature's Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure, and Cultural Policy's meeting on regional governance be based on the principles of devolving planning, roads and economic development responsibilities from York Region to the City of Vaughan, and streamlining governance to better advance critical city-building issues; and

**Whereas**, the Province of Ontario introduced legislation in December 2024 that will transfer the delivery of Regional Roads (among other key public works services) from the Region of Peel to Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon. The *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024*, specifies that the Regional Roads be downloaded to the lower-tier municipalities on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

#### **It is therefore recommended:**

1. That Council calls on York Region to immediately download the following Regional Roads to the City of Vaughan:
  - a. Teston Road from Keele Street to Dufferin Street

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- b. Langstaff Road connection from Jane Street to Keele Street
  - c. Highway 7 from Pine Valley Drive to Martin Grove Road; and
2. Council calls on York Region to transfer any funding currently allocated to the Regional Roads listed above to the City of Vaughan; and
  3. Mayor Steven Del Duca send correspondence to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, requesting that all remaining Regional Roads be downloaded from York Region to the City of Vaughan on a similar basis and timetable to the downloading of roads from Peel Region to the lower-tier municipalities, as outlined in the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024*.

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole (1)**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025

**TITLE:** TAKING CHARGE OF OUR ROADS TO FIGHT GRIDLOCK

**FROM:**

Mayor Steven Del Duca

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**Whereas**, combating gridlock is critical to local economic competitiveness. Vaughan's strategic location to 400 series highways, airports, and railways are essential to retaining and attracting economic development and job-creating opportunities. Vaughan surpassed regional, provincial and national economic growth rates in 2021, with nearly 19,000 businesses employing more than 236,000 workers, producing a real GDP of almost \$25 billion; and

**Whereas**, the City of Vaughan's 2022 Citizen and Business Surveys say traffic and traffic related concerns are ranked top-of-mind by residents and businesses as the critical issues facing the community; and

**Whereas**, Transportation and Mobility is one of seven strategic priority areas of the Council-approved 2022-2026 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan, with a specific objective to advocate for improve Vaughan's roads and street network; and

**Whereas**, Vaughan Council has endorsed Mayor Del Duca's Member's Resolution to Fight Traffic Gridlock, consisting of numerous critical infrastructure projects to alleviate gridlock pressures across every ward; and

**Whereas**, addressing current and future traffic issues is paramount to implementing the Ontario Government's Housing Pledge and the City's provincially mandated housing targets to facilitate the construction of 42,000 new homes in Vaughan by 2031; and

**Whereas**, the following key initiatives are identified within both the York Region Transportation Master Plan and the Vaughan Transportation Plan as priority infrastructure improvements:

- a. Teston Road extension from Keele Street to Dufferin Street;
- b. Langstaff Road connection from Jane Street to Keele Street;
- c. Highway 7 widening from Pine Valley Drive to Martin Grove Road; and

**Whereas**, during the June 2023 Special Committee of the Whole meeting, Vaughan Council unanimously approved a Member's Resolution calling for Vaughan to explore becoming a single-tier municipality and to undertake an analysis required to support further understanding a new governance model. The Member's Resolution specifically states that the status quo governance model in York Region should be changed and modernized to reflect the current future needs of Vaughan's residents; and

**Whereas**, following the analysis performed by Ernst & Young as part of the aforementioned Member's Resolution, Council approved a Member's Resolution from December 2023 which outlined that the City of Vaughan's submission to the Ontario Legislature's Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure, and Cultural Policy's meeting on regional governance be based on the principles of devolving planning, roads and economic development responsibilities from York Region to the City of Vaughan, and streamlining governance to better advance critical city-building issues; and

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**It is therefore recommended:**

1. That Council calls on York Region to immediately download the following Regional Roads to the City of Vaughan:
  - a. Teston Road from Keele Street to Dufferin Street;
  - b. Langstaff Road from Jane Street to Keele Street;
  - c. Highway 7 from Pine Valley Drive to Martin Grove Road; and
2. Council calls on York Region to transfer any funding currently allocated to the Regional Roads listed above to the City of Vaughan; and
3. Mayor Steven Del Duca send correspondence to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, requesting that all remaining Regional Roads be downloaded from York Region to the City of Vaughan on a similar basis and timetable to the downloading of roads from Peel Region to the lower-tier municipalities, as outlined in the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024*.

**Financial and Staff Resource Impact**

This Member's Resolution has no financial impacts.

**Attachments**

N/A