

Transportation & Infrastructure Task Force Report

DATE: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE ROAD MAP

FROM:

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ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

This report is intended to provide an overview of the mandate and objectives of the Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force.

Report Highlights

- The Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force (TITF) was approved for establishment at Council on May 14, 2019
- The Terms of Reference and the appointment of citizen members to the TITF was approved at Council on October 2, 2019
- The inaugural meeting of the TITF was held on November 20, 2019
- The TITF is made up of 12 individuals with a diverse skill set to fulfill the TITF mandate
- By meeting the objectives of the Task Force Terms of Reference, the TITF will provide valuable insight for future transportation planning
- The TITF recommendations are to be aligned with the 2018-2022 Service Excellence Strategy Plan

Recommendations

1. That this report be received for information.

Background

The Transportation and Infrastructure Task force is one of the 2018-2022 Term of Council Priority Task Forces

At its meeting on May 14, 2019, Council adopted Item 9, Report No. 7 of the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee, titled "*Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua's 2018-2022 Term of Council Priority Task Forces*". In so doing, Council approved the establishment of three task forces, including the Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force. Ward 3 Councillor Rosanna DeFrancesca, and Local and Regional Councillor Gino Rosati were appointed as the TITF Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively.

At its meeting on October 2, 2019, Council adopted Item 13, Report No. 27 of the Committee of the Whole (2), titled "Approval of Terms of Reference and Appointment of Citizen Members to Task Forces". The approved TITF Terms of Reference (Attachment 1) identified the mandate, objectives and membership for the Task Force.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Task force has a focused mandate to establish priorities to assist in managing the overall transportation system

The City of Vaughan Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force has an overall mandate to assist the City in finding new and innovative ways to manage and make its transportation systems more sustainable amid the rapidly changing landscape of Vaughan. This will include further exploring best practices and research related to congestion management practices and developing a coordinated set of strategies, policies and activities dedicated to making the City's transportation system more reliable, efficient and better prepared to accommodate future growth.

The Task Force Committee is made up of 12 individuals with a diverse skill set to fulfill the TITF mandate

The Task Force membership is made up of 12 individuals (four (4) technical committee members and eight (8) citizen representative members) representing all appropriate government agencies and the citizens of Vaughan. The Task Force is comprised of the following:

- Four technical committee members which are comprised of staff from Metrolinx, York Region Transit, York Region and the Ministry of Transportation
- Eight citizen representative members that fall within at least one of the following groups:
 - GO Transit user
 - YRT user
 - Transportation Planner/Engineer
 - Post-secondary student
 - Cycling representative
 - Environmental interest
 - Accessibility interest
 - Member of a Senior's group
 - Community members at large

Previous Reports/Authority

Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2015

<https://pub-vaughan.escrimemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=18942>

Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2019

<https://pub-vaughan.escrimemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=21121>

Analysis and Options

At the inaugural Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force meeting, a citizen representative member requested a report outlining the “road” map of how the Task Force will move forward.

The Task Force Terms of Reference details the objectives of the TITF

The TITF objectives are clearly outlined within the approved Terms of Reference (**Attachment 1**). The Task Force will:

1. Serve as a forum for improving transportation and infrastructure solutions among residents, businesses and other stakeholders
2. Work with key organizations, like the Association for Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Regional Municipality of York, Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Metrolinx to ensure Council-approved initiatives are advocated for to the Provincial and Federal governments

3. Further explore research, best practices and findings related to congestion management innovation efforts across Canada and the World. Advise in identifying strategies, policies and activities for a comprehensive approach to congestion management.
4. Provide strategic input for the update and implementation of the City's Transportation Plan.
5. Recommend measures to increase the use of active transportation in the City, resulting in recognizable and measurable improvements in cultivating a healthier and safer community.
6. Review matters referred to the Task Force by Council relating to the safe and efficient movement of people and goods and the development of the City's infrastructure to provide strategic input where necessary.
7. Identify opportunities to leverage partnerships and opportunities with relevant parties, including York Region, other local municipalities, governance organizations, other levels of government and the non-profit sector, to:
 - a. Achieve objectives of the Transportation & Infrastructure Task Force;
 - b. Contribute to areas of common interest aligned with the City's Citizen Satisfaction Survey results, Transportation Master Plan, and the 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan.
8. Align with the work of the Task Force members with Council-approved priorities identified in the 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan.

The committee member's experience and expertise will provide valuable insight for future transportation planning

Over the term of the TITF, the committee will draw on the experience and expertise at hand to develop detailed recommendations to address future transportation needs while developing a comprehensive approach to managing the existing traffic congestion concerns. These recommendations should leverage partnerships with all appropriate government agencies, such as York Region, York Region Transit, Metrolinx, Ministry of Transportation and the TTC. A variety of solutions will be reviewed to ensure short-term and long-term improvements to Vaughan's Transportation system. At a minimum, these solutions should be focused on the following strategic themes

1. Transportation and land use integration
2. Mobility and active transportation
3. Transportation mode split
4. Sustainability
5. Technology solution

6. Maintenance

The TITF recommendations should consider the changing technological landscape of transportation

Emerging technologies such as connected and automated vehicles (CAVs), micro-mobility including e-scooters and e-bikes, and smart infrastructure will have a tremendous impact on the future transportation system. CAVs include a set of technology that will eventually enable vehicles to drive themselves without any input from a human driver. Furthermore, how this technology can be used to benefit the transportation system will be a key factor in determining the impact it has for Vaughan's residents and businesses. This and other emerging technologies should be considered in the recommendations of the TITF.

The TITF recommendations should be aligned with the 2018-2022 Service Excellence Strategic Plan, Transportation and Mobility Strategic Priority

A Strategic priority within the City of Vaughan 2018-2022 Service Excellence Strategic Plan is Transportation and Mobility. With the objective *"To be a fully connected and integrated community, the City will undertake initiatives to improve the municipal road network, support the development of transit and increase cycling and pedestrian infrastructure"* the three themes of this Strategic priority are as follows:

1. Improve local road network
2. Support regional transportation initiatives
3. Advance active transportation

As such, the recommendations identified within the TITF should align with the Service Excellence Strategic Plan.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact as a result of this report.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

The technical committee is comprised of staff from Metrolinx, York Region Transit, York Region and the Ministry of Transportation. The objective of the TITF is to work closely with all government agencies to develop recommendations that will make the existing transportation system, in Vaughan, more reliable, efficient and better prepared to accommodate growth.

Conclusion

The TITF will receive additional information on current and future planned transportation projects from technical committee members at the meeting scheduled on January 22, 2020. This will augment the information provided by City staff at the inaugural meeting on November 20, 2019. The intention is to provide the TITF members with a common base of knowledge of the current opportunities available.

The common body of knowledge, along with each members' personal knowledge, will allow the TITF to identify the strategies, policies and activities that should be pursued for the remainder of the Task Force term, aligned with the objectives identified in the Terms of Reference.

For more information, please contact Vince Musacchio at extension 8311.

Attachments

1. City of Vaughan Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force Terms of Reference

Prepared by

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