

# City of Mississauga Corporate Report



9.2

Date: May 21, 2021

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Shawn Slack, MBA, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Originator's files:

Meeting date:  
June 9, 2021

## Subject

**ISO 37122 Smart City Certification by the World Council on City Data (WCCD)**

## Recommendation

That the corporate report dated May 21, 2021 from the Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services Department and Chief Financial Officer entitled, "ISO 37122 Smart City Certification by the World Council on City Data (WCCD)", be received for information.

## Executive Summary

- The City of Mississauga has received the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 37122 "Early Adopters" certification – Indicators for Smart Cities from the World Council on City Data (WCCD)
- The City of Mississauga first received certification for WCCD's Standard - [ISO 37120 – Indicators for City Services and Quality of Life](#) - in 2018, a prerequisite for ISO 37122 Certification
- The City of Mississauga reported on 71 out of 80 indicators, moving forward into its second year of reporting, this will earn the City of Mississauga Platinum level certification, however, for year one, all certified cities will receive "WCCD ISO 37122 Early Adopter Certification"
- The City of Mississauga is amongst a cohort of approximately 10 cities globally to become a part of the WCCD's ISO 37122 Early Adopters Scheme. The only Canadian city to be awarded this certification within the first cohort
- Harnessing globally standardized and independently verified city data will help to continue to showcase Mississauga locally, nationally and globally as an innovative and attractive place in which to live, work and play

## Background

The World Council on City Data (WCCD) was founded in 2014, and exists to help communities of all sizes - in Canada and across the globe - to embrace standardized, independently verified, and globally comparable city data to become more sustainable, resilient, prosperous, inclusive and smart. Since its founding, the WCCD has been working with 100 cities worldwide and has helped these cities to adopt ISO 37120, the first international standard for city data. The WCCD and ISO 37120 are a truly “Made in Canada” initiative – with their ultimate creation primarily spearheaded by Canadian urban thinkers and city leaders. The standard includes 104 indicators across 19 themes and standardizes a set of city services and quality of life. ISO 37120 provides cities with quantitative, globally comparable and independently verified local-level data enabling any city, of any size, to measure and compare its social, economic, and environmental progress internally year-over-year, and also in relation to other peer cities locally and globally.

In 2017, KPMG was engaged to assess the current maturity of performance measures across the corporation. There were a few projects that emerged as a result of their findings, one of which was the introduction of [World Council of City Data \(WCCD\)](#).

On November 9th, 2018, the City of Mississauga was certified as ISO 37120 at the Platinum level by the World Council on City Data (WCCD) ([Read More: Mississauga Joins Global Network of Data-Driven Cities](#)). Mississauga reported 96 out of the 100 indicators, earning platinum-level ranking and is one of ten Canadian municipalities to receive the certification. The City joined more than 60 municipalities that are part of the WCCD global network.

In 2021, WCCD is now also operationalizing two new standards: [ISO 37122 Indicators for Smart Cities](#) and [ISO 37123 Indicators for Resilient Cities](#) across its rapidly growing network. The WCCD has led the development of this “ISO 37120 Series” of three global standards to support cities in Canada and globally in building a global framework for city data that allows cities to drive measurable progress for sustainable, resilient and smart futures. A prerequisite for both certifications is having certification in ISO 37120.

Mississauga became eligible for the second certification ISO 37122 and was positioned to lead in smart city development globally with ISO standardized, comparative, and independently verified city data – the essential starting point for smart city development. The City of Mississauga reported on 71 out of 80 indicators, moving forward into its second year of reporting, this will earn the City of Mississauga Platinum level certification, however, for year one, all certified cities will receive “WCCD ISO 37122 Early Adopter Certification.” On May 8, 2021 WCCD confirmed that the City of Mississauga had received the ISO 37122 certification, the only city in Canada to be awarded this certification.

## Comments

The concept of a smart city is being embraced by cities globally. Many national governments and international organizations have also adopted smart city development as a key policy priority. Until now, there has been a lack of global coherence around this concept, in particular two fundamental items:

1. A general lack of clarity on the definition of what a “smart city” truly is
2. A lack of internationally-standardized indicators to measure progress, drive smart city investment, drive city-to-city learning and create tools for year-over-year benchmarking

To address this urgent need, the WCCD globally operationalized ISO 37122 Indicators for Smart Cities. The development of this global first has been driven by the WCCD, which is coordinating the effort to build open, high-calibre, independently verified and globally comparable city data.

As accelerating improvements in city services and quality of life is fundamental to the definition of a smart city, ISO 37122 is intended to provide a complete set of indicators to measure progress towards a smart city. Indicators are used to measure progress, drive smart city investment, drive city-to-city learning and create tools for year-over-year benchmarking. It demonstrates how the City of Mississauga is doing compared to other cities, but also serves as a benchmark within the City’s planning process.

Standardized data facilitates city-to-city learning, encourages global adoption of city solutions and fosters smart city innovation. It is particularly important for evaluating new smart infrastructure solutions, which can produce multiple financial, economic, social and environmental benefits.

Standardized data can also play a major role in building the investment case for mobilizing funding and securing citizen support, demonstrating impact and progress over time, and assisting other cities to understand the benefits of these solutions through data-driven city-to-city comparators.

## Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts resulting from the recommendations in this report.

## Conclusion

The WCCD Global Cities Registry is the internationally recognized list of cities that are certified against ISO in accordance with the WCCD certification system. The City of Mississauga has been added to the WCCD Global Cities Registry and is now recognized alongside other “Early Adopter” cities and be part of a global effort to build open, high-caliber, independently verified and globally comparable city data.

As accelerating improvements in city services and quality of life is fundamental to the definition of a smart city, ISO 37122 is intended to provide a complete set of indicators to measure progress towards a smart city. Leading cities building WCCD ISO-certified city data are driving progress towards local, national and global agendas through more sustainable, resilient, smart, prosperous and inclusive cities.

Harnessing globally standardized and independently verified city data will help to continue to showcase Mississauga locally, nationally and globally as an innovative and attractive place in which to live, work and play.

## Attachments

Appendix 1: Mississauga ISO 37122 Certificate



Shawn Slack, MBA, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Steve Czajka, OLS, OLIP, Manager, Smart City