

City of Mississauga
Corporate Report



<p>Date: May 30, 2022</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Paul Mitcham, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer</p>	<p>Meeting date: June 15, 2022</p>

Subject

2022 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference

Recommendation

That the recommended approach outlined in the report dated May 30, 2022 from the City Manager and Chief Administrative titled "2022 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference", be endorsed.

Executive Summary

- The AMO Conference is scheduled to take place from August 14-17, 2022 in Ottawa.
- The Conference brings together municipal and provincial officials to work to overcome municipal challenges and plan for the future.
- In addition, municipal staff and officials have the opportunity to request municipal delegation meetings with key provincial officials and ministries, including Cabinet Ministers and opposition party leaders.
- This will represent the first significant opportunity for municipalities to advance advocacy priorities with newly-appointed Cabinet Ministers and senior staff, as they establish their mandates and policy priorities.
- It is recommended that the 2022 delegation meetings be used to advance the City's advocacy priorities of Public Transit; Affordable Housing; Sustainable Funding for Municipalities; Supports for the Local Economy; and Climate Change;
- For the 2022 AMO Conference, staff recommend requesting ten (10) delegation meetings with government ministries and three (3) delegation meetings with the opposition party leaders.
- City staff will engage with Region of Peel staff and surrounding area municipalities to seek joint delegations on overlapping issues.

Background

Each year, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario holds Ontario's largest municipal conference, bringing together municipal and provincial officials in order to overcome municipal challenges and plan for the future.

The City of Mississauga has sent a delegation of Mayor, Councillors and senior staff since 2015. Over time, Mississauga's delegation has successfully advocated and worked with provincial officials to tackle some of Mississauga's largest challenges such as PILTs, transit and infrastructure funding, climate change, and COVID-19 supports for municipalities and local businesses.

This conference remains a cornerstone in the City's annual advocacy efforts as it offers an opportunity to meet with all relevant ministries in a concentrated period of time to advocate on behalf of the City's most significant priorities.

Pre-Budget Submissions

The City of Mississauga's annual advocacy priorities are detailed in the Provincial Pre-Budget Submission (Appendix A), which was approved by Council and submitted to the Province in February of this year. This document contained 12 recommendations grouped under three themes: City Building, Community and Culture and Local Economy. These recommendations form the foundation for the City's 2022 delegation meetings at AMO.

Throughout the 2022 Ontario General Election campaign, each provincial party made significant commitments that align with the City's Pre-Budget Submission and advocacy priorities. Delegation meetings at AMO will not only be used to advocate on behalf of the City but also to gain clarification on the details, funding and timing of each commitment made during the election campaign.

Comments

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) next annual conference is scheduled to take place in Ottawa from August 14 - 17, 2022. The 2022 AMO Conference will be held in person after several years of virtual conferences due to the pandemic.

This conference will present the first significant opportunity for City staff and elected officials to meet with the newly-elected government following the June 2 provincial election. This includes appointed ministers, senior staff and opposition party leaders. These delegation meetings help the City of Mississauga build a strong relationship with the government and advocate for the City's most pressing priorities. While Cabinet Ministers have not yet been appointed, staff will tailor our issues to ministries and ministers as they become known.

AMO Conference – Priority Issues

Mississauga has a comprehensive list of advocacy priorities. No matter which party forms the next provincial government, it is recommended that the Mississauga delegation focus on the following advocacy themes and accompanying priorities during the AMO Conference and ministerial delegation meetings:

- **Investments in Public Transit**

- Building the Downtown Loop to the Hurontario LRT
- Provincial support for Two-Way, All-Day Service on the Milton GO Rail Corridor
- Ongoing Safe Restart Funding

- **Housing Affordability**

In the proposed 2022 Ontario Budget: *Ontario's Plan to Build*, the government states that their long-term plan to address the housing crisis, will be informed by the Housing Affordability Task Force's recommendations. The City has serious concerns with a number of Task Force recommendations that could adversely impact the quality of life in Mississauga without achieving improved housing affordability. Mayor and Council and senior staff will address the following concerns during the delegation meeting:

- A province-wide, one-size-fits all approach to the housing crisis that makes engagement for residents cost prohibitive (\$10,000 fee for residents to register a development concern)
- Building more housing supply will not necessarily lead to housing affordability
- Four-storey, four-family dwellings being permitted in single-family residential neighbourhoods without appeal
- Reducing the amount of parkland contribution required will mean less parkland for the City.

In addition to addressing these concerns, the Mississauga delegation will focus the majority of the time allotted to strengthening our relationship with the Ministry and advocating for the following solutions:

- Partner with cities to fund and build affordable housing to close the supply gap:
 - Approve Peel's recently submitted Municipal Comprehensive Review in a timely manner;
 - Provide funding for development charges/parkland exemptions for purpose built middle income rental housing;
 - Reinstate the Provincial Brownfield Remediation to fund to support municipalities in safely building affordable housing on former industrial sites;
 - Allow municipalities to use zoning expiration regulations (use-it or lose it zoning) to realize the approved-but-not-built backlog units and to more efficiently allocate servicing capacity.

- Build complete communities and respect the importance of local input and municipal decision-making:
 - Reaffirm commitment to community consultation and engagement;
 - Maintain development charges and cash-in-lieu of parkland for all infill residential projects.
- Increase housing affordability through effective legislation and policy changes:
 - Allow for conditional zoning, including for tenure (rental) on large sites;
 - Extend no appeal provision of Official Plan updates to 5-10 years;
 - Amend the Planning Act to permit inclusionary zoning everywhere that the market can support it and allow for cash-in-lieu.
- **Sustainable Operating and Infrastructure Funding for Municipalities**
 - Funding to maintain City assets in a state of good repair
 - Long-term, predictable and sustainable infrastructure funding
 - Resources for Climate Change adaptation and mitigation
- **Targeted Support for the Local Economy**
 - Support for industries hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Small businesses
 - Tourism and cultural industries
 - Air travel
 - Invest in local business innovation and competitiveness
 - Invest in talent development and access
 - Prioritize investments that support a fair and inclusive economic recovery
- **Investments that Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change**
 - Transition of bus fleet to zero-emission vehicles
 - Bus maintenance and storage facility zero-emission conversion
 - Solar power and green building standards for municipal facilities
- **Resources for Mississauga's Courts**
 - Additional Justices of the Peace to address the growing backlog of Provincial Offence Notices in our court system.

Staff will submit delegation requests to Ministries that align with and advance the outlined priorities before the June 24, 2022 deadline. In addition, staff will begin to prepare relevant materials and briefing notes to support the requested delegation meetings. This includes immediate funding needs, long-term recovery needs and historical municipal funding challenges. Materials will also present policy opportunities and solutions to address the City's priorities and most pressing issues.

Staff will also liaise with Region of Peel staff and surrounding area municipalities to seek joint delegations on overlapping issues.

Financial Impact


There is no financial impact associated with the items listed in this report.

Conclusion

The 2022 AMO Conference will present the first significant opportunity for the City to advance its priorities with newly-elected ministers, senior staff and opposition party leaders after the June 2, 2022 provincial election. This conference also enables the City to demonstrate its willingness to collaborate and innovate with a new provincial government as it lays out its mandate, policy and its economic priorities.

Attachments

Appendix 1: 2022 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission



Andrew Whitemore (Acting City Manager)

Paul Mitcham, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: *James Docker, Strategic Leader, Government Relations*