

City of Mississauga
Corporate Report



<p>Date: May 4, 2023</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Shari Lichterman, CPA, CMA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer</p>	<p>Meeting date: May 24, 2023</p>

Subject

AMO Conference 2023

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report entitled "AMO Conference 2023", dated May 4, 2023, from the City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer, be endorsed.

Executive Summary

- The AMO Conference is scheduled to take place from August 20-23, 2023 in London.
- 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 conference is a good opportunity for municipalities to advance advocacy priorities with Cabinet Ministers and senior staff
- It is recommended that the 2023 delegation meetings be used to advance the City's advocacy priorities of housing, public transit; sustainable funding for municipalities; supports for the local economy; and climate change;
- For the 2023 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 shared priorities.

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 changes to the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) formula, secured transit and infrastructure funding, and advanced the City's policy objectives.

This conference is a cornerstone of the City's annual advocacy efforts with the provincial government 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 10 recommendations grouped under three themes: City Building, Housing Affordability and Local Economy. These recommendations form the foundation for the City's 2023 delegation meetings at AMO. 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 legislation that has passed, and potentially pending.

Comments

AMO Conference – Priority Issues

Mississauga has a comprehensive list of advocacy priorities. 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
 - Eglinton Crosstown West Extension Light Rail Transit to the Airport
 - Downtown Mississauga Terminal and Transitway Connection
 - Moving ahead with the Dundas Bus Rapid Transit Corridor

Ministries: Ministries of Transportation; Infrastructure; Housing; Municipal Affairs; and Finance

- **Housing Affordability**

The government has introduced and passed several housing bills in recent years, most notably Bills 109, 3, 23, 39, and 97. The City has significant concerns with the impact

these bills will have on City finances and the uncertainty the bill has created with many terms still lacking definition. Mayor and Council and senior staff will address the following concerns during the delegation meeting:

- Recovery of the close to \$1 billion in revenue projected to be lost from development charge and cash in lieu of parkland changes as a result of Bill 23, and that compensation not be tied to a City's ability to meet their housing targets, as cities can only approve development, but cannot build housing.
- Supports need to advance the City's Housing Plan to reaching the Province's housing target of 120,000 homes.
- The need for changes to ensure more affordable housing is actually built
- The infrastructure that is needed to support the building of 120,000 units in 10 years, instead of 30.
- The City's progress on implementing changes resulting from Bill 109

Ministries: Municipal Affairs, Finance, Housing

- **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

Ministries: Finance; Municipal Affairs; Infrastructure

- **Targeted Support for the Local Economy**

- Continued supports for business recovery, including:
 - Small businesses
 - Tourism and cultural industries
 - Air travel
 - Port Credit Harbour Marina
- Invest in local business innovation and competitiveness
- Invest in talent development and access
- Prioritize investments that support a fair and inclusive economic recovery
- Maintain the suspension of the GTAA Payment in Lieu of Taxes cap

Ministries: Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; Finance; and Tourism, Culture and Sport

- **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 (*keep or drop?*)

Ministries: Environment, Conservation and Parks; Transportation; and Infrastructure

- **Resources for Mississauga's Courts**

- Additional Justices of the Peace to address the growing backlog of Provincial Offence Notices in our court system.

Ministries: Attorney General and Finance

- **Regional Governance Review**

If a decision is not made before the AMO conference, the following will be requested:

- Urge the province to appoint facilitators immediately and complete the regional governance review as quickly as possible
- Promote Mississauga's position that a preferred outcome of this review be an independent, single tier Mississauga
- Offer Mississauga support by way of information sharing and a say on the terms of reference for the review

Ministries: Municipal Affairs and Housing

Most of the City's delegation meetings will reference the City's Housing Plan and our commitment to building 120,000 units in 10 years. At the same time, the delegation meetings will also reference the urgent need for provincial support to achieve these targets, and the need for greater clarity on recent planning legislation and the impact it is having on the City's ability to do its job as a planning authority.

Staff will submit delegation requests to Ministries that align with and advance the outlined priorities before the deadline in early June. In addition, staff will begin to prepare relevant materials and briefing notes to support the requested delegation meetings. Staff will also liaise with Region of Peel staff and surrounding area municipalities to seek joint delegations on shared priorities.

Financial Impact

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

Conclusion

The 2023 AMO Conference is a significant opportunity for the City to advance its priorities with ministers, senior staff and opposition party leaders. This conference also enables the City to demonstrate its willingness to continue to collaborate and innovate with the provincial government as it continues to implement its mandate, policy and its economic priorities.

Attachments

Appendix: 2023 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission



Shari Lichterman, CPA, CMA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer

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