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Mayor and Council Members

City of Mississauga

Feb 06, 22

Dear Mayor Crombie and city Councillors,

The Mississauga Towing Industry has been made aware of a report on the February 8, 2023 General Committee agenda proposing that the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) be discontinued in light of the adoption of the Provincial Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act. We respectfully propose that Council vote against that proposal.

Since about 2009, TIAC has been in operation. Towing industry professionals have assisted Mississauga residents after stressful automotive accidents and have considerably contributed to the City's property and commercial taxes.

We have enjoyed the opportunity to meet every two months to discuss common problems and a variety of themes affecting the professional functioning of our business. We recommended permission forms, procedures, and services, which Council adopted and dramatically improved client experiences.

The substantial concerns affecting our clients and industry that drove the committee's establishment were the same as the violence and corrupt practises that spurred the provincial task force and the passage of the new Act. The establishment of the Towing Committee, which included Council members, enabled us to progressively minimise corrupt practises to the point where our city became a business model. In actuality, Mississauga City employees were invited to participate in the provincial deliberations that culminated in the current Act.

The Act is still in its early stages, and it contains a pilot project that authorises only selected towing companies to service vital GTA roads. As the Act is implemented, changes may arise. TIAC submitted written comments at various stages of the Act, which were approved by Council and sent to the Province. We'd rather keep our ability to confer and respond as a group.

There is no provision in the Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act for collecting fees for the extensive range of services supplied by our sector. Regular meetings allow TIAC to generate recommendations, which allow Council to establish ordinances controlling standard prices for different services across the city. Meeting with committee members on a regular basis reinforces the idea that we are a vital part of our city's economy.

We urge Council to continue working with the Towing Industry Advisory Committee to promote best practises and the high degree of engagement that already exists. It will also reassure the towing business that Council appreciates our ideas and services.

Sincerely,

Sam Ayoub

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