

# City of Mississauga Corporate Report



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| <p>Date: January 22, 2024</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:<br/>February 21, 2024</p> |

## Subject

**2023 Emergency Management Program Review**

## Recommendation

That the report dated January 22, 2024 entitled “2023 Emergency Management Program Review” from the City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer be received from information.

## Executive Summary

- The OEM was engaged in responding to/monitoring approximately 39 incidents.
- The OEM provided 13 emergency management/incident management training courses to both internal staff and emergency management partners from various agencies.
- The OEM conducted and participated in approximately eight emergency exercises.
- The OEM attended 70 community events in 2023, engaging with over 11,500 residents.

## Background

The *Emergency Management & Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04 requires each municipality within the Province of Ontario to have an emergency management program and an Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC). One of the requirements of the EMPC is to “conduct an annual review of the municipality’s emergency management program” as well as “advise council on the development and implementation of the municipality’s emergency management program”. Each year the EMPC, through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), undertake an annual review of the Program.

## Comments

The Office of Emergency Management in collaboration with various City and community partners engaged in various initiatives to advance the City’s emergency management program

in 2023. Some of the key elements of the emergency management program are identified below.

### **Emergency Planning**

In 2023, the OEM updated the City's Emergency Plan, which was adopted by Council in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04. The OEM also consolidated the City's Flood Response Plan and Severe Winter Weather Plan into a newly developed Severe Weather Plan. The consolidation of the two plans ensures an efficient and straightforward approach to responding to severe weather events within the City.

### **Emergency Operations & Response**

The OEM operates under four emergency activation levels: Routine Monitoring, Enhanced Monitoring, Partial Activation, and Full Activation. The OEM also occasionally deploys to incident sites to provide on-scene support.

In 2023, the OEM engaged in 39 incidents of Enhanced Monitoring, including two site deployments. This is comparable to 38 incidents of Enhanced Monitoring in 2022, including three site deployments. The incident hazard-types varied widely in 2023, including incidents related to; gas leaks, fires, severe weather, flooding, avian influenza, Northern Ontario community evacuations, air quality, special events, asylum claimants, and public demonstrations.

The City's Incident Management Team was not activated in 2023. However, the OEM did provide support to the Incident Management Teams/Emergency Operations Centres of partner agencies at various times throughout the year.

### **Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

The OEM attended community events in partnership with various organizations to promote emergency preparedness and community resilience. The OEM engaged with residents encompassing a range of different demographics including students, older adults, and new Canadians.

In total, the OEM participated in 70 different community events, engaging with approximately 11,500 residents.

### **Training & Exercises**

The OEM provides emergency management and incident management training to both internal City employees, as well as external partners from the broader emergency management community. In 2023, the OEM delivered thirteen emergency management and incident management courses to city employees as well as public safety partners from various organizations. The OEM also delivered approximately 10 role-specific training sessions to members of the City's Incident Management Team. This is in addition to the virtual online

training that is required to be completed by members of the City's Municipal Emergency Control Group.

In addition to training, the OEM conducted and participated in several emergency exercises with both internal staff and external emergency management partners. These exercises included:

- A full-scale exercise in partnership with Enbridge Gas.
- A full-scale exercise with Alectra Utilities.
- A full-scale exercise with the Greater Toronto Airports Authority.
- A full-scale exercise with CN Rail conducted by the City of Guelph.
- A tabletop public health exercise conducted by York University including public health partners from across Ontario.
- A tabletop exercise with the Greater Toronto Airports Authority.
- A tabletop exercise with the City's Works Incident Management Team.
- A tabletop exercise with the City's MiWay Transit Division.

These exercises help validate emergency plans, and identify potential areas of improvement related to emergency response.

### **Hazard and Critical Infrastructure Identification and Risk Assessment**

The OEM are required to identify the various hazards and risks that could result in emergencies, and identify the facilities and critical infrastructure that are at risk of being affected by these emergencies. In 2023, the OEM worked with various subject matter experts and conducted extensive research to identify the top risks in Mississauga.

### **Emergency Management Advancement**

The OEM work to continuously advance the profession of emergency management within Ontario and beyond. In 2023, members of the OEM moderated and spoke at several conferences, speaker series, and webinars, and were invited as guest lecturers to speak in various post-secondary institutions. Through these opportunities, the OEM have been able to advocate for a more progressive approach to community resilience amongst the emergency management community. This includes presenting on topics such as bolstering equity, diversity, and inclusion within disaster risk reduction efforts, and the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration in emergency management.

## **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impacts from this report.

## **Conclusion**

The City of Mississauga's emergency management program will continue to evolve to ensure that the City is prepared for the various hazards that put the City at risk of experiencing

emergencies. The OEM will continue to take a collaborative approach to community resilience, working closely with internal City divisions, external partners, and community groups to adapt disaster-risk reduction solutions to the unique needs of the various groups and communities within Mississauga.



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