City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: January 28, 2025

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Jodi Robillos, Commissioner of Community Services

Meeting date: February 19, 2025

Originator's files:

Subject

2024 Emergency Management Program Review

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report dated January 28, 2025 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "2024 Emergency Management Program Review" be received for information.

Executive Summary

- The City's Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC) is required to update Council on the development and implementation of the Municipality's Emergency Management Program.
- The OEM was engaged in responding to/monitoring approximately 42 incidents throughout 2024.
- The OEM provided 14 emergency management/incident management training courses to both internal staff and emergency management partners from various agencies.
- The OEM conducted and participated in approximately five emergency exercises.
- The OEM engaged in 20 public education and community outreach events.

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 City's emergency management 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 2024. Some of the key elements of the emergency management program are identified below.

Emergency Planning

Throughout 2024, the OEM worked with various partners to engage in emergency planning for different types of incidents and events. This included the formation of a Regional healthcare emergency management working group, which met regularly to plan for potential incidents which could impact local health services. It also included engagement with local industries which utilize hazardous substances in their operations, and the planning of special events with various Regional partners.

Emergency Operations & Response

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

In 2024, the OEM engaged in the enhanced monitoring and response of 42 incidents. This includes four Emergency Operations Centre and Incident Management Team activations, and one reception centre activation to support displaced residents.

Most of the events that the OEM monitored and responded to in 2024 were related to severe weather, residential evacuations, demonstrations, and planned events. These events included the activation of the City's Incident Management Team to respond to and recover from both the July 16th and August 17th & 18th localized flooding events.

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. During Emergency Preparedness Week, the OEM received over 500,000 impressions through its marketing and promotional campaign.

In total, the OEM participated in 20 different community events, engaging with residents from across the City. This is in addition to the community engagement efforts the OEM undertook to support various Regional and City initiatives such as the Cooksville SNAP and Resilience Hub program.

The OEM provide emergency management and incident management training to both internal City employees, as well as external partners from the broader emergency management community. In 2024, the OEM delivered fourteen emergency management and incident management courses to city employees as well as public safety partners from various organizations. The OEM also delivered various 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:

- The 2024 Provincial Priority Exercise, examining an extreme heat event with various municipalities, and other partners from across Ontario.
- A Full-Scale Exercise with Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) examining a potential rail emergency.
- A Tabletop Exercise examining various emergency scenarios related to the Mississauga Marathon.
- The 2024 Greater Toronto Airports Authority Full-Scale Exercise.
- The 2024 Greater Toronto Airports Authority Tabletop Exercise.

The OEM were also planning a functional exercise with Credit Valley Conservation examining a 100-year storm flood scenario. This exercise was cancelled due to the severe weather events that were experienced in the summer of 2024. Due to these events, the City of Mississauga was eligible to be exempt from the exercise requirements under the EMCPA.

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 2024, the OEM worked with various subject matter experts and conducted extensive research to identify the top risks in Mississauga. This research will help the OEM in adapting the City's emergency management program to meet the unique needs of Mississauga.

- Provide comments on engagement and collaboration efforts made with affected external stakeholders; note significant support or objections.
- Reports Policy "Reports with Financial Impacts" section and the "Guidelines for Corporate Report Authors – Finance Implications in Corporate Reports"

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.

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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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Jodi Robillos, Commissioner of Community Services

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