

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION) - MAY 25, 2005

PRESERVING THE INTENT OF THE VAUGHAN ENTERPRISE ZONE

Recommendation

Councillor Tony Carella recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS the future financial health of the City of Vaughan is dependent upon the growth of its tax assessment base; and

WHEREAS the advantages which will accrue to the City of Vaughan by promoting the development of industrial assessment rests in the relatively lighter demand for a wide range of municipal services that distinguishes industrial development from residential development; and

WHEREAS such enhanced industrial assessment can assist the City of Vaughan in offsetting the cost of services.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Vaughan commits itself to the realization of the full potential of the Vaughan Enterprise Zone as the City's premier employment zone, and to that end acknowledges the following principles:

1. Given that the Vaughan Enterprise Zone is located in close proximity to Lester B. Pearson International Airport, and is traversed by Highway 407, by the present Highway 427 and its planned extension, and by Regional Road 7, it is uniquely positioned to become the premier employment zone in the Greater Toronto Area
2. While some service-commercial development is necessary and appropriate within the Vaughan Enterprise Zone, the City of Vaughan focuses its attention on the promotion of predominantly industrial/manufacturing, office, and higher-order service-commercial uses such as hotels/ convention facilities.

Economic Impact

Nil

Background - Analysis and Options

The City of Vaughan will be planning for the development of the lands located west of Highway 27, largely in Ward 2, as a major industrial zone---indeed, what will arguably be *the* major industrial zone within the boundaries of the municipality, once it is fully developed.

Secondary plans for the Enterprise Zone should respect the fact that this area is a premier employment area based on its proximity to major transportation corridors (ie. Highways 427, 407, 401 and the Pearson International Airport).

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

The future financial health of the City of Vaughan---including its ability to afford the services its citizens demand---as well as its prestige as the host-city to high-value-added employment opportunities, depends on Council's commitment to the original intent of the Vaughan Enterprise Zone.

Report prepared by

Councillor Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted

Councillor Tony Carella