

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 7, 2008

RENEWAL OF THE VAUGHAN CIVIC CENTRE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that:

1. The Vaughan Civic Centre Review Working Group be reconstituted; and
2. The Working Group be composed of:
 - Mayor Linda D. Jackson;
 - Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio;
 - Regional Councillor Mario Ferri;
 - Regional Councillor Gino Rosati;
 - Ward 1 Councillor Peter Meffe;

Economic Impact

There are no economic impacts resulting from the adoption of this report.

Communications Plan

Not applicable.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council appoint the “Vaughan Civic Centre Review Working Group” and that it be composed of Mayor Jackson, Regional Councillors Frustaglio, Ferri and Rosati and Ward I Local Councillor Peter Meffe.

Background – Analysis and Options

On June 28, 2004 Council created the Vaughan Civic Centre Review Working Group, which was composed of the Mayor and the Regional Councillors. Its purpose was to review reports concerning the Civic Centre project prior to their submission to Committee of the Whole/Council. The objective was to provide staff with input and assist in identifying issues that may be of civic or community importance.

The mandate of the Review Committee was not renewed after the commencement of construction in 2007. The plans for the City Hall were completed, a building permit was issued and construction is well underway. This represents Phase 1 of the Civic Centre site redevelopment. Plans representing subsequent phases of the project are beginning to emerge.

The full redevelopment of the site will be a long-term project that is made up of a number of elements. The Region of York is proceeding with the design for a new 80 unit residential building south of the City Hall, which will replace the existing Maple Manor. There are a number of other components, which make up the overall site plan, that are still to be realized. This includes the construction of the Civic Square to the west of the City Hall, a new resource library on the south side of the square and an office building adjacent to Major Mackenzie Drive.

The City's objective, as identified in Vaughan Vision 2007, is to develop a Civic Centre precinct that acts as a "people place". To assist the process, it would be appropriate to reconstitute the Working Group. The role of the working is to assist in implementing the development of the Civic Centre precinct and act as a liaison with the project management team and Council.

The Working Group will be supported by City Staff as required, led by the City Manager and the Commissioner of Community Services.

The Civic Centre Review Working Group will provide staff with comment and input as the project evolves over the years and, in addition, ensure timely communications with Council on important matters.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the intent of Vaughan Vision 2020

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

Development of the New City Hall and the Civic Centre Precinct is an important long-term commitment by the City. It is a strategic investment that will help brand the municipality, improve its administrative functions and provide a focus point for civic activity. The Vaughan Civic Centre Review Working Group will provide staff with valuable support and comment as the project moves forward and ensure that Council is kept apprised of progress and issues requiring its attention.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Vaughan Civic Centre Review Working Group be created in accordance with the recommendations set out above.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

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City Manager