



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

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| Date: | FEBRUARY 7, 2012 – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE |
| Title: | REESTABLISHMENT OF THE VAUGHAN ERUV |
| Submitted by: | Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Councillor Alan Shefman |

Whereas for traditional Jews, the Sabbath and other holy days are defined by a set of requirements and restrictions, including the prohibition against the carrying of objects between private domains (such as homes and apartments) and public domains (such as streets, plazas, highways etc.); and

Whereas in accordance with the Jewish religion, the laws of the Sabbath contain the Commandment “Let no man go out of his place on Sabbath Day” (Exodus 16:29), and a man’s place is defined by (1) specifying certain natural or artificial boundaries, and (2) letting the use of the domain by mutual agreement; and

Whereas Eruv (‘eruv’ meaning to fix or join together) Districts have been established in many communities so as to permit traditional Jews, on the Sabbath and other holy days, to carry objects across what in the absence of the eruv would be considered boundaries between public and private domains, thus allowing them to carry objects to their places of worship or to visit friends and relatives, or to carry and use such objects as strollers and walkers; and

Whereas an eruv is physically defined by infrastructure (such as walls, fences, wires etc.), or topography, which demarks the extent of the Eruv District; and

Whereas in accordance with Jewish doctrine, the municipality in which an eruv is situated is required to endorse the eruv and accept nominal payment as a symbolic rental for its use; and

Whereas the sum of five (5) dollars has been provided as nominal payment; and

Whereas by the adoption by City Council on October 11, 1995 of Item 44 of Report No. 19 of the Committee of the Whole, an Eruv District bounded by Steeles Avenue, Dufferin Street, Yonge Street and Highway 7 was endorsed by the City of Vaughan; and

Whereas there is a perceived need to increase the Eruv District from time to time; and

Whereas the Eruv District in the City of Vaughan is administered by the Toronto ERUV Corporation; and

Whereas, the office of the Mayor of the City of Vaughan has been requested by the Toronto ERUV Corporation on behalf of those of the Orthodox Jewish faith to authorize the expansion of the Eruv District so that traditional Jews who reside within an Eruv District within the City of Vaughan will have the right area to “carry” on the Sabbath and other Jewish holy days in accordance with Orthodox Jewish Law; and

Whereas, the office of the Mayor of the City of Vaughan, deems it to be in the public interest that those of its residents of the Jewish faith for whom the request has been presented be granted the rights requested, and likewise deems it to be of no detriment to the rights and general welfare of other members of public; and

Whereas, nothing in this resolution creates an obligation for the City of Vaughan to create, maintain or grant the use of infrastructure, nor to grant any approvals that may be required with respect to same, nor abrogates the rights of any person or group.

It is therefore recommended that the Council of the City of Vaughan proclaim that the Toronto ERUV Corporation may, for a term of 49 years, expand the Eruv District as it deems necessary and appropriate within the boundaries of the City of Vaughan in order to define boundaries within which traditional Jews may “carry” on the Sabbath and other holy days in accordance with Jewish doctrine.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Councillor Alan Shefman