

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JANUARY 16, 2006**

### **RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS**

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends:

1. That the resolution from the Town of Halton Hills regarding the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation be adopted by Council

#### **Economic Impact**

N/A

#### **Purpose**

To support the efforts of the Ombudsman for Ontario in their investigation into whether the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) valuing of properties is fair and transparent.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

On November 28 2005, the Town of Halton Hills adopted a resolution expressing its support for the efforts of the Ontario Ombudsman in their investigation into the fairness and transparency of the Current Value Assessment System used in the valuing of properties by the MPAC.

The City of Vaughan has received numerous complaints from community members regarding their assessments. Many residents expressed shock and dismay over their way in which their properties were valued and the lack of clear and understandable communications from MPAC over the process involved. By adopting the resolution from the Town of Halton Hills, the City of Vaughan will have joined with fellow municipalities in their efforts to ensure fair, transparent and excellent administration for the residents whom they serve.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

5.2 Strengthen relationships with other government authorities and agencies

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

#### **Conclusion**

By adopting the resolution from the Town of Halton Hills, the City of Vaughan will have expressed support for the efforts of the Ombudsman for Ontario in their investigation into whether the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) valuing of properties is fair and transparent

#### **Attachments**

Resolution from the Town of Halton Hills.

#### **Report prepared by:**

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco  
Councillor, Ward 4



December 2, 2005

CU101-05

Municipalities of Ontario

Dear Council:

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, November 28, 2005 adopted the following:

WHEREAS on October 17, 2005 the Ombudsman for Ontario announced an investigation into whether the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) valuing of properties is fair and transparent;

AND WHEREAS on October 18, 2005 the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation stated it is willing to work with the Ombudsman for Ontario to identify and deal with any issues or concerns regarding the assessment process;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Town of Halton Hills is on record as having concerns regarding the accuracy, fairness, and transparency of the assessment process;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Town of Halton Hills has received numerous comments, complaints and concerns from residents including many seniors on fixed incomes, within the municipality regarding the fairness of the assessment of their properties and their ability to pay their property taxes due to dramatic increases in the assessed values of their properties;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills is recognized as a very diverse community of urban, industrial, rural residential (including hamlets), agriculture. These same residents may face restrictive measures such as Niagara Escarpment, three Conservation Agency Guidelines and the new Green Belt policy;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Town of Halton Hills and Regional Municipality of Halton are on record as being willing to be part of a pilot project to test other models / sources for the delivery of property assessment services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS fully supports the efforts of the Ombudsman of Ontario in the review of the fairness and transparency of the property assessment system as administered by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town forward a letter to the Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario indicating its support for the investigation into the fairness and transparency of the valuation of properties by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all other municipalities in the Province of Ontario asking that they also indicate their support for the investigation into the fairness and transparency of the valuation of properties by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of the Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), and the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

The Town of Halton Hills respectfully requests support for this resolution from all Ontario municipalities.

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