

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 18, 2008

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS NEXT STEPS UPDATE

Recommendation

The City Manager and the Senior Manager of Strategic Planning in consultation with the Senior Management Team recommends:

1. That Attachment 1 – Vaughan Vision 2020 Public Meeting Feedback be received

Economic Impact

There is no budgetary impact.

Communications Plan

The Vaughan Vision 2020 Strategic Planning Public Forum was held October 27, 2008 at the Council Chambers. Information regarding the public meeting was posted on the City website as well as in local newspapers. As well a number of invitation letters and e-mails were sent to various stakeholders inviting them to the meeting. A copy of the presentation which was given at the meeting has been posted on the City's website.

Purpose

To review progress in achieving the objectives which were presented in the report "Strategic Planning Process Next Steps" which was tabled at the September 16, 2008 Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

Background - Analysis and Options

Public Engagement

At the October 2, 2007 Vaughan Vision 2020 Information Forum it was proposed that an annual public meeting would be held in order to report on the strategic successes and accomplishments and to obtain public feedback on the strategic plan. The October 27, 2008 meeting was held to fulfill these objectives.

The October 27th Vaughan Vision 2020 public meeting agenda included a presentation highlighting the Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic vision, goals and objectives. As well the strategic successes were presented and additional strategic initiatives the City will be implementing to the year 2020. This presentation has been posted to the City's website. Additionally, an opportunity was provided for the public to comment on the strategic plan as well as identify their priorities.

As can be seen in Attachment 1 the feedback gathered at the meeting focused on the need to continue the public meeting on an annual basis in order to ensure accountability and transparency in achieving the strategic goals and objectives as stated in the Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic plan. As well there was positive feedback concerning involving the public in the development of strategic documents. Further, feedback was provided stating a need to ensure that there is coordination in the implementation of strategic initiatives and mechanisms are in place to be able to measure the results. Additionally, there were a number of operational issues raised concerning recreational services, transportation and garbage pick up.

The City's successes report "Celebrating our Successes: Vaughan at Work" is currently being finalized and will be produced and distributed to all households by the end of November 2008.

This report highlights the strategic and operational successes for the years 2007/08 and provides an opportunity to communicate the City successes to the public.

Staff Engagement

In the report tabled at the September 16th Strategic Planning Committee meeting it was recommended that meetings would be held with all City departments to review the Vaughan Vision 2020 and obtain staff feedback identifying the successes and opportunities for improvement in implementing the strategic plan. To date a third of the City departments have had meetings with the remaining departments planned to be scheduled by the end of the year or by January'09.

Business Engagement

At the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on September 16th it was reported that meetings with the business community would be held in order to obtain their feedback on the implementation of the Vaughan Vision 2020. This process is ongoing and the next step is to schedule another meeting with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the best approach to reach other business stakeholders.

Measuring Strategic Successes

The Senior Management team (SMT) has scheduled several meetings to discuss the development of a strategic success indicator framework which will facilitate being able to measure success in achieving the strategic goals and objectives in the Vaughan Vision 2020. An initial meeting was held in September and additional meetings are schedule including one to involve directors in the development of the framework. The overall goal is to table the framework for discussion at the Council/SMT Strategic Planning Workshop in April 2009.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Obtaining public, staff and business stakeholder feedback on the Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic plan will facilitate ensuring that it remains a 'living' strategic plan.

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

This report updates the progress on gathering public, staff and business stakeholder feedback on the Vaughan Vision 2020. As well it provides an update on the development of a strategic success indicator framework.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 – Vaughan Vision 2020 Public Meeting Feedback

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Respectfully submitted,

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VAUGHAN VISION 2020 PUBLIC MEETING FEEDBACK OCTOBER 27, 2008

Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability

- Regarding the Environmental Master Plan ensure at a minimum the maintenance of current policy regarding woodlots and consider expanding the acquisition of woodlots
- The construction of buildings in the City should attain the silver Leeds standard and work towards the platinum standard
- Be more creative with storm water management ponds
- It was identified that the garbage collection contractors should be more customer service oriented
- More trees should be planted on the boulevards

Demonstrate Leadership & Promote Effective Governance

- Strategic initiatives success depends on the Region. Why does Vaughan have only have 3 Regional Councillors yet it pays 1/3 of its revenue to the Region? Need to have a fair share of councillors at the Region thus need at least 2 more councillors
- The regional councillor's vote at the Region should be worth 1.5 votes instead of one vote
- Community meetings with the councillor and their constituents should be held regularly
- Work with other levels of government and in particular neighbouring municipalities on intergovernmental relations

Ensure Financial Sustainability

- How is the city positioned to deal with the pending economic downturn?
What impact will it have on the operating and capital budget?

Plan and Manage Growth & Economic Vitality

- Once the Official Plan is approved the integrity of the plan and zoning guidelines should be held
- Are we making adjustments in the building code to deal with global warming?
- Regarding the Transportation Master Plan improve the road widening on Rutherford and Major Mackenzie and ensure the development of the Teston Road link
- Regarding the Official Plan ensure meeting places, squares and piazza's to ensure social integration and engagement

Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery

- Ensure some level of support to service clubs and emerging community groups
- Promote full accessibility for all City facilities
- A need was identified to have a priority system in place to handle calls from the public

Enhance Community Safety, Health & Wellness

- A question on what happened to the feedback that was provided at the Recreation and Culture Master Plan meetings in February 2008
- A question on whether the game of cricket is accommodated in the Recreation and Culture Master Plan
- A need to verify the registration numbers which were used for sports groups as part of the analysis for the Recreation and Culture Master Plan
- Does the Recreation and Culture Master Plan accommodate different sports other than hockey in the City's facilities?
- Is there an area that developers can designate to grow organic food?

General Comments

- Continue to report on successes in order to ensure accountability
- Invite the public and public groups to feedback meetings when working on strategic documents

- How does the average person get the most up to date information on strategies?
- Can all relevant reports such as committee reports be put in one central place on the website for the public to access?
- How is the City managing the volume of reports being produced?
- Is there an audit plan or an executive oversight to coordinate the implementation of overlaps in the strategic plan?
- Are there any measures in place to ensure results?
- Will Vaughan Vision 2020 change dramatically when there is a change in Council?
- Can you hold future councils responsible for VV2020?

York Region

- There are issues with the availability and frequency of weekend bus service
- A request to reinstate the Thornhill bus service which was recently stopped although the service has been provided in the past
- There is a need for improved transit service in the Dufferin & Clark area