



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
STRATEGIC HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SHHC - 1/2020

The Region of Peel Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee met on February 6, 2020 at 9:41 a.m., in the Regional Council Chambers, 5th Floor, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, ON.

Members Present: G.S. Dhillon; C. Fonseca; N. Iannicca; M. Medeiros*; P. Vicente

Members Absent: A. Groves, due to other municipal business; G. Carlson, due to other municipal business

Also Present: N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer; S. Baird, Commissioner of Digital and Information Services; L. Duarte, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services; N. Rajini, Acting Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer; P. O'Connor, Regional Solicitor; A. Smith, Acting Chief Planner and Director of Regional Planning and Growth Management; A. Farr, Acting Commissioner of Public Works; J. Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services; C. Granger, Acting Commissioner of Health Services; A. Baird, Director, Housing Services; A. Macintyre, Deputy Regional Clerk; S. Jurrius, Committee Clerk; A. Dhindsa, Legislative Assistant

Chaired by Councillor P. Vicente.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - Nil

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION SHHC-1-2020

That the agenda for the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting include a delegation by Stephen Webster, Citizen, regarding homelessness issues, to be dealt with under Delegations - Item 3.1;

And further, that the agenda for the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting include a delegation by Joshua Bénard, Vice President, Real Estate Development, Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area, regarding Item 4.3, to be dealt with under Delegations - Item 3.2;

* See text for arrivals

◆ See text for departures

And further, that the agenda for the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting include a delegation by Jackie Isada, Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations, Habitat for Humanity Halton Mississauga, regarding Item 4.3, to be dealt with under Delegations - Item 3.3;

And further, that the agenda for the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting include a communication from Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area, regarding Item 4.3, to be dealt with under Communications – Item 5.1;

And further, that the agenda for the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting be approved, as amended.

Related to 3.1 to 3.3 inclusive and 5.1

Councillor Medeiros arrived at 9:44 a.m.

3. DELEGATIONS

Additional Items – Items 3.1 to 3.3 inclusive:

3.1. Stephen Webster, Citizen Regarding Homelessness Issue

Received

Stephen Webster, Citizen, expressed concerns related to homeless shelters and the provincial health system when homeless patients are discharged from hospital. He suggested that the Region of Peel consider: requiring that Ontario Works clients complete a drug test prior to being issued a Presto Card; utilizing vacant apartment units to house homeless people; providing a facility for homeless patients who have been discharged from hospital; and, requesting reimbursement of costs from insurance companies whose clients become homeless as a result of being displaced from their home.

3.2. Joshua Bénard, Vice President, Real Estate Development, Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area, Regarding the Report titled “Housing and Homelessness Services – Aligning Resources to Address Urgent Needs”

Received

Related to 3.3, 4.3 and 5.1

Joshua Bénard, Vice President, Real Estate Development, Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area (GTA), stated that his organization was unaware of the Region of Peel staff recommendation to discontinue funding for Habitat for Humanity. He requested that the report of the Commissioner of Human Services listed as Item 4.3 on the February 6, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee agenda be deferred to allow for consultation and review of the implications of the report with Habitat for Humanity GTA and Region of Peel staff.

In response to questions from Councillor Medeiros, Joshua Bénard stated that Habitat for Humanity relies on the Region of Peel's grant to support its projects.

- 3.3. **Jackie Isada, Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations, Habitat for Humanity Halton Mississauga**, Regarding the Report of the Commissioner of Human Services titled "Housing and Homelessness Services – Aligning Resources to Address Urgent Needs"

Received

Related to 3.2, 4.3 and 5.1

Jackie Isada, Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations, Habitat for Humanity Halton Mississauga, provided an overview of Habitat for Humanity Halton Mississauga's partnership with the Region of Peel. She highlighted some of the organization's initiatives such as the Habitat Housing Hub; Tiny Homes; partnerships with First Nations' communities; and the shift to modular home-building through partnerships with professional home builders. Habitat for Humanity Halton Mississauga requests that its partnership with the Region of Peel continue to be a cornerstone in addressing the community's affordable housing needs.

Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services, stated that Regional Council approved the 10-year Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan to increase the supply of affordable housing in Peel, which includes a move away from home ownership to rental housing. As such, staff are reviewing those programs that no longer align with that direction. While acknowledging that Habitat for Humanity has had a strong partnership with the Region of Peel and achieved positive outcomes in the community, staff are making recommendations to use the funding to achieve greater impact for families and households.

Councillor Medeiros noted the significant work Habitat for Humanity has done for the community; however, the needs of the most vulnerable clients are growing.

Regional Chair Iannicca suggested that the report listed as Item 4.3 on the February 6, 2020 Committee agenda be referred to Regional Council for a more fulsome discussion with all members of Council.

Members of the Committee requested that Regional staff meet with staff from Habitat for Humanity to discuss the delegations' concerns prior to the February 13, 2020 Regional Council meeting.

4. REPORTS

Item 4.3 was dealt with.

- 4.3. **Housing and Homelessness Services – Aligning Resources to Address Urgent Needs**

RECOMMENDATION SHHC-2-2020

That the report of the Commissioner of Human Services titled "Housing and Homelessness Services – Aligning Resources to Address Urgent Needs" be referred to the February 13, 2020 Regional Council meeting.

Related to 3.2, 3.3, 4.4 to 4.6 inclusive and 5.1

- 4.1. **Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan - Overview and Priorities** (Oral)
Presentation by Aileen Baird, Director, Housing Services

Deferred to the April 2, 2020 Strategic Housing and Homeless Committee meeting

Item 4.4 was dealt with.

- 4.4. **Private Stock Strategy - My Home Second Unit Renovation Pilot Program**

RECOMMENDATION SHHC-3-2020

That the recommendation to revise and rename the existing Peel Renovates Second Units Renovation Assistance program, as set out in the report of the Commissioner of Human Services, titled "Private Stock Strategy – My Home Second Unit Renovation Pilot Program", be approved;

And further, that Regional staff be authorized to review, approve and distribute program funding up to \$30,000 per application;

And further, that the Region of Peel's duly authorized signing officers be authorized to execute funding agreements, together with such further ancillary documents necessary for the Program, on business terms satisfactory to the Commissioner of Human Services and on legal terms satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor.

Related to 4.3

Councillor Dhillon requested that Regional staff consult with local municipal staff when the revised program is launched to ensure information is communicated to all stakeholders.

- 4.2. **Private Stock Strategy - An Overview**

Received

- 4.3. **Housing and Homelessness Services – Aligning Resources to Address Urgent Needs**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

- 4.4. **Private Stock Strategy - My Home Second Unit Renovation Pilot Program**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

4.5. **New Shelter Beds for Single Women**

Presentation by Leslie Moreau, Manager, Housing Client Services, Region of Peel and Deborah Riddle, Executive Director, Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton

Received

RECOMMENDATION SHHC-4-2020

That the contract (Document 2020-060N) for shelter beds for single women be awarded to the Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton for the operation of eight emergency shelter beds for single women at a maximum annual operational cost of \$300,000 (excluding applicable taxes), in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that approval be granted to renew the contract for the operation of the shelter beds for four optional 12-month periods, subject to the satisfactory performance and approved budget, based upon the terms and conditions of the contract including price escalation, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended.

Related to 4.3

4.6. **Service Level Increases to the Region of Peel's Outreach Program**

RECOMMENDATION SHHC-5-2020

That the service level increases set out in the report of the Commissioner of Human Services, titled "Service Level Increases to the Region of Peel's Outreach Program", be approved.

Related to 4.3

5. **COMMUNICATIONS**

Additional Item – Item 5.1:

- 5.1 **Joshua Benard, Vice President, Real Estate Development, Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto Area**, Letter dated February 5, 2020, Regarding Habitat for Humanity Grant Agreement Program

Received

Related to 3.2, 3.3, and 4.3

6. **IN CAMERA MATTERS - Nil**

7. OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 9:30 a.m., Regional Administrative Headquarters, Council Chamber, 5th floor, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, ON.

Please forward regrets to Helena West, Committee Clerk, (905) 791-7800, extension 4697 or at Helena.west@peelregion.ca.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.