

Business Action Plan – What It Means for Business

On March 17, 2020, Vaughan City Council approved recommendations to support businesses, consumers, and citizens during the global Covid-19 pandemic.

The following recommendations were unanimously adopted by Council:

1. That section 11(1), and any other section of City of Vaughan Bylaw 062-2018 as determined by the Director and Chief Licensing Officer be temporarily suspended for 30 days following Council approval of this recommendation, thereby allowing the loading and unloading of commercial vehicles, transport trucks, and other vehicles on a 24-hour basis at places of business in Vaughan.
2. That sections 7 and 8, and any other section of City of Vaughan Bylaw 284-94 as determined by the Director and Chief Licensing Officer be temporarily suspended for 30-days following Council approval of this recommendation, thereby suspending the limit imposed on the weight and size of vehicles on certain roads allowing for efficient movement of supply and goods.
3. That relevant sections of City of Vaughan Bylaws 029-2019 and 183-2019 as determined by the Chief Financial Officer and City Treasurer be suspended until June 1, 2020, namely collection of the four per cent Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) by transient accommodation providers in Vaughan.
4. That the City of Vaughan maintain frontline Small Business and Entrepreneurship Services designed to support and assist local businesses, regardless of other City service closures as a response to the global Covid-19 pandemic.
5. That the temporary suspensions to City of Vaughan Bylaws outlined in Recommendations #1-#3 above be subject to extension, subject to Council approval.
6. That staff be authorized to commence planning of long-range economic and fiscal measures to support and promote recovery of the local economy and key sectors, subject to Council approval.
7. That staff be authorized to bring effect to the recommendations in this report, and related operational and administrative matters presented in this report.
8. That all necessary bylaws be enacted.

What this means for business:

- Item #1 and Item #2 from Above Plan: For 30 days starting from March 17, 2020, deliveries to stores in Vaughan shall be permitted on a 24-hour basis with no restrictions on road routes.
 - Note that this may cause noise and traffic disruption to residential neighbourhoods and other routes
 - Note that excessive travel by heavy trucks on certain routes may cause damage to roads and create other nuisances. **Please use discretion**
- Item #3 from Above Plan: From March 17 and until June 1, the collection and remittance of the Municipal Accommodation Tax by Hotels, Motels, and Short-Term Rental providers is suspended. Accommodation providers shall suspend collecting the MAT between March 17 to June 1, 2020. MAT collected by accommodation providers between their last remittance to the City and March 16, 2020 shall be remitted to the City as follows:
 - February 1-29, 2020 – currently being submitted, due date March 31, 2020
 - March 1-16, 2020 – to be submitted by April 30, 2020
 - 1st quarter 2020 (January 1-March 16) – to be submitted by April 30, 2020Effective June 1, the collection and remittance of the MAT shall resume in accordance with relevant sections of City of Vaughan Bylaws 029-2019 and 183-2019.
- Item #4 from the Above Plan: The City of Vaughan's Economic and Cultural Development Department will continue to provide its research and consulting services to local businesses. These will help to concierge businesspeople through the available resources and funds from banks, the federal government, and any other tools that exist. Visit www.vaughan.ca/business, email ecd@vaughan.ca, call 905-832-8526 with any business related question.
- Item #5 from the Above Plan: Council and staff will review the above deadlines for deferrals as they approach and extend if necessary.
- Item #6 from the Above Plan: Economic and Cultural Development is working with its partners across the region to identify the most pressing impacts of the global Covid-19 pandemic on business. Impact mitigation programs, policies, and marketing initiatives are underway and will become available as the situation progresses.
- Items #7 and #8 are procedural in nature.



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