

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**  
**REPORT NO. 2 OF THE**  
**PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE**

*For consideration by the Council  
of the City of Vaughan  
on March 24, 2015*

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The Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee met at 1:01 p.m., on March 10, 2015.

Present: Councillor Alan Shefman, Chair  
Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor  
Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase (1:12 p.m.)  
Regional Councillor Gino Rosati  
Regional Councillor Mario Ferri  
Councillor Tony Carella  
Councillor Rosanna DeFrancesca (1:24 p.m.)  
Councillor Marilyn Iafrate  
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco (1:12 p.m.)

The following items were dealt with:

**1                    GTA WEST CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION ROUTE PLANNING AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY, STAGE 2 PROGRESS UPDATE  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (ONTARIO)  
WARD 1**

**The Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee recommends:**

- 1)        That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Planning, Director of Development Engineering and Infrastructure Planning Services and Acting Director of Policy Planning, dated March 10, 2015, be approved;**
- 2)        That the following recommendations submitted by the Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association, be referred to staff for consideration and review, and a report be provided to the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 14, 2015:**
  - 1.        That Council send correspondence to MTO and the GTA West Project Team stating its preference for the most northerly route as the one having the least impact on the Kleinburg Community;**
  - 2.        That the full impact of a full interchange at Weston Road as an alternative to a Pine Valley Drive interchange be considered within the current EA;**
  - 3.        That the Greenbelt lands abutting the new route remain under the Greenbelt designation; and**

**REPORT NO. 2 OF THE PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE  
FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL, MARCH 24, 2015**

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4. That where appropriate, with public safety being paramount, that MTO and the GTA West Project Team look at ways and means of incorporating opportunities for pedestrian and cycling trails;
- 3) That the following deputations and Communications be received:
  1. Ms. Natalie Rouskov, Route Planning and Transit Initiatives, Ministry of Transportation, Wilson Avenue, Downsview, and Communication C2, presentation material titled “GTA West Transportation Corridor Planning and EA Study – Stage 2”, dated March 10, 2015;
  2. Mr. Neil Ahmed, MMM Group, North Sheridan Way, Mississauga; and
  3. Ms. Susan Walmer, Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, Bathurst Street, Newmarket, and Communication C3, presentation material titled “The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust”; and
- 4) That the following Communication be received:

**C4 Mr. Ken Schwenger, Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers’ Association, Kleinburg, dated March 2, 2015.**

**Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Planning, Director of Development Engineering and Infrastructure Planning Services and Acting Director of Policy Planning, recommend:

1. THAT the presentation from the Ministry of Transportation with respect to Stage 2 of the GTA West Corridor Transportation Route Planning and Environmental Assessment Study including the short list of route alternatives and potential interchanges for the section of the proposed GTA West Corridor within Vaughan be received;
2. That the Ministry of Transportation be requested to work with the City of Vaughan and the Region of York during Stage 2 of the GTA West Corridor Transportation Route Planning and Environmental Assessment Study process to expedite the determination of the routing for the GTA West Corridor such that those areas within the GTA West Route Planning Study Area which are not required for the new highway can be released for development in accordance with the City’s Official Plan as soon as possible;
3. That in the Ministry’s consideration of the selection of the preferred route and ultimate alignment, the following land use planning objectives be prioritized:
  - a) Avoiding wherever possible development areas within the existing Settlement Area, in particular the North Kleinburg-Nashville Secondary Plan Huntington Community;
  - b) Minimizing the effect of the fragmentation or landlocking of potentially developable areas caused by the route and/or the route’s interaction with existing infrastructure;
  - c) Minimizing the impacts on the Provincial Growth Plan’s “Whitebelt Area”, by locating the route such, that in the long-term, it will not create large areas of Whitebelt land, north of the route, that are not contiguous with the community to the south;
4. That the Ministry be requested to, in the selection of the preferred route, minimize the overall impacts on the environmentally sensitive areas within the study area, including the Greenbelt Plan Area, the Core Features of the Natural Heritage Network and the Headwater Drainage Area of the Humber River; and
5. That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Province, the Ministry of Transportation, the City of Brampton, Town of Caledon, Township of King, Region of Peel and Region of York.

**REPORT NO. 2 OF THE PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE  
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**2                      UPDATE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (EDS)**

**The Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee recommends:**

- 1)        That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Executive Director, Office of the City Manager, dated March 10, 2015, be approved; and**
- 2)        That Communication C1, presentation material titled “Economic Development Strategy, 2014 Progress Update”, be received.**

**Recommendation**

The Executive Director, Office of the City Manager in consultation with the Director of Economic Development recommends:

1.        THAT this report and presentation be received for information purposes only.

**3                      VAUGHAN METROPOLITAN CENTRE SUB-COMMITTEE**

**The Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following resolution submitted by Mayor Bevilacqua, dated March 10, 2015:**

**Member’s Resolution**

Submitted by Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C., Mayor

***Whereas***, The development of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) is one of the highest priorities for Council.

***Whereas***, The VMC will create a true downtown for Vaughan – an intense, dynamic community that will become the heart of the City – economically, culturally and physically – for all of the residents and historic communities that compose Vaughan today and the future generations of residents, employees and visitors. The VMC will be the human-scaled, urban, walkable, multi-modal, civic, cultural, institutional, educational, and entertainment hub of Vaughan;

***Whereas***, Major engineering, planning and policy efforts required to lay the foundation for development and provide a comprehensive framework for growth are in progress or have been completed;

***Whereas***, Through this first phase of work, the City has a greater understanding of the challenges that lie ahead in establishing the VMC as a successful, vibrant downtown;

***Whereas***, The 2014 – 2018 Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee were established by Council’s adoption of Item 10, Report No. 21, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 27, 2014;

***Whereas***, Recommendation 3 of Item 10, Report No. 21, of the Committee of the Whole identified That the membership for the VMC Sub-Committee continue to be Chaired by the Mayor and be composed of three (3) other members of Council as determined by Council at the beginning of the 2014-2018 term of Council;

***Whereas***, Only Council can initiate any amendment and/or expansion of the Terms of Reference.

**REPORT NO. 2 OF THE PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE  
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***It is therefore recommended:***

1. That Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase and Ward Councillors Sandra Yeung Racco and Rosanna DeFrancesca be appointed to the VMC Sub Committee.
2. That the following 2015 meeting dates be adopted; April 15, June 10, September 17, and November 18.
3. That as the consolidated project leadership for the implementation and facilitation of the VMC has been assigned to the Executive Director, Office of the City Manager, a revision to the Staff Resources Section within the Terms of Reference be made to reflect this operational change.

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The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Alan Shefman, Chair