

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2017**

Item 3, Report No. 4, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session), which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on January 24, 2017, as follows:

**By receiving Communication C4 from Mr. David Brand, KARA, dated January 17, 2017.**

### **3 VAUGHAN WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW TEAM FINAL REPORT – RECOMMENDED WARD ALIGNMENT**

**The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends:**

- 1) That the following report of the City Clerk, dated January 18, 2017, be received;**
- 2) That the presentation from Mr. Gary Davidson, The Davidson Group, Euphemia Street, Bayfield, Ms. Beate Bowron, Beate Bowron Etcetera, Manning Avenue, Toronto and Mr. Russell Mathew, Hemson Consulting Ltd., St. Patrick Street, Toronto, and Communication C5, presentation material entitled, *“Final Report Recommended Ward Alignment”*, dated January 18, 2017, be received;**
- 3) That the deputation of Mr. Kevin Hanit, Queensbridge Drive, Concord, be received; and**
- 4) That the following Communications be received:**
  - C1. Mr. Robert A. Kenedy, President, McKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, Giorgia Crescent, Maple, dated December 12, 2016; and**
  - C3. Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association, P.O. Box 202, Kleinburg, dated January 17, 2017.**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1. That Council give consideration to the recommended ward boundary alignment contained in the Final Report of the Ward Boundary Review as set out in Attachment 1; and**
- 2. That Council enact the necessary by-law to give effect to the recommended boundary alignment.**

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

Effective representation is a key component of a sustainable governance structure.

#### **Economic Impact**

If a new ward boundary alignment is approved, some additional costs will be incurred related to communicating the changes to the public and stakeholders and preparatory mapping and analysis for the 2018 municipal elections. If there is no increase to the size of Council there will be no impact on the Council Corporate budget.

#### **Communications Plan**

A public consultation process managed by the City's independent consultant is a key part of the Ward Boundary Review. The Ward Boundary Review communications strategy has involved newspaper publications, public meetings, a dedicated web page, social media and direct electronic communication, stakeholder meetings, website banners, digital signage, and printed posters displayed at City Community Centres and Vaughan Public Libraries facilities.

## CITY OF VAUGHAN

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2017**

Item 3, CW(WS) Report No. 4 – Page 2

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to present the recommended new ward alignment for the City of Vaughan for Council approval.

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

**In 2013 Council committed to conducting a comprehensive ward boundary review.**

At its meeting of April 23, 2013, Council, in adopting Item 2 of Report No. 17 of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) (entitled “Petition Re: Ward Boundaries”), directed:

*That Council commit to conducting a broad-based ward boundary review sufficiently in advance of the 2018 municipal election, to allow for broad public consultation, the collection of independent evidence on population growth, the development of a finite number of ward boundary proposals for consideration by the public, and ultimately a single proposed configuration that in itself will be the subject of public consultation and Council’s consideration;*

**The Canadian Urban Institute, together with Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group and Hemson Consulting were retained to conduct an independent third-party review.**

In April 2016, the City of Vaughan engaged an independent consultant team, the Vaughan Ward Boundary Review Team (Vaughan WBR Team) to carry out a comprehensive ward boundary review. The Vaughan WBR Team is a partnership among the Canadian Urban Institute, Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group and Hemson Consulting.

In keeping with Council’s recommendations, the Vaughan WBR Team was tasked with bringing forward a number of options for a re-aligned ward structure for Vaughan. To develop these options, the Vaughan WBR used population projections supplied by York Region, established a ‘target year of 2022’, aimed for a +/- 10% in voter parity and ensured that all options result in a ward structure that can last the City of Vaughan for the 2018, 2022 and 2026 municipal elections. Three options met the test of effective representation.

**The Ward Boundary options were the subject of public consultation and further refined to a “Preferred Option”.**

The three options developed by the Vaughan WBR Team were the subject of three community meetings, individual interviews with Members of Council, an online survey, and meetings with the York Region District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board. In addition, a questionnaire was used to seek participants’ preferences on the options, and to obtain suggestions for refinements.

Attachment 1, The Vaughan WBR Team’s “Report on Ward Alignment” contains greater detail on the consultation process and the recommended new ward alignment which can be implemented for the 2018 municipal elections. Attachment 2, the Appendices of the Report contains a map of the current wards, the results of the survey from Round 2.

**Following approval of a new ward boundary alignment and the associated by-law implementing the new alignment, there are several legislative requirements to be met.**

Within 15 days of a by-law being passed the City is required to give notice of the passing of the by-law to the public specifying the last date for filing a notice of appeal. Within 45 days after the by-law is passed the Minister, a member of the public or any agency may appeal the ward boundary by-law. The appeal must contain the reasons for the objection. Any notices of appeal must be forward to the Ontario Municipal Board (the Board) within 15 days of the last day for filing appeals.

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2017**

#### **Item 3, CW(WS) Report No. 4 – Page 3**

The Board will subsequently hear the appeal and may make an order affirming, amending or repealing the Vaughan ward boundary by-law.

The length of time an appeal to the Board will take is unpredictable however in order for the ward boundary changes to be implemented for the 2018 municipal elections the process would have to conclude before the deadline of December 31, 2017.

After the appeals have concluded, and the new alignment is in place, staff will undertake the following implementation activities:

1. Develop and implement a communications strategy to inform the public and stakeholders of the new ward boundaries;
2. Re-draw the City of Vaughan's ward maps as required;
3. Create a new geospatial representation of ward boundaries from the adopted municipal by-law and integrate it into the City's geospatial platform;
4. Review and re-draw all voting subdivisions based on new ward boundaries;
5. Notify the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and the school boards of the ward boundary changes; and
6. Provide final voting subdivisions to MPAC as required by the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* on or before March 31, 2018.

#### **Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)**

This report supports the goals established by Council in the Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map by facilitating the conduct of a ward boundary review, a specified priority of Council in the Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018).

#### **Regional Implications**

There are no regional implications directly associated with the adoption of this report; however it should be noted that the roles of *Local Councillors* and *Local and Regional Councillors* formed part of the discussions and context for the ward boundary review, and that a review of representation on Regional Council is currently being undertaken by the Region of York.

#### **Conclusion**

This report presents the results of an independent ward boundary review and recommends a new ward alignment for the City of Vaughan which can be implemented for the 2018 municipal elections and last the City until the 2022 and 2026 elections. Following Council approval of a recommended alignment and the associated implementing by-law, and upon the conclusion of any appeals process, staff will undertake to implement the new ward alignment in time for the 2018 municipal elections.

#### **Attachments**

- Attachment 1    Vaughan WBR Team "Final Report RECOMMENDED WARD ALIGNMENT"  
Attachment 2    Final Report Appendices

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

Todd Coles, Manager of Development Services and Secretary Treasurer to Committee of Adjustment, Ext. 8332

Donna Winborn, Election Coordinator, Ext. 8241

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)