

## CITY OF VAUGHAN

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2014**

Item 15, Report No. 10, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 18, 2014, as follows:

***By approving that Communication C1 from Anthony Francescucci and Sonia Meucci, Weston Downs Ratepayers' Association, Blackburn Boulevard, Vaughan, be received.***

#### **15            REGISTERED RATEPAYER/COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POLICY REVIEW**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That recommendations 1 and 2 contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated February 25, 2014, be approved;
- 2) That the request to schedule an evening Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting to consider the report be approved; and
- 3) That the following Communications be received:

**C15     Mr. Bernie Di Vona, dated February 24, 2014; and**

**C17     Mr. Nick Pinto, West Woodbridge Homeowners Association Inc., Mapes Avenue, Woodbridge, dated February 25, 2014.**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That the attached report 'Report to Council on the Outcome of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce' be received;
2. That the City Clerk and the Director of Recreation & Culture be requested to review the report and submit an analysis to a future meeting of Committee of the Whole (Working Session); and
3. That Council give direction respecting the request to schedule the meeting in the evening.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

An effective ratepayer association policy can support active civic engagement by recognizing the role played by ratepayer and community groups.

#### **Economic Impact**

The economic impact of the proposals set out in the report of the Ratepayer Policy Review Task Force will be addressed in a future report.

#### **Communications Plan**

Any revisions to the policy ultimately made will be communicated to staff and ratepayer and community associations. The revised policy will also be posted on the City's website.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2014**

Item 15, CW Report No. 10 – Page 2

**Background - Analysis and Options**

At its meeting of June 17, 2013, Committee of the Whole (Working Session) considered a report of the City Clerk (drafted in consultation with the Commissioner of Legal & Administrative Services/City Solicitor and the Director, Recreation & Culture) which recommended receipt of a staff report analyzing the registered ratepayer/community association policy, and recommending:

*“That the Ratepayer/Community Association Policy be revised to provide for:*

- a. a streamlined registration process;*
- b. removal of geographic exclusivity;*
- c. broadening of the definition of ratepayer/community association; and*
- d. a minimum membership of 10 households,”*

in accordance with Option 3 set out in the report.

Option 3 provided for a public register of ratepayer and community associations to be maintained and listed on the City's web site. The main features that distinguished Option 3 from the current policy are set out below:

- *Requirement for geographic exclusivity is eliminated;*
- *Associations may register to represent geographic areas (eg. Neighbourhood, ward, condominium association) or to represent an issue or issues which may not be geographically organized by neighbourhood or ward (eg. Green Initiatives);*
- *Minimum membership is defined by number of households (10) rather than by number of members (25 in urban area, 10 in rural area, under the current policy);*
- *Streamlined registration (no longer require constitution, AGM minutes);*
- *Annual registration filing is posted on-line for public transparency; and*
- *Mandatory e-mail contact for organization to be public posted online*

A more detailed description and analysis was set out in the City Clerk's report, as noted below.

<b><i>Option 3 – Public Register of Ratepayer and Community Associations Detailed Description and Analysis</i></b>	
<b><i>Threshold for Registration</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Completed registration form, including Executive contact members (minimum of one E-mail contact address to be posted publicly and used for all communications)</i></li><li>• <i>Minimum membership: 10 households (Member listing to be submitted)</i></li><li>• <i>Association may be geographically organized or organized to represent a specific issue or issues (as stated on registration form)</i></li><li>• <i>Include boundaries of geographic area (if applicable); and</i></li><li>• <i>Description of purpose of Association (to be posted publicly on City's web site)</i></li></ul>

## CITY OF VAUGHAN

### EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2014

Item 15, CW Report No. 10 – Page 3

<b>Geographic Exclusivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Overlapping geographic boundaries permitted</i></li></ul>
<b>Ongoing Registration Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Complete annual filing with updated Executive Officer contacts; and</i></li><li>• <i>Filing to be publicly posted</i></li></ul>
<b>Benefits of Registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>One free meeting space at City/Library facility per year for Annual General Meeting(AGM)</i></li><li>• <i>Consultation and Notice of Issues within boundaries represented by Ratepayer/Community Association; or on City wide issues, as applicable; and</i></li><li>• <i>Qualification under the City's Community Service Organization (CSO) policy for opportunities such as discounted room rental rates.</i></li></ul>

In lieu of the recommendations set out in the report, Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommended that consideration of the matter be deferred to a meeting of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) prior to the end of the year to allow for additional input from all interested parties; that meeting space be provided to the deputants, as needed, for a maximum of 6 occasions for the purpose of facilitating the discussions of interested parties; and that each Member of Council provide contact information to the City Clerk, by the week of July 2, 2013, respecting formerly functioning or currently non-registered community associations. Council at its meeting of June 25, 2013 adopted the Committee's recommendations without amendment [Item 3, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session)]

On January 26, 2014, a report titled 'Report to Council on the Outcome of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce' was transmitted to the City Clerk by Anthony Francescucci on behalf of the interested parties. Mr. Francescucci also requested that: "[g]iven that most taskforce members work during the day, the taskforce is recommending that this working session [to consider the report] take place during evening hours to provide every opportunity for all Associations to participate." A subsequent communication from Mr. Francescucci forwarded the information that while Appendix B of the report indicated that Franca Stirpe originally expressed an interest in wanting to participate, she discontinued her participation after the first meeting of the task force due to other personal commitments.

The report of the group is attached as Attachment 1. Staff have not yet had an opportunity to review the report in detail. As is the case with reports of ad hoc committees established under the City's procedural by-law, it is appropriate that staff provide its analysis through a more in-depth report, in this case to Committee of the Whole (Working Session). A request has been made on behalf of the group reviewing the policy that the meeting of Committee of the Whole (Working Session) to consider the report be scheduled in the evening. Accommodating the request would be without precedent, and so direction of Committee is required to vary the City's usual practice.

A black-lined version of the proposed policy is set out at pages 16 and 17 of the report set out in Attachment 1.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council as set out in Vaughan Vision 2020, particularly:

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2014**

Item 15, CW Report No. 10 – Page 4

MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE –  
Demonstrate Leadership and Promote Effective Governance

**Regional Implications**

Not applicable.

**Conclusion**

The recommendations of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce will be reviewed by staff and be made the subject of a report to a future meeting of Committee of the Whole (Working Session).

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Report to Council on the Outcome of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce

**Report prepared by:**

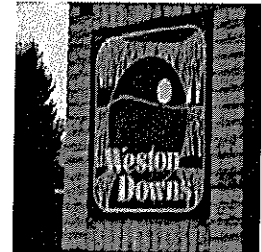
Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk Ext. 8281

(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.)

C	1
Item #	5 & 15
Report No.	10 (CW)
Council - March 18/14	

## Weston Down Ratepayers' Association

1 Blackburn Blvd.  
Vaughan, Ontario, L4L 7J2



Dear Members of Council & City Clerk,

Unfortunately, due to the fact that as a volunteer organization, most of our board and members have a full-time job, which requires them to work during the day, we are unable to attend an afternoon meeting in person to address our concerns. Therefore, on behalf of the Weston Downs Ratepayers' Association (WDRA), we are writing to you to address two issues on the agenda of the Committee of the Whole (February 25, 2014 at 1pm) meeting.

The first issue is regarding agenda item #5 – "VAUGHAN MILLS CENTRE SECONDARY PLAN (THE "VMCS PLAN") CITY OF VAUGHAN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC, GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY SUBMISSIONS FILE #: 26.1 WARD 3 & 4". We understand from reviewing the documentation provided on the City's website, that the road network on the west side of the Vaughan Mills Centre Secondary Plan will not have a direct (westbound) connection to Astona Blvd (which is within the Weston Downs Community) at Weston Rd. We would like to reiterate our **community's strong concerns against** having a direct connection and remind everyone of the motion passed by council last fall that recommended that the "originally proposed" connection with Astona Blvd be "eliminated" from the Vaughan Mills Centre Secondary Plan.

The second issue is regarding agenda item #15 – "REGISTERED RATEPAYERS / COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POLICY REVIEW". We understand that it is due process that staff be afforded the opportunity to review and report back on the recommendations provided by the taskforce. We wanted to indicate that the WDRA fully supports the recommendations of the Registered Ratepayer Policy Review taskforce and that we impress upon council to direct staff to report back as quickly as possible with a maximum timeframe of 45 days. Furthermore, given that the forthcoming recommendations impact the civic engagement of a number of volunteer organization whose members are mostly likely unavailable to attend a daytime meeting to provide their input on the recommendations, we would ask that Council direct staff to schedule this item during a special committee of the whole (working session) meeting that takes place in the evening hours (at or after 7pm).

Respectfully,

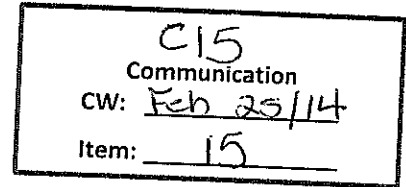
Anthony Francescucci  
President

Sonia Meucci  
Vice President

Weston Downs Ratepayers' Association  
[www.westondownsRA.com](http://www.westondownsRA.com)

**Subject:**

FW: status with task force report-tuesday



**From:** Bernie Di Vona [mailto:berniedivona@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2014 11:40 PM

**To:** Abrams, Jeffrey

**Cc:** 'Gila Martow'; 'Anthony Exec'; cteodoro@sympatico.ca; 'Frank Greco'; mimi.robertson@rogers.com; 'Robert Kenedy'; phyllis@chocolateconcepts.ca; shesda1interbiz2004@yahoo.ca; ellena@mantella.ca; 'The WWHA, Inc.'

**Subject:** RE: status with task force report-tuesday

Hi Jeffrey,

The members of the task force have been surveyed and consulted as we understand the ratepayer policy review report will be received on Feb 25th, and referred to staff for a future report. We understand this is a normal process when it comes to policy matters.

We respectfully request, the recommendation be amended to provide this matter return to a future evening meeting--at the earliest opportunity-- to allow open communication, consultation and discussion. This is a practice Council generally has accepted as witnessed by the fact Council now is considering for an upcoming evening meeting the secondary suites task force report.

Bernie DiVona, Co-Chair

P.S. Gila Martow has stepped down as co-chair as she has been elected to the office of MPP.



**THE WEST WOODBRIDGE  
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.**  
*"Informed citizens organized for constructive action!"*



c17
Communication
CW: Feb 25/14
Item: 15

February 25, 2014

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**TO: City of Vaughan**  
c/o Jeffrey Abrams, City Clerk  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

**AND:** Members of Council

**RE:** Committee of the Whole Report No. 10 - Item #15  
Registered Ratepayer/Community Association Policy Review

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Honourable Mayor and Members of Council,

When communities such as ours have been faced with the threat of incompatible redevelopment or with local but nevertheless important neighbourhood problems, the residents have frequently banded together to establish a ratepayer association. These organizations have provided an effective method of expressing community concerns.

Over the years Vaughan has been well served by its ratepayer organizations. But usually they are established because of a particular local issue. Once the issue disappears the association often disappears also.

The WWHHA was established approximately 40 years ago by residents of west Woodbridge to fight an asphalt plant. In the late 1980's we became incorporated as a non-profit organization.

The WWHHA, Inc. started off as a small association but over the years expanded and we are still going strong. We have expanded because we provide our members and residents an organized and effective method of expressing their concerns about many different neighbourhood problems.

We have been very active and in good standing both with the City of Vaughan and provincial legislation that governs non-profit organizations for many years, providing a vehicle for residents to express community concerns about many different neighbourhood problems.

The WWHHA disagrees with the report submitted by the Ratepayer Policy Review Group.

We feel that this group was set up under false pretenses, especially by calling themselves a "taskforce"; which they clearly were not! Council provided clear and concise instructions and calling the group a "taskforce" as per the City of Vaughan Procedural Orders was not one of them.

The processes used by the group were flawed from the beginning!

An important goal for the group directed by Council was to provide additional input from all interested parties. Even though some of the ratepayers associations expressed an interest to not participate in the scheduled meetings they should have been provided the opportunity to provide comments and/or suggestions on the final document prior to submission to the City Clerk. This would have provided a report that truly represented all registered and unregistered ratepayer associations across the City of Vaughan. It's the way to work collectively and productively. Having it on today's committee's agenda is not enough! Instead the meetings felt very much as an "us and them" approach. Us being the unregistered ratepayers association and them being the registered ratepayers associations. As a consequence there was zero consensus from all interested parties and many ceased to attend meetings.

The process did not allow representatives of ratepayers associations the ability to take the final recommendations to their board of executives for review and consensus.

As for the recommendation to have a minimum number of members within a planning block or within a pre-defined community of a ratepayers can only be seen as an undemocratic effort to restrict residents from belonging to a ratepayers association of their choice. Just like City of Vaughan Council - all ratepayer associations operate on democratic principles and processes and their boards are accountable to its members and residents. It is highly undemocratic to try to control a ratepayer's association's memberships in this manner.

Furthermore, we need to bear in mind privacy issues in regards to the disclosure of ratepayer's associations' members' information. Our experience with our members is that most prefer that we do not share their personal information with any third-party. We explain to our members that their membership status will be provided to the city for the sole purpose of maintaining our registration with the city and we give them the ability to opt-out of providing their information to the city. We are committed to protecting the privacy of our members, volunteers and other stakeholders and we recognize that maintaining this trust requires us to be transparent and accountable in maintaining the confidentiality of the personal information that our members choose to share with us. We value the trust of those we deal with and of the public.

In summary, Ratepayers associations provide a vehicle for residents to voice their concerns; as residents our collective funding contributes and supports the operation of the Corporation of the City of Vaughan. We as citizens are the shareholders of the corporation. All organizations require checks and balances in order to operate smoothly. One can't be effective without the other.

We strongly believe that we live in a fine city. The men and women of our ratepayer organizations who have maintained good standing with the city for the many years have helped to make it and keep it that way.

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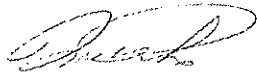


Also, we strongly believe that there is no justification for the city to revise their current registered ratepayer/community association policy. The current policy was established in 1986 with minor revisions throughout the years and it has served the city and ratepayer associations well. There is a saying "If it isn't broke, don't fix it"!

We respectfully reserve the right to provide further comments and recommendations in the future and/or at the future Committee of Whole (Working Session). We also agree with the group's request for Council to consider any future meetings to allow for further consultation and discussion to be held in the evening.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully yours,



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**Nick Pinto**

President

The West Woodbridge Homeowners Association Inc.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – FEBRUARY 25, 2014**

### **REGISTERED RATEPAYER/COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POLICY REVIEW**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That the attached report 'Report to Council on the Outcome of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce' be received;
2. That the City Clerk and the Director of Recreation & Culture be requested to review the report and submit an analysis to a future meeting of Committee of the Whole (Working Session); and
3. That Council give direction respecting the request to schedule the meeting in the evening.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

An effective ratepayer association policy can support active civic engagement by recognizing the role played by ratepayer and community groups.

#### **Economic Impact**

The economic impact of the proposals set out in the report of the Ratepayer Policy Review Task Force will be addressed in a future report.

#### **Communications Plan**

Any revisions to the policy ultimately made will be communicated to staff and ratepayer and community associations. The revised policy will also be posted on the City's website.

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

At its meeting of June 17, 2013, Committee of the Whole (Working Session) considered a report of the City Clerk (drafted in consultation with the Commissioner of Legal & Administrative Services/City Solicitor and the Director, Recreation & Culture) which recommended receipt of a staff report analyzing the registered ratepayer/community association policy, and recommending:

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A more detailed description and analysis was set out in the City Clerk's report, as noted below.

<b>Option 3 – Public Register of Ratepayer and Community Associations Detailed Description and Analysis</b>	
<b>Threshold for Registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed registration form, including Executive contact members (minimum of one E-mail contact address to be posted publicly and used for all communications)</li> <li>• Minimum membership: 10 households (Member listing to be submitted)</li> <li>• Association may be geographically organized or organized to represent a specific issue or issues (as stated on registration form)</li> <li>• Include boundaries of geographic area (if applicable); and</li> <li>• Description of purpose of Association (to be posted publicly on City's web site)</li> </ul>
<b>Geographic Exclusivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overlapping geographic boundaries permitted</li> </ul>
<b>Ongoing Registration Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete annual filing with updated Executive Officer contacts; and</li> <li>• Filing to be publicly posted</li> </ul>
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In lieu of the recommendations set out in the report, Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommended that consideration of the matter be deferred to a meeting of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) prior to the end of the year to allow for additional input from all interested parties; that meeting space be provided to the deputants, as needed, for a maximum of 6 occasions for the purpose of facilitating the discussions of interested parties; and that each Member of Council provide contact information to the City Clerk, by the week of July 2, 2013, respecting formerly functioning or currently non-registered community associations. Council at its meeting of June 25, 2013 adopted the Committee's recommendations without amendment [Item 3, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session)]

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This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council as set out in Vaughan Vision 2020, particularly:

MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE –  
Demonstrate Leadership and Promote Effective Governance

#### **Regional Implications**

Not applicable.

#### **Conclusion**

The recommendations of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce will be reviewed by staff and be made the subject of a report to a future meeting of Committee of the Whole (Working Session).

#### **Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Report to Council on the Outcome of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce

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

Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk Ext. 8281

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk

**REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE OUTCOME OF THE RATEPAYER POLICY REVIEW TASKFORCE**

## **Introduction**

This report outlines the recommendations of the Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce on changes to the current City of Vaughan Registered Ratepayer/Community Association (RRCA) policy. It was developed in consultation with the members of the taskforce.

## **Background**

In June 2013, City of Vaughan Council directed the registered and non-registered ratepayer and community associations in the City to develop a taskforce to consider and recommend changes to the current RRCA policy and present their recommendations to council for consideration. As part of that direction, Council asked the taskforce to develop their own terms of reference for the taskforce. Council also provided the use of City facilities for six meetings at no cost and support from the City Clerks office. In July 2013, Anthony Francescucci, as the President of the Weston Downs Ratepayers Association who requested such a taskforce be created, contacted the City Clerks office to obtain a list of associations registered under the current policy, as well as a list of non-registered associations who were seeking to have input on the taskforce. Based the list provided by the City, Mr. Francescucci contacted the individual associations, by email, soliciting their participation on the taskforce and their availability for meetings (see Appendix A for copies of the communications). Based on the responses from the ratepayer associations, it was decided that the six meetings would be held every second Thursday from September 12, 2013 through November 21, 2013. At the end of the sixth meeting, the taskforce determined it would need two additional meetings to complete its work. Council approved the request for two additional meetings. The Associations that expressed an interested in wanting to participate in the taskforce, and those which did not are listed in Appendix B.

## **Process**

The taskforce held it's first meeting on September 12, 2013. At this meeting, the members of the taskforce developed their terms of reference, which were agreed to by all the members present at the first meeting (see Appendix C for a list of those Associations present at the first meeting). After

developing the terms of reference (see Appendix D for a copy of the terms of reference), the taskforce began by discussing the issues with respect to the policy in general terms. The taskforce then determined it more prudent to focus the discussion on the actual language of the policy and to modify the existing policy language to address the outstanding concerns of the taskforce members. Then, based on draft policy language modifications, the taskforce proceeded to review, modify (where necessary) and approve the recommended changes to the original RRCA policy (see Appendix E for Revised RRCA policy language).

The taskforce intentionally did not consider nor include modifications to the RRCA policy to address the needs of those associations that were only issues-based and not geographically based. It was determined that given the complexity of issues for associations which register based on geography, and that it required significant work and effort on the part of the taskforce, there was not sufficient time to address the needs of issued based associations in the timeframe allowed. Furthermore, because of the lack of involvement of issues-based associations in this taskforce, it was determined that the City should consider a separate taskforce and policy to address the needs of issued-based associations.

## **Recommendations**

This section attempts to provide the supporting rationale to explain the changes that are recommend in the revised policy language in Appendix E.

### ***Section 1) b.***

The taskforce is recommending that rather than using members or households as an identifier for membership, it was more appropriate to use the term *addresses*. It was felt that in the spirit of civic engagement, that multiple members from the same address should be considered as one member for the purpose of counting minimum membership for registration purposes.

Furthermore, rather than have the RRCA policy dictate the types of memberships allowed in ratepayer associations, it is recommended that the constitutions of those associations seeking registration determine the types of members allowed in their association.

Furthermore, it is recommended that the minimum membership requirements should be based on the size of the geography represented. If a group is seeking a large geographic boundary, then their minimum membership requirements should be larger than smaller geographic boundaries. It is recommended that minimum membership be determined as 25 addresses per planning block or 33% of all addresses within a pre-defined community (whichever is less).

Finally, in this day and age of the Internet and with the risk of identity theft, it was determined that the requirement of a signature from a member address is onerous on the part of the association seeking membership. The taskforce also recognized the importance of the potential need to be able to authenticate the membership and therefore is recommending that in addition to collecting a name and address for the purpose of member registration, that the additional collection of one of the following be sufficient for the purpose of determining membership authenticity; a signature, a telephone number or an email address.

***Section 1) d.***

The insertion of the word geographic was intended to provide greater clarity

***Section 2) and 3)***

These sections were not altered.

***Section 4)***

The last phrase in this clause was removed to be consistent with the change in section 1) b. Since section 1) b. allows for property owners who own a property with an address within the geographic boundary which may not be his/her principal residence, the taskforce felt that this requirement is too restrictive in the policy and that the association constitution should determine the requirements for executive officers of their association.

***Section 5)***

This section was not altered.

***Section 6)***

The taskforce felt that this section was ambiguous. The taskforce determined that the association constitution should clearly outline the requirements for notification to its membership of a general meeting, and therefore are recommending that a requirement for registration under the RRCA policy include a notification requirement in the constitution of the association seeking registration. Furthermore, that same notification should also be provided to the City Clerk's office for public information.

### ***Section 7)***

The use of the word "annual" with general meeting was removed from this section.

In addition to use of City facilities at no cost for a general meeting once per year, the taskforce is recommending that registered association have the use of City facilities at no cost once per month, if required, for the sole purpose of conduct a board meeting (not for social gatherings). The taskforce believes that in the spirit of civic engagement, it is the City's responsibility to make it administratively and financially easy for the boards of registered association to meet on a regular basis to conduct their business collegially amongst the elected representatives. Without access to proper space, it makes it difficult for associations to seek input and discuss solutions or strategy to effect their desired change in a collegial manner. If the City is concerned with the potential lost revenue, it may wish to designate specific committee rooms at City Hall for this purpose (monthly board meetings).

### ***Section 8)***

One of the central issues that needed to be addressed with the current RRCA policy was the issue of City oversight of the policy and the compliance of ratepayer associations. The taskforce recognized the City concern that governance could be onerous and costly for the City, but also recognized that there was a need for some form of unbiased and regulated governance of the policy in order for it to be effective. In this matter, the taskforce is recommending that a self-governing body of registered ratepayer associations, called the Vaughan Ratepayer Review Board (RRB), be created to manage oversight and compliance with the revised RRCA policy. The RRB membership would consist of all those ratepayer associations registered under the revised RRCA policy. The RRB would develop recommendations for its terms of reference. It would also consider and make recommendations on issues that arise from the policy. These recommendations would be made directly to City Council for consideration and ratification. While the bulk of the work of governance would be carried out by the



RRB membership, the ultimate decision would still rest with Council. This would remove the burden of governance from the City Clerks office to the RRB.

### ***Section 9)***

The issue of geographic boundaries was one of the most vehemently discussed topics regarding the RRCA policy. Everyone who participated believes that geographic boundaries are a requirement in order to enable civic engagement. It was also determined that ratepayers who are not being adequately represented within associations with relatively large geographic boundaries (i.e., multiple planning block) should be afforded an opportunity to self-represent in smaller groups. Further to that, the taskforce also felt that there is a fine balance between allowing smaller groups to self-represent their geographic boundaries and to what degree boundaries should be maintained (i.e. minimum size). The taskforce does not intend that individual streets, or even partial streets, should be allowed to self-represent. This level of self-representation would disable, rather than enable civic engagement. Therefore, the taskforce felt that the smallest size of geographic boundary should be a “pre-defined” community. There are many pre-defined communities within the City of Vaughan, which are typically determined by subdivisions (e.g., Vellore woods, Vellore Village, etc.).

Should a smaller group (which meets the minimum size described above) want to self-represent their ratepayers within a geographic area that is already registered by another already registered association, the processes outlined in section 9) should be followed. The first step requires a negotiation between the existing registered ratepayer association and the association seeking self-representation. Should negotiations fail, then a special meeting of the members of both groups (existing and new) whom have addresses with the geographic boundary being sought shall be called by the RRB. The purpose of this special meeting will be to determine if the new group requesting to self-represent the smaller geographic boundary should be allowed to register. The question shall be worded in the positive (e.g., should the new group seeking self-representation of the smaller boundary be allowed to register and represent the boundary, and that the requested boundary be removed from any other already registered association?). Assuming a two-thirds majority support for the question, of the members present at the special meeting, then a recommendation for ratification by the RRB shall be made to City council for consideration, that the new association seeking self-representation shall be allowed to register and be recognized under the revised RRCA policy.

The taskforce believes that the process outlined in section 9) balances the needs of existing registered ratepayer associations with those of future ratepayer associations which may seek registration within boundaries that are already registered.

***Section 10)***

This section was deleted.

***Section 11)***

This section remains unchanged.

**BENEFIT SECTION**

***Section 1)***

The word “or adjacent to” where added to increase the types of notifications that are provided to registered ratepayer associations. It was determined that issues that affect a community are not always inside the geographic boundary of the community. Many times, issues can arise in areas adjacent to a geographic boundary that may be cause for concern for a registered association.

***Section 2) through 5)***

These sections remain unchanged

***Section 6)***

Given that many associations are foregoing the printed hard copy of the agendas and minutes from the local libraries for the option of viewing them online at the City website and that the posting of these items can occur at different times, the taskforce is recommending that the City provide electronic notification to the registered ratepayer associations when any new items are posted to the website.

***Section 7)***

The taskforce is recommending that the City allow registered ratepayer associations to enclose a bill insert (the creative and printing costs which are developed and paid for by the respective association requesting insertion) in either an interim or final tax bill for only those residents that reside within their

geographic boundaries. The purpose of this bill insert is to increase awareness and involvement (membership) in the respective ratepayer associations to help foster civic engagement.

### ***Section 8)***

The taskforce is recommending that the City of Vaughan provide a listing of registered ratepayer associations and their associated contact information (names, email address, websites) for the purpose of fostering civic engagement.

## **Conclusion**

The taskforce members have spent a total of 16 hours working through the recommended changes to the RRCA policy to attempt to address the needs of both currently registered and future ratepayer associations. The taskforce members believe that the City of Vaughan Council should adopt these recommendations in full.

## Appendix A – Email Requests for Participation

Figure 1 - First email to Ratepayer Associations Requesting Participation

Anthony Exec <anthonywdra@gmail.com> 29 July, 2013 4:13 PM  
To: gila@beverleyglenra.com, mario@RaccoLegalServices.com,  
TAAIati@rogers.com, concord.west.raa@gmail.com, aldo.lippa@rogers.com,  
eastwoodbridgecommunityassociation@hotmail.com, Pauline.Durzo@hydroone.com,  
Ken.Schwenger@sympatico.ca, jebidia@sympatico.ca, rkenedy@orku.ca,  
alroyvaz@rogers.com, angelodin@hotmail.com, TIM.SOROCHINSKY@URS.COM,  
pfam@rogers.com, frank@alaimoarchitecture.com, aaptek@hotmai.com,  
castolfo@icsavings.ca, elviracaria@aol.com, "wwha@wwha.ca" <wwha@wwha.ca>,  
joannemauti@rogers.com, fstirpe@rogers.com, cporretta@sympatico.ca,  
phyliss.barbieri@hotmail.com, marilerich@yahoo.com, mimi.robertson@rogers.com,  
antony.niro@gmail.com, ellena@mantella.ca  
Cc: Jeffrey Abrams <Jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca>, Barbara McEwan  
<Barbara.McEwan@vaughan.ca>, Maurizio Bevilacqua <maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>,  
Sonia Meucci <smeucci@rogers.com>, NADIA MAGARELLI <magarelli16@hotmail.com>  
Action Required by August 15: Request to participate in Ratepayer Association Taskforce to  
Review City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy

---

Dear City of Vaughan Ratepayer Group Executive Member,

As you may be aware, the City of Vaughan went through a review process to consider revisions to their Ratepayer Policy this past April. The recommendations that came forward at the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 17th, 2013 were unsatisfactory to many ratepayer groups. At that meeting, Committee members decided to create a taskforce made up of current and past ratepayer associations whose mandate is to provide recommendations to Council on Ratepayer Policy changes by December 2013. This taskforce is charged with developing their own terms of reference.

As the President of the Ratepayer Association that requested the taskforce, I am reaching out to all currently and previously registered Associations (based on information provided by the City Clerks office) to solicit participation in this taskforce.

In the interest of ensuring participation from as many Associations as possible, I am asking each interested association to indicate their availability for possible meetings in the fall, by clicking on the link below and completing the appropriate information by August 15, 2013.

I expect that we will probably need to meet at least twice a month in order to provide recommendations to Council by the December 2013 deadline. To ensure the greatest flexibility, when indicating your Association's availability for the suggested meeting dates, please indicate whether you or someone else from your Association will be available to attend the meeting date and times listed in the link. The dates with the greatest number of people available will become the preferred meeting times.

<http://www.doodle.com/vx37442uakevrpr5>

I look forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Francescucci  
Acting President  
Weston Downs Ratepayer Association  
[anthonywdra@gmail.com](mailto:anthonywdra@gmail.com)

Figure 2 - Second Email to Ratepayer Associations Requesting Participation

Anthony Exec <anthonywdra@gmail.com>

29 July, 2013 8:13 PM

To: anthonywdra@gmail.com

Action Required by August 15: Request to participate in Ratepayer Association Taskforce to Review City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy

---

Everyone,

Please do not email everyone on this distribution list. I had debated internally whether to include everyone's name in the To: field vs. the Bcc: field so that people could not use this as a distribution list. I chose to include everyone in the To: field in the interest of transparency, so that everyone could see who was invited to engage in this taskforce. **Please do not email everyone.**

Council has asked for recommendations for Ratepayer Policy changes. It has been almost 10 years since the last policy update and there are many reasons why a policy review is necessary and many interested parties who think the policy needs to be updated. They have asked the ratepayer groups to get together (via a taskforce) and try to develop recommendations for changes to the policy. If you'd like your feedback to be heard, it is your right to engage in this taskforce process. If you choose not to participate, that is also your right. The taskforce will meet face-to-face to discuss the issues and try to agree on recommendations. If you choose to participate in this review process, you or someone from your Association must attend the taskforce meetings. The recommendations of this taskforce will go to Council in December for consideration.

To facilitate the greatest number of people participating in this process, I've ask for each Association, who wants to participate in this process to indicate your availability for meeting times in the fall.

Here is the link once again so you can provide your availability:

<http://www.doodle.com/yx37442uakevcpr5>

Thanks,

Anthony  
Weston Downs Ratepayers Association  
[anthonywdra@gmail.com](mailto:anthonywdra@gmail.com)

On 2013-07-29, at 7:03 PM, Racco Legal Services <[Mario@raccollegalservices.com](mailto:Mario@raccollegalservices.com)> wrote:

Figure 3 - Third Email to Ratepayer Associations Requesting Participation

Anthony Exec <anthonywdra@gmail.com> 13 August, 2013 2:01 PM  
To: "anthonywdra@gmail.com" <anthonywdra@gmail.com>  
Cc: Jeffrey Abrams <Jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca>, Barbara McEwan  
<Barbara.McEwan@vaughan.ca>, Maurizio Bevilacqua <maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>  
Final Reminder: Action Required by August 15: Request to participate in Ratepayer  
Association Taskforce to Review City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy

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Dear Ratepayer Group Executive Member;

Thank you to the eight ratepayer associations who have already indicated their interest in participating in the Taskforce review by responding with their availability. No further action is required at this time if you have already provided your availability for meetings in the fall.

I wanted to offer a final reminder, to the other ratepayer groups, that the deadline to indicate your availability to participate in the Ratepayer Association Taskforce to review the City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy to provide recommendations to council is **Thursday August 15, 2013**.

You are not required to participate, however, should you choose, could you kindly click on the link below and indicate your Associations availability for the meeting dates identified in the link. For each date, indicate yes, no or maybe if someone from your association can attend. Once everyone has provided their input, I will announce the preferred dates to everyone.

Here's the link again: <http://www.doodle.com/vx37442uakevcpr5>

Regards,

Anthony Francescucci  
Weston Downs Ratepayers Association  
[anthonywdra@gmail.com](mailto:anthonywdra@gmail.com)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Anthony Exec <anthonywdra@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Action Required by August 15: Request to participate in Ratepayer  
Association Taskforce to Review City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy  
**Date:** 29 July, 2013 8:11:25 PM EDT  
**To:** "anthonywdra@gmail.com" <anthonywdra@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Jeffrey Abrams <Jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca>, Barbara McEwan  
<Barbara.McEwan@vaughan.ca>, Maurizio Bevilacqua  
<maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>

Figure 4 - Fourth Email to Ratepayer Associations Requesting Participation

Anthony Exec <anthonywdra@gmail.com> 5 September, 2013 1:44 PM  
To: "mario@RaccoLegalServices.com Services"  
<mario@RaccoLegalServices.com>, "TAAlati@rogers.com" <TAAlati@rogers.com>,  
"aldo.lippa@rogers.com" <aldo.lippa@rogers.com>,  
"eastwoodbridgecommunityassociation@hotmail.com"  
<eastwoodbridgecommunityassociation@hotmail.com>, "Ken.Schwenger@sympatico.ca"  
<Ken.Schwenger@sympatico.ca>, "jebidia@sympatico.ca" <jebidia@sympatico.ca>,  
"alroyvaz@rogers.com" <alroyvaz@rogers.com>, "TIM.SOROCHINSKY@URS.COM"  
<TIM.SOROCHINSKY@URS.COM>, "frank@alaimoarchitecture.com"  
<frank@alaimoarchitecture.com>, "castolfo@icsavings.ca" <castolfo@icsavings.ca>,  
"joannemauti@rogers.com" <joannemauti@rogers.com>, "phylissbarbieri@hotmail.com"  
<phylissbarbieri@hotmail.com>  
Cc: Jeffrey Abrams <Jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca>, Barbara McEwan  
<Barbara.McEwan@vaughan.ca>, Maurizio Bevilacqua <maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>  
Bcc: NADIA MAGARELLI <magarelli16@hotmail.com>, Sonia Meucci  
<smeucci@rogers.com>  
Fwd: Ratepayer Policy Review Task Force Agenda & Draft Terms of Reference

3 Attachments, 2.6 MB

Dear City of Vaughan Ratepayer Executive Member,

To date, you have NOT expressed an interest in wanting to participate in the City of Vaughan Task Force which is charged with making recommendations for changes to the City of Vaughan Ratepayer Policy to City Council for consideration.

This email is being sent to you as a final courtesy to let you know that the first meeting of the Task Force will take place next week. Below is the communications that went out to the interested parties who have expressed an interest to participate.

Moving forward, myself and/or the new chair of the task force will discontinue including you in the task force's communication as you have chosen not to participate.

Should you wish to participate, please contact me by email prior to September 12, 2013.

Regards,

Anthony Francescucci  
Acting President  
Weston Downs Ratepayers Association  
[anthonywdra@gmail.com](mailto:anthonywdra@gmail.com)

## Appendix B – Ratepayer Associations – Participating and Non-participating

### Associations which expressed interest in participating

	NAME OF ASSOCIATIONS	Status	CONTACT PERSON	Position
1	Beverley Glen Ratepayers' Association	R	Gila Martow	President
2	Concord West Ratepayers' Association	R	Silvana Cavaliere-Galloro	Secretary
3	Crestwood Springfarm Yorkhill		Marilyn Richmond	President
4	Glen Shields Ratepayers' Association	R	Pauline Durso	President
5	Islington/Willis area		Franca Porretta	Former President
6	Kleinburg Village Core Ratepayers		Frank Greco	
7	Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association	R	Ken Schwenger / Claudio	President
8	MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers' Association	R	Robert A. Kenedy	President
9	Maple-Sherwood Ratepayers' Association	R	Angelo DiNardo	President
10	Maplewood Ravines, Ambassador Hills, Northdale		Antony Niro	President
11	Nashville Area Ratepayers Association (NARA)		Paul Mantella	President
12	Pine Valley Village		Bernie DiVona / Cesare Teodoro	
13	Pinewood Estates Ratepayers' Association	R	Pia Famiglietti	Secretary
14	The Valleys of Thornhill Ratepayers Association	R	Dr. Allen Aptekar	President
15	Vellore Village Residents		Mimi Badali-Robertson	President
16	Vellore Woods Ratepayers' Association	R	Elvira Caria	Chair
17	West Woodbridge Homeowner's Association	R	Nick Pinto / Josie F	President
18	Weston Downs Ratepayers Association		Anthony Francescucci / Nadia Magarelli	President
19	Woodbridge Core Ratepayers' Association	R	Joanne Mauti	President
20	Wycliffe Ratepayers Association		Franca Stirpe	Former Director

### Associations which did NOT express interest in participating


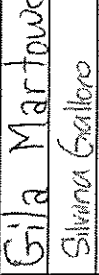
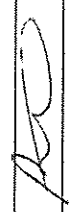



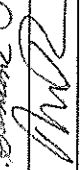
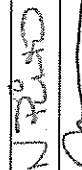






	NAME OF ASSOCIATIONS	Status	CONTACT PERSON	Position
1	Brownridge Ratepayers' Association *	R	Mario G. Racco	President
2	Carrying Place Ratepayers' Association	R	Tony Alati	President
3	Confederation Parkway Ratepayers Association	R	Aldo Lippa	President
4	East Woodbridge Community Association	R	Carlo DeFrancesca	President
5	Lakeview Estates Ratepayers' Association	R	James Ebidia	President
6	Maison Parc Ratepayers' Association	R	Alroy Vaz	President
7	Millwood-Woodend Ratepayers' Association	R	Tim Sorochinsky	President
8	Rimwood Estates Homeowner's Association	R	Frank Alaimo	President
9	Vaughanwood Ratepayers' Association	R	Clara Astolfo	President
10	Campania, Sicilia area		Phyllis Barbieri	Former President

\* Provided an email response with the feedback of his association, prior to the start of taskforce deliberations



# Appendix C – Associations in attendance at first meeting

City of Vaughan Task Force - Ratepayer Policy Review Meeting Attendance Date: SEPT 12, 2013

NAME OF ASSOCIATIONS		STATUS		CONTACT PERSON		POSITION		Print name	Signature
1	Beverley Glen Ratepayers' Association	R		Gila Martow		✓	President	Gila Martow	
2	Concord West Ratepayers' Association	R		Silvana Cavaliere-Galloro		✓	Secretary	Silvana Galloro	
3	Crestwood Springfarm Yorkhill			Marilyn Richmond			President		
4	Glen Shields Ratepayers' Association	R		Pauline Durso			President		
5	Islington/Willis area			Franca Porretta		X	Former President		
6	Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers' Association	R		Robert A. Kenedy		✓	President	Rob Kenedy	
7	Maple-Sherwood Ratepayers' Association	R		Angelo DiNardo			President		
8	Maplewood Ravines, Ambassador Hills, Northdale			Antony Niro		X	President		
9	Nashville Area Ratepayers Association (NARA)			Paul Mantella		✓	President		
10	Pine Valley Village			Cesare Teodoro			President	Cesare Teodoro	
11	Pinewood Estates Ratepayers' Association	R		Pia Famiglietti			Secretary	PA Famiglietti	
12	The Valleys of Thornhill Ratepayers Association	R		Dr. Allen Aptekar			President	PHYLLIS APTOKAR	
13	Vellore Village Residents			Mimi Badali-Robertson		✓	President	Mimi Robertson	
14	Vellore Woods Ratepayers' Association	R		Elvira Caria		X	Chair		
15	West Woodbridge Homeowner's Association	R		Nick Pinto		✓	President	NICK PINTO	
16	Weston Downs Ratepayers Association			Anthony Francescucci		✓	Acting President	ANTHONY F	
17	Wycliffe Ratepayers Association			Franca Stirpe		✓	Former Director	FRANCA STIRPE	
	Woodbridge Core -			Joanne Maun			President	JOANNE MAULTI	
	West Woodbridge Homeowners Assoc			Joie Fedele			1st V.P.	Joie Fedele	
	Kleinburg Area Ratepayers	R		Claudio Travieso				Claudio Travieso	
	NASHVILLE AREA RATEPAYERS			PAUL MANTELLA			PRES	PAUL MANTELLA	

## Appendix D – Ratepayer Policy Review Taskforce – Terms of Reference

### CITY OF VAUGHAN – RATEPAYER POLICY REVIEW TASKFORCE

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The outcome of this taskforce shall be to provide recommendations on revisions to the current Registered Ratepayer Policy to the City of Vaughan Council for consideration by December 2013.
2. All currently registered, previously registered, and currently unregistered ratepayer and or community associations (hereinafter “invited parties”) will be invited to participate in this taskforce based on feedback from all Councillors provided to the City Clerks Office by July 2, 2013.
3. Any invited parties must declare in writing their interest to participate in this taskforce (hereinafter “participating parties”).
4. All participating parties will be allowed to have up to two representatives from their organization participate at the table during taskforce meetings. Each participating party will be allowed one vote on any matters decided at taskforce meetings.
5. The final recommendation of this taskforce to City Council shall include, but not be limited to, comments related to the following ratepayer policy issues;
  - a. Geographic boundaries for associations
    - i. Self-representation on new groups within existing boundaries
  - b. Minimum membership thresholds
  - c. City oversight of associations
  - d. Benefits afforded to registered associations
  - e. Registration Process
  - f. Definition of Ratepayer vs. Community Association.
  - g. Communication Protocol with the City

h. Other

6. At any meeting of the taskforce, a majority plus one of all participating parties shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the taskforce.
7. Decisions or motions on any recommendations shall be decided on by a two-thirds majority of participating parties present at any meetings of the taskforce where quorum is established.
8. All participating parties at the first meeting of this taskforce, where quorum is established shall elect the Co-Chair of this taskforce.
9. The Co-Chairs of this taskforce will be charged with drafting an agenda for each taskforce meeting and distributing it at least seven calendar days prior to any scheduled meeting of this taskforce.
10. The Co-Secretaries of this taskforce will be charged with recording minutes of each meeting of this taskforce.

## Appendix E – Recommended changes to the City of Vaughan current RRCA policy

*Language in red indicates new language to be added to the current policy. Language that is struck out (eg. ~~word~~) indicates language to be removed from the policy.*

### Registered Ratepayer/Community Association Policy

Every member of the public has the right to address Council on his/her own behalf (or in the case of an agent, on behalf of his/her principal) at Committee of the Whole meetings and with unanimous consent at Council meetings, however duly elected representatives of groups of citizens registered with the City of Vaughan as Ratepayer or Community Associations may address Council as spokespersons on behalf of such associations.

- 1) As a requirement to having a new Ratepayer/Community Association registered with the City ~~That upon initial formation of the Association,~~ the following shall be submitted to the City Clerk:
  - a. A completed Ratepayer/Community Associations Registration Form;
  - b. A list of the Association's membership showing a minimum of 25 addresses per planning block or 33% of all addresses within a pre-defined community (whichever is less) ~~members in an urban area and 10 in a rural area~~ and that the list include names, addresses and one of the following; signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses. An address can include residents, businesses and property owners as determined by the constitution of the Association requesting registration. For purposes of calculating addresses, any residents, businesses or property owners with the same address are considered one address for purpose of determining minimum membership;
  - c. A statement of purpose and a copy of the Association's Constitution and/or By-laws; and
  - d. The boundaries of the geographic area that the Association represents;
- 2) That all Ratepayer/Community Associations register on an annual basis and at that time any changes in Executive Officers be provided;
- 3) That the City Clerk be notified within 30 calendar days of any changes to the contact information provided on the Registration Form (name of contact person/address/phone numbers);
- 4) That the Association's Executive Officers be duly elected at a General Meeting in accordance with the respective Association's Constitution, but no less than once every three (3) years, ~~and that all executive officers reside within their Association's boundaries;~~
- 5) That minutes of the General Meeting at which the Executive Officers have been elected be filed with the City Clerk;

- 6) That the Associations constitution includes a notification requirement, to their membership, of the General Meeting to elect Executive Officers. That notification of the General Meeting to elect Executive Officers be provided, to the City Clerks office in accordance with the Association's respective notification period as defined in their Constitution;
- 7) That once a year, if required, at the discretion of the Ratepayers' Association, and for the purpose of holding an ~~annual~~ General Meeting, that they be permitted to use a City/Library facility at no cost to the Association and that once per month, if required, at the discretion of the Ratepayer Association, and for the purpose of holding a monthly Board meeting, that they be permitted to use a City/Library facility at no cost to the Association;
- 8) That a Citywide Ratepayer Review Board (RRB) be established, consisting of one representative from each registered Ratepayer Association, to deal with issues of compliance with this policy and issues of conflict resolution within and between Ratepayer Associations under this policy. The RRB will meet once per quarter, as necessary, to address any issues that may arise. All recommendations of the RRB shall be final and recommended to City Council for ratification. The first order of business for the RRB shall be to develop a terms of reference for consideration and approval by City Council ~~That the City Clerk shall be authorized to delete from the City of Vaughan's Official Registry of Ratepayer/Community Associations those Associations that do not comply with the Policy outlined in this report; and~~
- 9) While geographic boundaries of a Registered Association are not allowed to overlap, should a new group, which meets the requirements in section 1 above, wish to register a new Association with geographic boundaries that fall within the geographic boundaries of another already Registered Association, the following process shall apply:
  - a. The new Association must contact the existing Registered Ratepayer Association to negotiate the release of the geographic boundary being requested by the new Association wishing to self-represent the requested area. Should the negotiation fail, the new Association would proceed to the next step as outlined in 9b.
  - b. The Ratepayer Review Board (RRB) shall call a special meeting of the members of both Associations (existing & new), whom have addresses within the geographic boundary being requested by the new Association, for the sole purpose of holding a vote, on whether the new Association shall be allowed to register and take over the geographic boundary being requested. The question will be decided by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present. Proxy votes shall not be allowed.
  - c. The RRB shall recommend the outcome of the decision to City Council for ratification. ~~That the City will not recognize groups wishing to form a new Registered Association within the boundaries of an existing Association that is in good standing;~~
- ~~10) That Association's who have requested the Agenda/Minute delivery service and do not pick up the documents for three (3) consecutive weeks will have this service suspended without further notice and the service will only be resumed upon written request to the City Clerk;~~
- 11) That this Policy replace the current policy effective immediately. The City of Vaughan recognizes and supports Registered Ratepayer / Community Associations by the provision of various services.

The City of Vaughan recognizes and supports Registered Ratepayer / Community Associations by the provision of various services.

The benefits of being recognized as a Registered Ratepayer / Community Association in the City of Vaughan, are as follows:

- 1) Consultation and Notice of various issues within or adjacent to the boundaries being represented by the Ratepayer / Community Association (e.g. land use, traffic, parks, planning, etc.)
- 2) Qualification as a Community Service Organization (C.S.O.) under the category “Ratepayers Association” with resulting services-in-kind opportunities.
- 3) Ability to use City and Library public meeting rooms at the C.S.O. preferred rate.
- 4) Deputation status before Council as an Association rather than an individual or group of individuals.
- 5) Hard copies of Agendas / Minutes free of charge for pick-up at a Library or Community Centre if a written request is received by the City Clerk
- 6) Notification of electronic posting of Agendas / Minutes to the City of Vaughan website.
- 7) Ability for Ratepayer Associations to include an insert, once per year, in either the City of Vaughan Interim or Final Tax Bill sent to residents within their geographic boundaries.
- 8) A listing of registered Ratepayer / Community Associations posted on the City of Vaughan website.