



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 5, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Transportation Task Force Update (CM20002) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Janette Smith (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5420
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Janette Smith City Manager

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Not applicable.

INFORMATION

The purpose of this Information Report is to provide Council with updates on the Hamilton Transportation Task Force that have occurred since Council received the Memorandum from the City Manager at its meeting on January 22, 2020. Since that time, the Hamilton Transportation Task Force has convened twice.

1. Items Related to the City Manager Appointment to the Task Force

Conflict of Interest statement

The Ministry of Transportation has confirmed in a letter to the City Manager that the Conflict of Interest statement outlined in the Minister's appointment letter "*you cannot promote solutions or strategies that would directly or indirectly benefit your employer and/or business interests*" is not applicable in her capacity as City Manager since she represents the interests of Hamilton City Council and the residents of Hamilton.

Confidentiality Agreement

The Ministry of Transportation requires that as a member of the Hamilton Transportation Task Force, the City Manager enter into a Confidentiality Agreement. The Confidentiality Agreement identifies that the information being provided by the Province to the Task Force is being provided in confidence. Should Council request updates on the Task Force those discussions can be held in-camera pursuant to section 239(2)(h) of the *Municipal Act* and would not be disclosed under section 9(1)(b) of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Each Task Force member received the final version of the Confidentiality Agreement at the second meeting on January 30, 2020, and it was signed by the City Manager once it was confirmed that Council could be updated in-camera.

The Ministry of Transportation has indicated that the following information is not confidential, and will be publicly released:

- Terms of Reference when finalized
- Meeting agendas (following meeting adjournment)
- Frequency and duration of meetings
- Type and number of projects under discussion

All media releases, statements and communications by the Task Force are to be made through the Ministry of Transportation as per the Communications Protocol outlined in the Terms of Reference.

As outlined in an Information Update to Council on January 30, 2020, City staff provided the Task Force Secretariat with a list of previously Council-approved reports, plans and studies, as requested. Any additional information requests from the Task Force will be shared with Council and made publicly available in the same way.

2. Clarity About the \$1B Funding Commitment

The City has received confirmation in writing from Ministry of Transportation officials that:

- Ontario's \$1B capital funding commitment is separate from any dollars allocated under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) – Public Transit Stream Grant Program. The Province remains open to discussions with the City regarding the projects that have been submitted through the ICIP application process, as reported to General Issues Committee on October 2, 2019 through Report PW19083/FSC18048(a)).
- Metrolinx expenditures to date on the cancelled LRT project (approximately \$186M) are not included in the \$1B funding commitment.

As of the end of November 2019, Metrolinx has spent \$165 M and committed another \$21 M towards the project (total spent + committed = \$186M). This includes expenditures on the project dating back to 2007, including costs to complete the original environmental assessment in 2011, the environmental assessment update in 2017, preliminary and ongoing engineering design work, tender preparation, staff time and property acquisition. To date, Metrolinx has spent approximately \$80M on 60 property acquisitions.

Six additional Task Force meetings have been booked until the end of February. Staff are working out a schedule to be able to provide regular updates to Council.