COUNCIL DIRECTION

Past communication to the General Issues Committee regarding hosting of the Commonwealth Games in 2030 includes Reports PED19108(a), PED19108(b), PED19108(c) and PED19108(d). Council has provided staff with incremental direction to proceed in reviewing the 2030 Hosting Proposals and providing support to the community group Hamilton100 (now Hamilton2026 Games Bid Corporation (Hamilton2026)).

On February 26, 2020, Council approved the following:

Commonwealth Games 2030 (PED19108(d)) (City Wide) (Item 9.2)

(a) That the Hosting Proposal Part 2, developed by Hamilton100 to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Hamilton for submission to Commonwealth Games Canada by March 9, 2020, be endorsed;

(b) That the Mayor be authorized and directed to sign a letter of endorsement to host the Commonwealth Games that expresses awareness that the City of Hamilton will be required to make a financial investment in the planning, delivery and legacies of a Commonwealth Games, with the signed letter is to be added to Hamilton100’s Hosting Proposal Part 2 submission; and,
(c) That, if the Hosting Proposal Part 2 is submitted to Commonwealth Games Canada, staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee on the outcome of the domestic bidding process for direction.

(d) That the Mayor request a letter of endorsement from the Province of Ontario in support of the Hamilton100 Commonwealth Games bid for 2030.

INFORMATION

Staff have worked with the Hamilton100 Commonwealth Games Bid Corporation to support its participation in the domestic bidding process for the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the development of Hosting Proposals 1 and 2. As approved by Council, Hosting Proposal 2 was submitted by Hamilton100 to Commonwealth Sport Canada on March 6, 2020. Staff was directed to report back on the outcome of the domestic bidding process.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton100 Commonwealth Games Bid Corporation, on November 13, 2019 Council designated Councillor Whitehead, Councillor Partridge and Councillor Pauls to participate on the Hamilton100 Committee with respect to the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

Since March 26, 2020, City staff have been included on calls with Hamilton100, Commonwealth Sport Canada and The Commonwealth Games Federation regarding the implications of shifting of Hamilton’s proposal from hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2030 to 2026.

Over the last three months, City staff have responded to requests from Hamilton2026 and their partners and have provided information, as was feasible during the pandemic, on the City’s existing plans with respect to housing, recreation venues, economic development and transportation planning to inform Hamilton2026’s modified and downscaled hosting approach.

At this time, staff have no direction from Council to participate in the development or assessment of plans related to hosting a 2026 Commonwealth Games event in Hamilton or in planning for an anniversary celebration at the 2030 Games hosted by another city.

The current revised Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton100 Commonwealth Games Bid Corporation, executed on December 9, 2019, is limited to the 2030 Commonwealth Games Bid.
Should Council support in principle the shift to hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2026, additional staff resources will be required to assist in the development and assessment of a modified hosting proposal that aligns with City priorities. Staff may need to balance a combination of internal and external resources to participate, depending on specific staff availability due to the COVID-19 response.

As reported in Report PED19108(d): “Dedicated and incremental City staff resources from all departments” will be required, including senior representation for negotiation of the Multi-Party Agreement and to participate as a member of the Hosting Corporation. Based on the staff team created for the Pan Am Games, it is estimated that between five to seven full-time equivalents are required for the planning phase including representation from Legal, Finance, Project Management, Capital Planning and Programming.

Staff will report back to the General Issues Committee to provide an update and receive Council direction before participating in the Multi-Party Agreement phase.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED
N/A

CBJ:ac