

# Corporate and Financial Services Office of the City Clerk

February 10, 2022

Email: <u>regionalclerk@york.ca</u>

Mr. Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk Regional Municipality of York 17250 Yonge Street Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Raynor:

Re: Member Motion submitted by Mayor West to Respond to the Infrastructure Ontario (IO) High Tech Transit Oriented Community Plan (Issued December, 2021)

Richmond Hill City Council, at its meeting held on February 9, 2022, adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, Infrastructure Ontario ("IO"), an agency of the Provincial Government, issued the Province's plan for the High Tech Transit Oriented Community ("TOC") in December, 2021; and

Whereas, the City of Richmond Hill has identified four key areas of concern with the IO High Tech TOC plan, specifically:

- a. The densities and total population proposed for the High Tech TOC are markedly higher than outlined in the draft RH Centre Secondary Plan (IO High Tech TOC plan anticipates 35,300 to 36,700 residents within the TOC boundary, while the draft Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan anticipates 17,700 residents;
- b. The lack of alignment with the draft Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan vision for mix of use within the High Tech TOC area;
- c. The lack of a transparent and fulsome consultation process with Council and residents; and
- d. The lack of a financial framework to support the High Tech TOC. and,

Whereas, the public input received by IO on the High Tech TOC plan, during the December, 2021 public consultation period, reflected many of the same issues as the City has noted above; and

Whereas, the City of Richmond Hill has been in on-going discussions with IO concerning the IO High Tech TOC plan issues but, to date, there are key issues yet to be resolved; and

Whereas, the Province is indicating that it is prepared to move to the issuance of a Ministerial MZO by March, 2022 in order to gain certainty for zoning for the High Tech TOC.



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#### Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

That a communication be issued to the Premier of Ontario, with copies to the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Transportation (and others as noted below), that highlights the following:

- 1. The City of Richmond Hill remains committed to supporting the development of the Yonge North Subway Extension (YNSE), and continuing to work with the Province to align the (IO) High Tech (TOC) plan with the emerging Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan for this area.
- 2. The City of Richmond Hill is committed to the core principles of the Preliminary Agreement and Transit-Oriented Communities Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Region of York and the Province, and the embedded objectives for TOC developments, including:
  - i. Exchange of Value: Creating new investment and revenue opportunities between the public and private sectors, where possible
  - ii. Increased Transit Ridership: Develop transit-oriented communities, in which residents choose transit as their first mode of transportation
  - iii. Improved Customer Experience: Enhancing station areas to make the interaction with customers seamless (e.g., by creating desirable commerce and retail concourses, etc.)
- 3. The City of Richmond Hill has worked with the Province, and is committed to continue working with the Province, to encourage alignment of the IO High Tech TOC plan, to the draft Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan, for the High Tech TOC area, with the goal of creating a world-leading urban community and employment hub that is a key destination in the GTA.
- 4. The City of Richmond Hill has a number of concerns about the IO High Tech TOC plan. Key concerns specific to the IO High Tech TOC plan include:
  - i. The densities and total population proposed for the High Tech TOC are markedly higher than outlined in the draft RH Centre Secondary Plan (IO High Tech TOC plan anticipates 35,300 to 36,700 residents within the High Tech TOC boundary, while the draft Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan anticipates 17,700 residents in the High Tech TOC;
  - ii. The lack of alignment with the draft Richmond Hill Centre Secondary Plan vision for mix of use within the High Tech TOC area;
  - iii. The lack of a transparent and fulsome consultation process with Council and residents; and
  - iv. The lack of a financial framework to support the High Tech TOC.



### Corporate and Financial Services Office of the City Clerk

- 5. We join, with the City of Markham, in requesting that the Province provide a 90 day extension, in order to enable the City of Richmond Hill to be able to work through the complicated details related to the IO High Tech TOC proposal and, specifically, the City requests the Province to revise the IO High Tech TOC proposal to address the matters outlined in this motion.
- 6. This motion to be sent to: Premier of Ontario; Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister, Ministry of Transportation; Minister of Infrastructure; President and CEO, Infrastructure Ontario; Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York; President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation; City Clerk, City of Markham; City Clerk, City of Toronto; City Clerk, City of Vaughan; Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; and, Local MPPs.

Please find a copy of the Council endorsed Member Motion for your records.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of the Mayor at 905-771-8800, ext. 3123.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen M.A. Huycke

Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

Attachment



## MEMBER MOTION

### Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

Meeting: Council

**Meeting Date**: February 9, 2022

**Subject/Title**: Member Motion submitted by Mayor West to Respond to the

Infrastructure Ontario (IO) High Tech Transit Oriented

Community Plan (Issued December, 2021)

**Submitted by**: Mayor West

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Moved by: Mayor West

Seconded by: Councillor Chan