



July 4, 2019

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

Email: regionalclerk@york.ca

Dear Mr. Raynor,

Re: Richmond Hill Resolution - Member Motion submitted by Councillor Chan – Age-Friendly Community

Richmond Hill City Council, at its meeting held on June 25, 2019, adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the age-Friendly Communities (AFC) is an evidence-based policy initiative released and promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO). To measure the age-friendliness in communities, WHO (2007) proposed eight indicators: outdoor spaces and building, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, community and information, community support and health services;

WHEREAS there are currently 81 Age friendly communities in Ontario undertaking initiatives across eight domains. AFC has demonstrated benefits including: stimulated economy, improved quality of life, improved access and awareness of health and community services, improved accessibility, walkability, and safety, reduced isolation, improved inclusion and intergenerational connections;

WHEREAS Richmond Hill's neighboring municipalities are age-friendly communities on the provincial recognition AFC list, such as City of Toronto, Markham, Vaughan, and Aurora. The emerging examples from nearby cities have shown that municipalities have a role to play in promoting AFC initiative in communities;

WHEREAS The AFC initiative is encouraged and recognized by the Ontario Government. For example, municipalities larger than 20,000 can receive funds for AFC projects if they partner with more than two NGOs for a project. Resources have been developing to guide and support new initiatives;

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WHEREAS the population in Canada is aging, and the share of seniors aged 65 and over years of the population in Richmond Hill is 14.6% as shown in Census 2016, and the City's recreation and culture division has an Older Adult Strategy in place that guides the direction for recreation programs and services that we provide for the 55+ population;

WHEREAS Richmond Hill's Older Adult Strategy was developed in 2011, and recreation staff have attended the workshops on Age Friendly community initiatives conducted through the Region of York;

WHEREAS the Age Friendly community planning generally addresses the areas that include safe and accessible public buildings, roads, walkways and outdoor areas, public transportation, social activities and information;

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility supports the Age Friendly community to help seniors live their best lives by creating accessible and inclusive physical and social environments that support older adults in living independent, active and healthy lives, helping them to stay engaged in their communities;

WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to demonstrate Council's commitment to support seniors to live in a safe and accessible City that prides itself to deliver exceptional public service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Staff be directed to look into the feasibility of developing the Age Friendly Community Strategy in Richmond Hill and report back, as soon as available but no later than March 31, 2020, with steps to establish a Senior Advisory Committee that includes the active engagement of older adults, and include an overview of the services already provided by Richmond Hill to Seniors and an overview of any complaints received related to the provision of services to seniors;

This Resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, York Regional Council, the City of Markham, the City of Vaughan, the Town of Aurora, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament.

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Please find attached a copy of the Council endorsed resolution for your records.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (905) 771-2529.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Huycke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen M.A. Huycke
Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

Attachment

c: Councillor Godwin Chan
Councillor David West

**Extract from Council Meeting
C#29-19 held June 25, 2019
Confirmatory By-law 100-19**

14. Other Business

14.1 Councillor Chan - Age-Friendly Community

Moved by: Councillor Chan

Seconded by: Councillor West

WHEREAS the age-Friendly Communities (AFC) is an evidence-based policy initiative released and promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO). To measure the age-friendliness in communities, WHO (2007) proposed eight indicators: outdoor spaces and building, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, community and information, community support and health services;

WHEREAS there are currently 81 Age friendly communities in Ontario undertaking initiatives across eight domains. AFC has demonstrated benefits including: stimulated economy, improved quality of life, improved access and awareness of health and community services, improved accessibility, walkability, and safety, reduced isolation, improved inclusion and intergenerational connections;

WHEREAS Richmond Hill's neighboring municipalities are age-friendly communities on the provincial recognition AFC list, such as City of Toronto, Markham, Vaughan, and Aurora. The emerging examples from nearby cities have shown that municipalities have a role to play in promoting AFC initiative in communities;

WHEREAS The AFC initiative is encouraged and recognized by the Ontario Government. For example, municipalities larger than 20,000 can receive funds for AFC projects if they partner with more than two NGOs for a project. Resources have been developing to guide and support new initiatives;

WHEREAS the population in Canada is aging, and the share of seniors aged 65 and over years of the population in Richmond Hill is 14.6% as shown in Census 2016, and the City's recreation and culture division has an Older Adult Strategy in place that guides the direction for recreation programs and services that we provide for the 55+ population;

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WHEREAS Richmond Hill's Older Adult Strategy was developed in 2011, and recreation staff have attended the workshops on Age Friendly community initiatives conducted through the Region of York;

WHEREAS the Age Friendly community planning generally addresses the areas that include safe and accessible public buildings, roads, walkways and outdoor areas, public transportation, social activities and information;

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility supports the Age Friendly community to help seniors live their best lives by creating accessible and inclusive physical and social environments that support older adults in living independent, active and healthy lives, helping them to stay engaged in their communities;

WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to demonstrate Council's commitment to support seniors to live in a safe and accessible City that prides itself to deliver exceptional public service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Staff be directed to look into the feasibility of developing the Age Friendly Community Strategy in Richmond Hill and report back in the first quarter of 2020 with steps to establish a Senior Advisory Committee that includes the active engagement of older adults;

This Resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, York Regional Council, the City of Markham, the City of Vaughan, the Town of Aurora, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament.

An Amendment was:

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Perrelli

Seconded by: Councillor Beros

That the first clause of the motion be amended to read as follows:

Staff be directed to look into the feasibility of developing the Age Friendly Community Strategy in Richmond Hill and report back, as soon as available but no later than March 31, 2020, with steps to establish a Senior Advisory Committee that includes the active engagement of older adults, and include an overview of the services already provided by

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY

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Richmond Hill to Seniors and an overview of any complaints received related to the provision of services to seniors.

A recorded vote was taken:

In favour: (7): Regional and Local Councillor Perrelli, , Councillor Liu, Mayor Barrow, Councillor Chan, Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola, Councillor Beros, Councillor West

Opposed: (1): Councillor Cilevitz

Motion to Amend Carried (7 to 1)

Main Motion as amended:

Moved by: Councillor Chan
Seconded by: Councillor West

WHEREAS the age-Friendly Communities (AFC) is an evidence-based policy initiative released and promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO). To measure the age-friendliness in communities, WHO (2007) proposed eight indicators: outdoor spaces and building, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, community and information, community support and health services;

WHEREAS there are currently 81 Age friendly communities in Ontario undertaking initiatives across eight domains. AFC has demonstrated benefits including: stimulated economy, improved quality of life, improved access and awareness of health and community services, improved accessibility, walkability, and safety, reduced isolation, improved inclusion and intergenerational connections;

WHEREAS Richmond Hill's neighboring municipalities are age-friendly communities on the provincial recognition AFC list, such as City of Toronto, Markham, Vaughan, and Aurora. The emerging examples from nearby cities have shown that municipalities have a role to play in promoting AFC initiative in communities;

WHEREAS The AFC initiative is encouraged and recognized by the Ontario Government. For example, municipalities larger than 20,000 can

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receive funds for AFC projects if they partner with more than two NGOs for a project. Resources have been developing to guide and support new initiatives;

WHEREAS the population in Canada is aging, and the share of seniors aged 65 and over years of the population in Richmond Hill is 14.6% as shown in Census 2016, and the City's recreation and culture division has an Older Adult Strategy in place that guides the direction for recreation programs and services that we provide for the 55+ population;

WHEREAS Richmond Hill's Older Adult Strategy was developed in 2011, and recreation staff have attended the workshops on Age Friendly community initiatives conducted through the Region of York;

WHEREAS the Age Friendly community planning generally addresses the areas that include safe and accessible public buildings, roads, walkways and outdoor areas, public transportation, social activities and information;

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility supports the Age Friendly community to help seniors live their best lives by creating accessible and inclusive physical and social environments that support older adults in living independent, active and healthy lives, helping them to stay engaged in their communities;

WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to demonstrate Council's commitment to support seniors to live in a safe and accessible City that prides itself to deliver exceptional public service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Staff be directed to look into the feasibility of developing the Age Friendly Community Strategy in Richmond Hill and report back, as soon as available but no later than March 31, 2020, with steps to establish a Senior Advisory Committee that includes the active engagement of older adults, and include an overview of the services already provided by Richmond Hill to Seniors and an overview of any complaints received related to the provision of services to seniors;

This Resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, York Regional Council, the City of Markham, the City of Vaughan, the Town of Aurora, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament.

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A recorded vote was taken:

In favour: (8): Regional and Local Councillor Perrelli, Councillor Liu, Councillor Beros,
Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola, Mayor Barrow, Councillor West,
Councillor Chan, Councillor Cilevitz

Opposed: (0): None

Main Motion as Amended Carried Unanimously (8 to 0)