



RECOMMENDATION GC-0144-2019
Approved by General Committee on March 20, 2019
and adopted by the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
at its meeting on March 27, 2019

GC-0144-2019

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga is a 45-year-old growing, urban municipality with a population approaching 800,000 residents, home to over 91,000 businesses. By 2041, the population of Mississauga is expected to be over 900,000; and

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga is the 3rd largest city in Ontario and 6th largest in Canada, and the largest municipality in Ontario that is part of a two-tier, regional governance model; and

WHEREAS other smaller municipalities in Ontario are single tier and not part of a regional governance model; and

WHEREAS the Region of Peel is unique in that it is the smallest region in the province in terms of number of lower-tier member municipalities, two of which are the 3rd and 4th largest cities in the province; and

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga, the City of Brampton, and the Town of Caledon are in different stages of growth and development, often resulting in the member municipalities of the Region of Peel having different or competing priorities; and

WHEREAS while regional government may be used to cost-share the delivery of services and the building of capital infrastructure between multiple municipalities that member municipalities would otherwise not have the financial capacity to provide on their own, the City of Mississauga has the administrative and financial capacity to govern our own affairs, independent of a regional government; and

WHEREAS the ability of Mississauga to deliver services to our residents and businesses, as well as enact policies and programs that are in the best interests of our residents is often made more difficult because of considerable, and unnecessary duplication of the delivery of the same services between the City of Mississauga and the Region of Peel; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mississauga currently provides 59 percent of the funding to the Region of Peel, but only maintains 50 percent of the vote at Regional Council; and

WHEREAS the residents and businesses of the City of Mississauga contribute an additional \$85 million annually in additional funding to the region, beyond what is provided back to the City of Mississauga; and

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga has a distinct identity from the Region of Peel and the two other member municipalities, and residents most often identify as residents of Mississauga and not as residents of Peel; and

WHEREAS the residents of the City of Mississauga have through citizen satisfaction surveys repeatedly expressed confidence in the City's ability to deliver services, satisfaction with the quality of life in our City, and a strong desire for Mississauga to continue to grow and prosper; and

WHEREAS between 2004 and 2005, the Council of the City of Mississauga made a strong business case, supported by a Citizens' Taskforce, to the Ontario Government, led by former Mayor Hazel McCallion and supported unanimously by the Council of the day, that Mississauga should be given single-tier status; and

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga Council and residents have long held the view that Mississauga can operate as a single-tier municipality, independent of regional government; and

WHEREAS on every measure, Mississauga is working and should be used as an example by the Province of Ontario of a well-governed, successful municipality; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has announced a review of regional governance across the province, including the Region of Peel and has asked the affected upper tier and lower tier municipalities for their feedback on the effectiveness of regional governance; and

WHEREAS this opportunity provides the City of Mississauga with an opportunity to present a single, unified voice to the province about the future governance of our city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following motion be approved in principle:

1. That the position of the City of Mississauga Council through the province's Regional Governance Review, is that the Government of Ontario pass legislation to make the City of Mississauga a single tier municipality, independent of the Region of Peel, maintaining the current municipal borders of the City of Mississauga;
2. If the Province of Ontario does not grant single-tier status to the City of Mississauga, that the Ontario government delineate the roles and responsibilities of upper and lower-tier municipalities to eliminate duplication, enhance service delivery and address the needs of residents in each member municipality, including adhering to the principle of representation by population; and
3. The City of Mississauga is opposed to the amalgamation of the City of Mississauga with any other municipality; and
4. The City of Mississauga forward an executive summary of the report to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Province's Advisors on Regional Governance, Michael Fenn and Ken Seiling, the Chair of the Region of Peel, the Mayors of Brampton and Caledon and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
5. The City of Mississauga engages in a public education campaign to raise awareness about the Regional Governance Review and the City's position, and further that the City of Mississauga encourages the public to provide their comments and feedback through the formal public consultation portal.