

Council Highlights



Town of Aurora Corporate Communications

communications@aurora.ca

For immediate release
Wednesday, May 29, 2019

Highlights of Aurora Town Council Meeting of Tuesday, May 28

Council approves additions to the Library Square Project

Council approved the development of an above ground bridge option from the Aurora Public Library to the new addition to 22 Church Street. The link will run over the north side of the square and provide a direct connection to the library. Aurora Town Council also approved a new library entrance vestibule and a café snack bar. Council approved a total budget increase to the project of \$4,101,000 to fund the bridge link, the library entrance vestibule and the café snack bar. The total budget for the project is now \$42,428,700. More information on the designs and funding strategy can be found online at aurora.ca/librarysquare.

Wildlife Park Phases 1, 2 and 3

Aurora Town Council approved \$1,000,000 to continue work on the Wildlife Park. Funding has been allocated for \$1,000,000 per year for a total of \$5,000,000. The funds allocated to the 2019 Capital budget will provide a total budget of \$3,000,000 with an additional \$2,000,000 to be considered in the 2020 and 2021 capital budgets. The detailed design for Phase 1 has been completed and construction is expected to start this summer. The first phase of the construction will involve the installation of at-grade trails, several raised boardwalks in marsh areas, two lookout stations and one bridge location. Detailed design is being completed for Phase 2 which will include additional trails and boardwalks and the creation of wetland habitats and other ecological habitat features.

Business Improvement Area (BIA) Business Plan and Budget

Aurora Town Council approved the budget presented by the Aurora BIA Board of Management for the Aurora Business Improvement Area and approved enacting a levy on rateable property in the Aurora Business Improvement Area. The proposed BIA levy is \$40,400 and the business plan includes funding for marketing and promotion, business attraction and member engagement.

Ratepayers Association Policy Update

Council approved an updated Ratepayers Association (RA) Policy to reflect the Town's current practices and provide process enhancements. To qualify as a registered RA, groups must represent no less than 10 households or contain a membership of at least 20 people, hold an annual general meeting and maintain an executive. Key changes to the requirements for RA's include making it easier for associations to renew their standing with the Town and more guidelines on geographic size of an RA.

Stable Neighbourhoods Study Methodology

Aurora Town Council approved a motion put forward by Councillor Wendy Gaertner directing the Planning Partnership prepare a report to Council on the methodology of the Stable Neighbourhoods study, including data and calculations for Gross Floor Area and percentage lot coverage for each of the study areas. The report is to be prepared for the June 4, 2019 General Committee Meeting.

Flying of Drones in Public Spaces

Council approved a motion put forward by Councillor John Gallo authorizing the Aurora Soccer Club to fly a drone over Highland Park and that delegated authority be given to staff for any future request to fly Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (i.e. drones) while in a park or public space.



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Next meeting of Aurora Town Council

The next meeting of Aurora Town Council is scheduled to take place on **June 11, 2019** at 7 p.m. in Aurora Town Hall, Council Chambers, located at 100 John West Way. Please check the Town's website for any cancellations or date changes.

Additional Council Information

Comprehensive Minutes of Aurora Town Council Meetings, which detail the full list of Council decisions, are available under **Agendas and Minutes** on the Town of Aurora website. Minutes are available on the Friday afternoon following Council.

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