

Council Highlights



Town of Aurora Corporate Communications

communications@aurora.ca

For immediate release

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Highlights of the Meeting of Council on Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Library Square Alternate Name

Council received a report outlining staff's intention to bring forward a new name proposal for the area currently known as "Library Square". The Town has undertaken external and internal engagement that has built consensus regarding how to define and recognize the new space. The project has evolved in such a way that the name Library Square no longer captures the full extent of its cross-sectoral and collaborative nature. Given how the project has evolved, the name "Library Square" no longer captures the full extent of its cross-sectoral and collaborative nature. As such, staff recommended that a new name be chosen to identify the property that encompasses the Library, 22 Church St. (Aurora Museum & Archives and Aurora Cultural Centre), including the new addition, the sky bridge, and outdoor square. A recommended name and an alternative will be brought forward before summer for Council's consideration.

Museum Plan 2021-2025

Council endorsed the new Museum Plan 2021-2025 which outlines Aurora Museum and Archives' plan to develop and grow over the next five years. Built around four key areas (access, collections management and conservation, partnerships, and programmes and outreach), the Plan includes 15 strategies that will see the Museum expand its outreach and presence in the community. The Plan builds a framework to increase access to the existing collection, maintain and develop the collection, connect with local residents and community groups, and ultimately connect, engage and inspire the community. The Plan can be viewed at: <https://pub-auroraon.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=1734>

Council Workshop on Integrated Business Planning Process

In late February, Council held an education workshop where staff presented an update on the Integrated Business Planning Process (IBPP) that has been undertaken over the last year. This process is a reimagining of how the Town of Aurora does business planning, and links Council and citizen priorities, strategies objectives, business needs, and budget. This holistic approach to municipal governance will ultimately result in greater alignment between community, Council, and Town administration, and with greater momentum towards identified goals. The full IBPP system – including a prioritization process for Council – is expected to be implemented at the start of the next term of Council (2022-2026).



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2022 Budget Process and Timeline

Council approved the 2022 budget process and timeline. As part of the 2020 budget process, Council approved the Town's first three-year multi-year operating budget covering the period from 2020 to 2022. Similar to its 2021 budget, the Town must reaffirm its upcoming 2022 operating budget as per provincial legislation which requires that multi-year budgets be reaffirmed by Council on an annual basis. The schedule approved by Council includes public consultation, budget discussions in November, and a final budget approval in December. More information will be provided in the coming weeks and months.

Minister's Zoning Order Motion

A motion presented by Mayor Mrakas was passed by Council requesting that the Ministerial Zoning Order for 50-100 Bloomington Road be repealed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The provincial zoning order partially rezones land previously zoned as "institutional" to allow for residential housing, in addition to permitting a long-term care facility. The order was issued without consultation with the Town of Aurora Council and goes against the Town's Official Plan. The motion was passed unanimously.

The next meetings of Council are as follows:

- General Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 7 p.m.
- Council Public Planning Meeting – Tuesday, April 13, 7 p.m.
- General Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 7 p.m.
- Council Meeting – Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 7 p.m.

All meetings are being held virtually in accordance with health guidelines. To delegate at a meeting, please visit aurora.ca/participation for further information. To view a live meeting, visit aurora.ca/livecouncilmeeting.

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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