

Council Highlights



Town of Aurora Corporate Communications

communications@aurora.ca

For immediate release
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Highlights of the Meeting of Council on Tuesday, February 22, 2022

SARC Gymnasium Addition – Project Update

Council approved the project update report regarding the SARC gymnasium addition project. Council approved the direction to proceed with Option 1, a single gymnasium, multipurpose space and renovated customer service and administration space. Further consultation with the public is planned, asking residents about the features they would like to see in the gymnasium and what type of programming they would like to see offered.

Zoning By-law for L&B Aurora Inc, Wellington Street and John West Way

Council approved a motion to refuse the zoning by-law amendment and site plan control application from L&B Aurora Inc., as the proposed development does not conform to the Town's Official Plan for reasons including, but not limited to the following:

- It encroaches on environmental lands as well as the established flood plain
- The proposed density is not appropriate for the site
- There is significant adverse impact to species of concern currently inhabiting the site
- The outstanding conditions required by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority create concern for the long-term effects to the surrounding areas
- No ground flood retail proposed for the site

Zoning By-law for 306 St. John's Sideroad

Council approved a motion to rezone a portion of the lands at 306 St. Johns Sideroad West, from "Oak Ridges Moraine Rural" to "Institutional Zone". The purpose and effect of the zoning by-law amendment is to rezone a portion of the subject lands to permit a new private school (St. Anne's School).

Property Tax and Water Bill Payment Options

Council endorsed the elimination of cash transactions at Town Hall for property tax and water bill payments. Residents who wish to pay cash would still be able to do so at financial institutions by teller or ATM. Town Staff will roll-out a detailed communication plan to effectively inform residents and business owners of the changes being made to the acceptable forms of payment and the alternative payment options for property tax and water bills that are still available such as online or telephone banking, pre-authorized payment plans or post-dated cheques.





Town of Aurora Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022 – 2026

Council endorsed the new Town of Aurora Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022-2026. The new Multi-Year Accessibility Plan identifies initiatives to achieve compliance in the five standards of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (I.A.S.R) and outlines what steps the Town will take to identify, prevent, and remove barriers in the areas of Information and Communications, Employment, Transportation, Design of Public Spaces and Customer Service.

Pet Cemetery – Project Update and Fencing Options

Council received a report regarding an update on the status of the Pet Cemetery project and considerations for security options, including wireless monitoring cameras to protect the site during site restoration. Site restoration is planned to continue over the next few years and includes clearing internal pathways, debris removal, stone cleaning, data/name collection and formal site/plot survey. Once the site restoration is complete, staff will look at options for a permanent fence and coordination with a future trail connection that will allow the public to visit and enjoy the pet cemetery safely. Staff will also pursue historic recognition options for the Pet Cemetery site which could include a Local Heritage Designation, Ontario Heritage Trust Easement, or designation of a National Historic Site.

Request to Dissolve Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT)

Council unanimously approved a motion presented by Mayor Tom Mrakas to request the Government of Ontario dissolve the OLT immediately thereby eliminating one of the most significant sources of red tape delaying the development of more attainable housing in Ontario. A copy of this motion will be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of the Liberal and Green Party, all MPPs in the Province of Ontario, the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario, the Small Urban GTHA Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

The next meetings of Council are as follows:

- General Committee Meeting - Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 7 p.m.
- General Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 7 p.m.
- Council Meeting - Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 7 p.m.

To delegate at a meeting, please visit [aurora.ca/participation](https://www.aurora.ca/participation) for further information. To view a live meeting, visit [aurora.ca/livecouncilmeeting](https://www.aurora.ca/livecouncilmeeting).



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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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