

Public Release
May 12, 2017



**Town of Aurora
Additional Items to
General Committee Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday, May 16, 2017
7 p.m., Council Chambers

- **Revised General Committee Meeting Agenda Index**
- **Delegation (b) Susan Morton-Leonard, Resident; Re: Item R1 – PBS17-032 – Library Square Conceptual Plans**
- **Item R9 – CS17-019 – Alternative Methods of Election – Further Information**



**Town of Aurora
General Committee
Meeting Agenda (Revised)**

Tuesday, May 16, 2017
7 p.m., Council Chambers

Councillor Kim in the Chair

1. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended:

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

3. Presentations

4. Delegations

(a) Sandie Parker, President, Pine Tree Potters' Guild

**Re: Activities and Community Involvement of the Pine Tree Potters'
Guild**

(b) Susan Morton-Leonard, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PBS17-032 – Library Square Conceptual Plans

(Added Item)

5. Consent Agenda

Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine or no longer require further discussion, and are enacted in one motion. The exception to this rule is that a Member may request for one or more items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.

6. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

R1. PBS17-032 – Library Square Conceptual Plans

Presentation to be provided by Fausto Filipetto, Senior Policy Planner.

Recommended:

1. That Report No. PBS17-032 be received; and
2. That the Option 1 Concept Plan prepared by Fotenn Planning + Design for Library Square be endorsed; and
3. That the budget for the next steps in the Library Square planning and design process be approved.

R2. FS17-019 – Interim Operating Budget Forecast – as at March 31, 2017

Recommended:

1. That Report No. FS17-019 be received for information.

R3. IES17-025 – License Agreement between the Town and Aurora United Church

Recommended:

1. That Report No. IES17-025 be received; and
2. That the requirement to repay a portion of the paving costs as set out in Section 7(b) of the License Agreement between the Town and Aurora United Church be waived.

**R4. PBS17-006 – Application for Site Plan Approval
Markangel Real Estate Assets Inc.
55 Eric T Smith Way
Lot 6 and Part of Block 11, Registered Plan 65M-4324
File Number: SP-2016-06**

Recommended:

1. That Report No. PBS17-006 be received; and
2. That Site Plan Application File SP-2016-06 (Markangel Real Estate Assets Inc.) to permit the development of the subject lands for three (3) office buildings, each being four to five (4-5) storeys in height and with a total of 18,532.7 m² GFA including the parking garage, be approved; and
3. That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute the site plan agreement, including any all documents and ancillary agreements required to give effect to same.

**R5. PBS17-017 – Application for Site Plan Approval
Joe Cara
15132 and 15136 Yonge Street
Part of Lots 4 and 5, Registered Plan 9
File Number: SP-2013-05**

Recommended:

1. That Report No. PBS17-017 be received; and
2. That Site Plan Application File No. SP-2013-05 (Joe Cara) to permit the development of a three (3) storey mixed use building including 12 residential units and 240 square metres of commercial floor space, be approved; and
3. That a total of 12 units of water and sewage capacity be allocated to the Approval of the Site Plan Application; and
4. That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute the Site Plan Agreement, including any and all documents and ancillary agreements required to give effect to same.

**R6. PBS17-025 – Additional Information: Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review
File No. ZBA-2012-ZBR**

Recommended:

1. That Report No. PBS17-025 be received; and
2. That the Comprehensive Zoning By-law be presented at a future Council meeting for enactment; and
3. That upon enactment of the Town's new Comprehensive Zoning By-law by Council, site specific Zoning By-law Amendment and Minor Variance applications will continue to be received, processed and considered by Council and the Committee of Adjustment.

R7. FS17-024 – Canada 150 Funding Reallocation

Recommended:

1. That Report No. FS17-024 be received; and
2. That the reallocation of \$35,000 of Canada 150 Celebration funding within Capital Project No. 74012, and the return of \$5,000 to the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve, be approved.

**R8. Correspondence from Regional Clerk dated April 21, 2017
Re: Regional Governance**

Recommended:

1. That the Correspondence from Regional Clerk dated April 21, 2017, regarding Regional Governance be received; and
2. That Council provide direction.

**R9. CS17-019 – Alternative Methods of Election – Further Information
(Added Item)**

Recommended:

1. That Report No. CS17-019 be received; and
2. That Council adopt a hybrid model, being a paper ballot counted by optical scan vote tabulators in conjunction with internet voting for the advanced voting period, for the 2018 municipal election.

7. Notices of Motion

8. New Business

9. Closed Session

10. Adjournment



Legislative Services
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Delegation Request

This Delegation Request form and any written submissions or background information for consideration by either Council or Committees of Council must be submitted to the Clerk's office by the following deadline:

4:30 p.m. Two (2) Days Prior to the Requested Meeting Date

Council/Committee/Advisory Committee Meeting Date: May 16, 2017	
Subject: FOTEEN 'Library Square' Proposal	
Name of Spokesperson: Susan Morton-Leonard	
Name of Group or Person(s) being Represented (if applicable): Property owners inside the proposed boundaries of the Cultural Precinct	
Brief Summary of Issue or Purpose of Delegation: To address concerns about Council approving the FOTEEN 'Library Square' proposal	
Please complete the following:	
Have you been in contact with a Town staff or Council member regarding your matter of interest? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, with whom?	Date:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I acknowledge that the Procedure By-law permits five (5) minutes for Delegations.	



**Town of Aurora
General Committee Report**

No. CS17-019

Subject: Alternative Methods of Election – Further Information

Prepared by: Michael de Rond, Town Clerk

Department: Corporate Services

Date: May 16, 2017

Recommendation

- 1. That Report No. CS17-019 be received; and**
- 2. That Council adopt a hybrid model, being a paper ballot counted by optical scan vote tabulators in conjunction with internet voting for the advanced voting period, for the 2018 municipal election.**

Executive Summary

This report provides further information to Council regarding vote counting using optical scan vote tabulators as well as internet voting.

- Council should be aware that all alternative methods of voting come with risks to the municipality, and regardless of the final choice, staff will be taking steps to mitigate risks.
- The hybrid model provides electors a choice of voting using the Town's traditional method of paper ballot, or by voting over the internet.
- While the hybrid model is more expensive, it provides Aurora residents multiple options to safely and securely cast their vote, in a way that is convenient for them.
- By providing voters an additional option from the traditional paper ballot, the election becomes much more inclusive and accessible to the whole population in Aurora.

Background

At the April 18 General Committee meeting, Staff's recommendation regarding the use of internet only voting in the 2018 Municipal Election was defeated, and no subsequent

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motion was passed. This left the municipality without an alternative voting method, meaning the election would be conducted using a paper ballot that would be manually counted.

As staff knew this was not the preferred method of Council, a further report was presented at the April 25, 2017 Council meeting seeking direction regarding the method of voting that would be used in 2018. The following motion was passed;

**Moved by Councillor Thompson
Seconded by Councillor Mrakas**

1. That Report No. CS17-015 and Report No. CS17-011 be received; and
2. That in accordance with Section 42 (a) and (b) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, a by-law be brought forward to the April 25, 2017 Council meeting authorizing the use of alternative voting equipment and an alternative voting method in the 2018 Municipal Election; and
3. That staff be directed to bring forward further information regarding alternative methods of voting for the 2018 Municipal Election.

The following report provides Council with the information that has been requested.

Analysis

Security Risks for associated with alternative methods of voting

The discussions around the Council table regarding internet voting have centered on the security concerns with the voting model, and whether an internet voting model can be maliciously tampered with. Staff understand these concerns, and can not provide an absolute guarantee that the system would not be tampered with. However, it is important to note that all alternative methods of voting have risks.

Optical Scan Vote Tabulators

Electronic vote tabulators, now called Optical Scan Vote Tabulators, have been in use in Aurora since the 2000 Municipal Election. At this point, it is evident that the public is comfortable with their use and confident that they produce the correct results. However, the use of Optical Scan Voting Tabulators is not without risk. In his 2016 piece regarding the current world of electronic voting, J. Alex Halderman, professor of Computer Science at the University of Michigan College of Engineering, notes;

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“Yet in practically every case where a fielded e-voting system has been publicly scrutinized by capable independent security experts, it has turned out to have serious vulnerabilities with the potential to disrupt elections, compromise results, or expose voters’ secret ballots.”¹

In this case, Halderman’s use of the term e-voting encompasses both internet voting and the tabulating of paper ballot results electronically. In regards to paper ballot and tabulator voting, the municipality could be exposed to risk when the tabulators are not in our possession. This has not been an issue for Aurora in recent election years, as we have owned our tabulators since the 2003 Municipal Election, and therefore always had them in our possession. As noted in previous reports, the tabulators we own are no longer supported by the manufacturer, and consequently not fit for use in next year’s election. Halderman notes the following about the use of vote tabulators;

“They confirmed Hursti’s discovery that anyone who had physical access to the machine—or to a memory card that would later be inserted into a machine—could install malicious software. This could be achieved by opening the machine and replacing a socketed ROM chip inside.”²

The Town will be renting vote tabulators for the 2018 Municipal Election, and therefore will be exposed when the tabulators are not in our possession.

Internet Voting

As Halderman notes, the risk in internet voting is exposing an election to the internet.

“Unlike poll-site voting, online voting systems necessarily have servers that are accessible from the public Internet. Consequently, they expose what might otherwise be a regional election to attackers from around the globe.”³

This exposure legitimizes threats like cybercriminals creating a fake election site and redirecting voters there, or transmitting viruses to the voter’s electronic devices.⁴ While these threats have never materialized in an Ontario municipal election, staff do recognize that they could occur, and would be taking steps to mitigate them, should some form of internet voting be approved.

¹ Halderman, J. Alex. "Practical Attacks on Real-World E-Voting." *Real-World Electronic Voting: Design, Analysis and Deployment*. <https://jhalderm.com/pub/papers/ch7-evoting-attacks-2016.pdf>, 2016. Pg. 145

² Ibid, page 148.

³ Ibid, page 160.

⁴ Ibid

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Mitigating the risks of malicious tampering

Optical Scan Vote Tabulators

Vote counting using Optical Scan Vote Tabulators has been used on numerous occasions by many municipalities in Ontario, and staff can not find an example of when a tabulator was tampered with in an attempt to interfere with the results of the election. This technology is trusted by all forms municipalities like Toronto and Ottawa, and also places with under 10,000 residents like Malahide and Hanover.

Further to this, should staff be directed to engage a tabulator vendor, they have a strong business interest in ensuring that the tabulators are in no way tampered with at their facility or in transit to ours. Upon receipt of the tabulators, staff would ensure that only authorized election personnel would have access to them.

Internet Voting

There have been no instances of successful, malicious tampering in a municipal election held in Ontario. This includes well over 200 instances where a municipality has used some form of an internet model, across many different vendors. Staff would also be very diligent in recommending a vendor to Council with experience running multiple elections over the internet in Ontario. Further, if a suitable vendor can not be procured, staff would return to Council to seek permission to eliminate any internet aspect from the Town's electoral method.

The use of internet voting also involves a daily security audit, performed by an IT professional, to ensure that the system is operating correctly. For staff, this audit would be an integral part of the process.

Hardware malfunctions

Optical Scan Voting Tabulators

There have been various reports and news articles related to vote tabulator hardware failure during the 2016 United States presidential election. These reports note old equipment and poorly trained staff as the likely causes for the issues that voters faced at the polls.⁵ The article also notes that there are no standards for optical scan vote

⁵ Norden, Lawrence, "Michigan Recount exposes Voting Machine Failures," <https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/michigan-recount-exposes-voting-machine-failures>, December 8, 2016.

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tabulators across the United States, meaning different states could be using vastly different aged tabulators.

Staff feel quite confident these issues could be successfully mitigated. Our Request For Proposal for optical scan vote tabulators would ensure that the equipment we use is utilizing the most recent technology that is supported by the vendor. We would also ensure that the vendor who we rent our tabulators from provides on-site support people who are physically in the Town on advanced voting and election day. This support person is a common requirement of RFP's for the rental of vote tabulators.

Internet Voting

In the 2014 municipal election, a prominent and trusted internet voting provider experienced an 'outage' on election day which lasted about an hour. This was caused by server overload, and caused voters to not be able to reach the election website. In the months following, the company assured municipalities that used their services that they had solved their server issues and were not anticipating further problems. Staff learned of these faults through consultations with other Municipal Clerk's who experienced this in 2014 and it is a concern that staff have been aware of throughout this process.

Staff feel confident that these issues could also be mitigated through the Clerk's ability to extend voting. Section 12 of the Municipal Elections Act, reads as follows;

12 (1) A clerk who is responsible for conducting an election may provide for any matter or procedure that,

- (a) is not otherwise provided for in an Act or regulation; and
- (b) in the clerk's opinion, is necessary or desirable for conducting the election. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 12 (1).

This means that the Clerk has broad powers to deal with irregular situations that arise, including the extension of voting hours as he/she sees fit. Staff would not hesitate to do this, should an issue arise.

Hybrid Voting Model

Staff recognize the concerns from Council regarding an internet only voting model, and are now suggesting a Hybrid model. This would allow the Town to provide the option to all electors on casting their ballot the traditional way (paper ballot counted by optical

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scan vote tabulator), or over the internet. Although this option is more costly, it permits the elector to vote in the method they are most comfortable or find the most convenient.

Staff would suggest that to mitigate risk exposure to the election, the internet voting period be open from 7-10 days before Election Day. Residents voting on Election Day would be required to attend a polling station and vote using a paper ballot. This is a very popular model for municipalities who select the hybrid approach, including the City of Markham.

Attitudes and Experiences regarding Internet Voting

Before beginning research into internet voting, staff conducted a survey of Ontario Municipalities to understand more about their experiences with internet voting. The survey was enlightening, and staff received the following comments;

Markham – Noted that communication and education are important to a successful operation. The Information Technology department must be fully committed to the process, or it will struggle.

Ajax - Not in favour of the hybrid model as it was redundant and not cost effective. Also noted the importance of communication and of having regular ‘polling stations’ to make electors feel more comfortable

Wasaga Beach - Experience was not as good as others. An inaccurate voters list lead to frustrations from the public when receiving voting PINS.

Burlington - In the first year, staff time is required to answer questions and walk through the process. Used in both 2010 and 2014 as part of a hybrid model, and saw a big increase in internet voting users in 2014.

In 2014, Dr. Nicole Goodman, of the University of Toronto’s Monk School of Global Affairs, authored a study about internet voting during the 2014 Ontario Municipal Elections, which considered, among other things, the attitudes of people voting using various alternative methods. The study reports that 95% of people across 43 municipalities who participated in the survey were satisfied with their experience voting over the internet.⁶ Conversely, only 68% of voters reported satisfaction voting using a paper ballot.⁷ Dr. Goodman concluded that results of the survey showed, “strong

⁶ Goodman, Nicole and Heather Pyman, *Internet Voting Project Report*, http://www.centreforedemocracy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/IVP_Report.pdf, August 2016. Pg. 16

⁷ Ibid, page 33

support for Internet voting among voters, candidates, and election administrators in Ontario.”⁸

Other considerations when selecting a method of voting

Accessibility

Internet voting is generally considered the most accessible form of voting available to municipalities. The features of voting anywhere, anytime, from any device with an internet connection help maintain the dignity of all voters, and in many cases, vote without any assistance. Should Council decide that internet voting will not be included as an option, the Town will include touch screen tabulators as has always been done, and investigate new technologies available to us to make the election more accessible.

Language Barrier

Conversations with Access Aurora staff have revealed that they are experiencing language barrier issues with residents more than ever before. Staff regularly receive requests for information about Town services in a language other than English. A simple search on the Business Aurora website shows that residents of Aurora speak more than 50 other languages.⁹ These are likely often in addition to English, however, there is a clear and strong demographic in the Town that is more comfortable using a language other than English. The following table is from the 2011 census (2016 census figures for language currently unavailable) and summarizes the most popular languages spoken in Aurora households;¹⁰

Language	Total Population speaking that language at home	Percentage of the total population speaking that language at home
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⁸ Ibid, page 64

⁹ Demographics Search, <http://businessaurora.ca/aurorastatisticsc8.php>.

¹⁰ 2011 Canadian Census Data, Aurora ON. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/as-sa/fogs-spg/Facts-csd-eng.cfm?LANG=Eng&GK=CSD&GC=3519046>

English	38,885	73.7%
Italian	1,390	2.6%
Russian	1,260	2.4%
Persian (Farsi)	960	1.8%
Chinese	880	1.7%
Spanish	805	1.5%
French	750	1.4%

If the Town adopts a hybrid model, eligible electors who use English as a second language can take advantage of page translation tools that are now available, and have the instructions for voting translated into a language of their choice. This would be an enhancement to the inclusivity of the election.

Advisory Committee Review

The Governance Review Ad Hoc Committee is in support of an internet only voting election. A more detailed response from the Committee Chair regarding how they came to this recommendation of a voting model has been attached to this report.

Financial Implications

The costing chart from Report CS17-011 - 2018 Municipal Election – Adoption of Voting Method has been included as an attachment to this report.

Communications Considerations

A detailed communications plan has been provided as an attachment to this report.

Link to Strategic Plan

The Town of Aurora’s strategic plan can be described in one sentence; “Our vision for Aurora 2031 is: An innovative and sustainable community where neighbours care and

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businesses thrive.” The adoption of a hybrid method of voting supports the Town of Aurora being an innovative community. A hallmark of innovation is developing new techniques for traditional processes, and the implementation of internet voting fits this description.

Alternative(s) to the Recommendation

Should Council defeat the recommendation that a hybrid model be used, staff would recommend a subsequent motion be passed which confirms that the Town will vote with a paper ballot, counted by optical scan vote tabulators.

Conclusions

Through further research and consultation with Council, staff are recommending that a hybrid model, where electors are provided the option of paper ballot voting counted by optical scan voting tabulators or internet voting, be adopted for the 2018 municipal election. This model will provide an enhanced democratic process for the residents of Aurora, and suits the unique circumstances of the municipality. If successful, a hybrid model may lead the town to an internet only election in 2022.

There is no such thing as a perfect election. Unexpected issues always arise, and staff are forced to think quickly about how to solve problems. These issues could manifest themselves in situations like temporary election staff not reporting on election day, a power outage, or any number of other hitches. Likewise, staff also accept that there is an inherent risk with any method of alternative voting method. Our commitment to Council is to prepare as thoroughly as we can for the method of Council’s choosing.

Does the status quo method of a paper ballot counted by vote tabulators create a problem? Staff’s response would be no, as this is a proven model in this municipality to elect representatives. However, the addition of internet voting does enhance the democratic process for the residents of Aurora. By providing voters an additional option from the traditional paper ballot, the election becomes much more inclusive to the whole population in Aurora. This is a tested and trusted method of voting across Ontario, which has seen exponential growth in use in the last two election terms. Staff do not

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take this recommendation lightly, and base it from considering all risks and the unique set of circumstances within the Town of Aurora.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Communications Plan

Attachment 2 – Projected Election Scenario Budgets

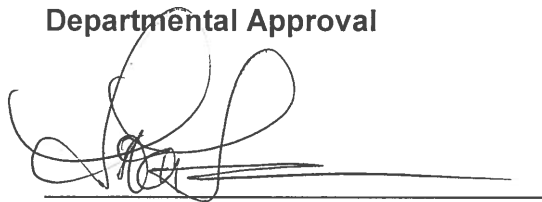
Attachment 3 – Comments from the Chair of the Governance Review ad Hoc Committee

Previous Reports

CS17-011 - 2018 Municipal Election – Adoption of Voting Method

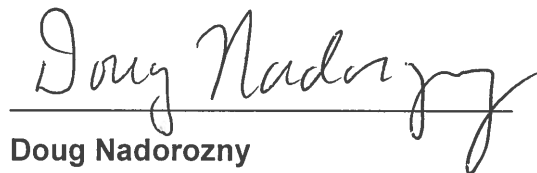
CS17-015 - Alternative Methods of Election – Next Steps

Departmental Approval



**Techa van Leeuwen
Director
Corporate Services**

Approved for Agenda



**Doug Nadorozny
Chief Administrative Officer**



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TOWN OF AURORA

Communications Plan

2018 Municipal Elections – Voting Methods

Background

At the April 25, 2017, Aurora Town Council meeting, Council passed a by-law regarding the use of alternative voting methods and equipment. Options presented and still available to Council include Internet voting, tabulator voting, and a hybrid voting model incorporating both, for the 2018 municipal election.

Should a hybrid model be adopted, a comprehensive communications plan will be required to educate residents on the change and how it will affect them.

Audiences

- Primary
 - Aurora residents
- Secondary
 - Local media

Key Messages

- The Municipal election is being held on October 22, 2018
- Residents can ensure they are registered to vote by contacting Access Aurora
- For information on polling stations and hours, visit www.aurora.ca/AuroraVotes2018
- There are many different ways that internet voting can be used: as an alternative to traditional paper ballots, in combination with traditional ballots, for advance voting only or for both advance polls and on voting day
- Internet voting allows residents to vote anywhere, anytime (within specific dates) and offers convenience and flexibility for voters
- Internet voting reflects the lifestyle of Aurora residents, many of whom are busy families, commuters and travelers
- Municipalities such as Guelph, Markham and Ajax have implemented internet voting and 97 municipalities in Ontario have utilized internet voting for either advance voting or on voting day
- With Internet voting residents can still attend a polling station to cast their votes. Exercising democratic rights can be an important event for families therefore, this option is still available.
- At polling stations residents will have the opportunity to cast their vote via Internet voting or paper ballot
- The Town will be hosting an open house where residents can participate in hands-on demonstrations of Internet voting. Online tutorials will also be available.
- Your municipal Council is the most visible and accessible form of government. The Town encourages all residents to come out and vote and have their voices heard.

Objectives

- To educate residents about voting options

Channels

- Social media messaging (text, videos, infographics)
- Webpage
- Town Noticeboard
- Digital signage
- On-hold messaging through Access Aurora
- Text messages for opt-in residents
- Aurora Matters newsletter
- Promotion at Town and community events
- Infographics and handouts
- Workshops and open houses with demonstrations
- Multi-lingual educational materials
- Radio exposure
- Media coverage
- Advertisements in Town facilities
- Mobile signs
- Promotional videos
- Extensive voter support through social media, telephone, and email prior to and during the Advance Voting period and on Election Day.

Schedule

Channel	Timing	Description
Media releases	Week of May 8, 2017 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announce Council decision re: alternative voting method • Multiple media releases to be sent out in 2018 promoting voting methods, workshop (if necessary) general election/voting information and promoting the YouTube video 	Announce voting methods and share general information on the 2018 municipal elections
Notice Board	Notices on the following weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 14, 2018 • June 28, 2018 • July 12, 2018 	Place ads in the Town Notice Board to announce voting options. Direct residents to a webpage or Access Aurora for questions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 26, 2018 • August 9, 2018 • August 23, 2018 • September 6, 2018 • September 20, 2018 • October 4, 2018 • October 18, 2018 	
Promotion at Town/Community Events	Ribfest Farmers' Market Concerts in the Park	Hand out postcards educating residents on voting methods and promoting workshop
Mayor's messages/columns	<p>Announcement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2017 column <p>Reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2018 column • July 2018 • August 2018 • September 2018 • October 2018 	Overview of voting methods
Website: www.aurora.ca	Week of January 1, 2018	<p>Go live with page on website with information re: voting methods.</p> <p>This will be a separate page off the 2018 election section of the website.</p>
Social media	Week of January 1, 2018 – Election	<p>Ongoing posts to coincide with voting methods.</p> <p>Ongoing social media posts – including video and infographic – to coincide with election events, workshops and general election messaging.</p> <p>#AuroraVotes2018</p>
Aurora Matters	Monthly editions from July to October, 2018	Summary for residents on voting methods to go along with election messaging
Poster/handouts	Beginning week of August 7, 2018	<p>Posters to be displayed in municipal facilities</p> <p>Postcards will be available for residents to take (information re: voting methods and general election information) at Town and community partner facilities.</p>

		Postcards will also be handed out at Town and community events.
Digital screens and mobile signs	August 23 to October 22, 2018	Ongoing updates to inform the public about voting methods, in addition to general election messaging
Internet voting workshop (if applicable)	Week of October 1, 2018	Provide residents and media with the opportunity to do a hands-on demonstration of internet voting. Remind residents of approaching election date and locations.
YouTube video	Week of October 11, 2018	Short video demonstrating voting methods
Text message	Week of October 11, 2018	Text message notifying residents of voting methods and directing them to website.

Measurement

- Media inquiries
- Website visits to page
- Number of calls to Customer Service regarding voting methods
- Number of YouTube video views
- Social media metrics
- Voter turnout

Attachment 1 – Projected Election Scenario Budgets

Report No. CS17-011

	Status Quo	Internet Only	Hybrid	Comments/ Explanation
Number of voting locations	18	6	At least 6	Far fewer locations required with internet only or hybrid. Expect that vast majority of residents would choose to vote from home/work.
Staffing and overtime	\$145,000	\$110,000	\$145,000	Additional staff required if voting locations have choice of computer terminal or paper ballot. Fewer staff would be required with internet only as fewer voting locations would be used. This cost includes the salary for a full-time Elections Coordinator.
Printing, ballots and signage	\$15,000	\$2,500	\$15,000	Only signage required for internet only.
Consumable supplies	\$14,000	\$7,500	\$14,000	
Advertising/communications	\$12,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	Slightly higher than 2014 due to new voting method/option.
Voting system rental/purchase, including hardware rental	\$85,000	\$120,000	\$205,000	The Town would be required to rent vote tabulators for both the status quo and hybrid options.
Network Security Audit	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	An independent security audit would be undertaken as part of the voting process.

Attachment 1 – Projected Election Scenario Budgets

Report No. CS17-011

Other costs/ contingency	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	Website, apps, voter notification, postage, Voterview (live voters list)
Recount contingency, to reserve for by- election	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$30,000	A recount with an internet voting only election would be much less expensive and less time consuming due to the lack of paper.
Total estimated cost for 2019 Election	\$326,000	\$312,000	\$476,000	

Attachment No. 3 - Note from the Chair

Governance Review Ad Hoc Committee Response

As a reminder, the Governance Review Ad Hoc Committee terms of reference state in part...“to review and provide advice on governance issues....and election provisions.” It is not the Committee’s intent to lobby for our recent recommendation related to internet voting but rather this synopsis is being provided as a response to a Councillor’s request for some background on the discussion the Committee had at its March 28, 2017 Committee meeting.

In summary, increased voter turnout was not seen as a primary driver for internet voting. The Committee started from a point of view that the internet was the future, so it should be acknowledged and planned for accordingly in order to get Aurora there in a timely manner. It was agreed that key factors for success would include an effective communications plan and due diligence relative to security concerns. It was also suggested to staff that launch plans from other municipalities already using the system be examined so that the Town could learn from their experience.

The Committee meeting included the review of a report from staff, GRAHC 2017-001 and a round table discussion on various things related to internet voting. It included:

- Security concerns, vote tampering/influence
- Communications plan – with specific emphasis on first implementation since subsequent elections would be less “change”
- Online help
- Options for people who still wanted to go to a voting station (providing ample locations for voters to still have a “place” to vote); and to potentially receive support if needed
- Cost implications for election as well as impact on future elections as they became more the norm (we expected high 1st time costs in staff and technology, but felt these would diminish long term as people became comfortable); and
- Convenience factor for the majority of eligible electors