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REGION OF PEEL

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**Re: Committee of Council Recommendation CW243-2021 – Downtown Brampton
Revitalization Work**

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Brampton approved the following Committee of Council Recommendation at its meeting of May 19, 2021:

CW243-2021

Whereas the Region of Peel is planning to undertake a capital works project to replace the water mains on an "interim" basis in the downtown core, including in the "four corners" estimated to cost approximately \$7 million for the immediately needed work, with a total cost of approximately \$20 million, and;

Whereas this is a singular isolated and interim initiative with no other improvements currently planned to occur along with this replacement, such as other utility upgrades, sidewalk or roadway improvements, streetscaping, landscaping, etc.; and

Whereas this isolated and interim initiative will cause massive disruption to an already heavily burdened business community within the downtown core;

Whereas a broader strategic, integrated downtown plan is currently being developed; and

Whereas a decision in 2018, during the previous term of Council, pushed the Downtown Reimagine project with incomplete utility designs and without proper due diligence related to the underground channels in the downtown; and

Whereas in Dec 2018, a decision by this term of Council to pause the work related to Downtown Reimagine was made due to the tender closing over budget and in order to conduct the necessary risk assessment and due diligence related to the downtown underground channels and other unknowns; and

Whereas it was determined after proper due diligence that risk related to the downtown underground channels was low; and

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒ _____

Whereas the Region of Peel's water main work represents a key opportunity for the City of Brampton to begin its initial subsurface infrastructure and surface work under the previously named "Downtown Reimagined" project as an immediate solution to revitalize the downtown, support Brampton's 5 year Tourism Strategy, and in conjunction with the broader integrated downtown plan and the Region of Peel; and

Whereas past work related to the previous "Downtown Reimagined" project included stakeholder consultations with businesses, organizations, and residents; and

Whereas a decision of the future LRT (surface or underground) along Main Street to the downtown core is a significant transformational project similar to the Riverwalk which will further support the growth, economic future, and other significant plans of the City of Brampton but is separate from the more immediate need to implement a solution to revitalize the downtown core,

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

That the Region of Peel be requested to pause the upcoming tender for the interim replacement of the existing watermain in its temporary configuration until such time a path forward has been determined by the City for the downtown streetscape;

That City of Brampton staff prepare a list of options to begin work on components of the previously named "Downtown Reimagined" as the first phase of the immediate implementation of the broader Integrated Downtown Plan process (which includes future plans and alignment design for the LRT in the downtown) and in coordination with the Region of Peel's infrastructure work; and

That staff report back within 90 days to include the following elements:

- a. The emerging alignments for a future LRT into Downtown Brampton
- b. Consideration and input from all the utilities
- c. Consideration and input from the Region of Peel
- d. A prioritized list of work for each option which also identifies interim strategies that could advance and/or contribute to the ultimate downtown streetscape design
- e. Consideration of options for public engagement including the DBBIA and the BBOT
- f. Consideration of the impact of the on-going pandemic on the downtown businesses
- g. How improvements in the Garden Square and Ken Whillans Square can be incorporated
- h. A summary of timelines, construction phasing, costs, financing strategies and risks associated with each option considering all of the above; and

That staff consult and obtain direction from Council on a path forward on all of the above.

Yours truly,

Terri Brenton

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(CL-12.3 – Recommendation CW243-2021)