

## Motion

**Agenda Number:** 21.1  
**Date:** June 12, 2025

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**Moved by** **Councillor Santos**

**Seconded by** **Mayor Brown**

Whereas the growing number of homeless encampments in the City of Brampton is a complex problem that requires collaborative efforts from all levels of government and community partners;

And whereas encampments and homelessness are on the rise across the country due to a lack of and access to deeply affordable housing options, underfunding of supports for equity seeking populations, and the rising cost of living;

And whereas inadequate funding for social services such as housing and shelters, mental health and addictions, and other wraparound supports have left residents in Brampton in need of more support from all levels of government;

And whereas as of February 2024, the City has had to address numerous encampment sites throughout Brampton, including those within flood zones, beside playgrounds and splashpads, near schools, and directly adjacent to residential backyards;

And whereas as of May 21, 2025, the City of Brampton has 24 active encampment sites throughout the City and growing;

And whereas, to address the growing encampment concerns, the City of Brampton has incurred \$1.15 million in costs in 2024 related to encampment response efforts. These costs include signage, materials, safety equipment, contracted security, and site restoration expenses associated with the cleanup of inactive and hazardous encampment sites;

And whereas the City of Brampton has been working closely since 2024 with the Region of Peel to support its work in developing an Encampment Policy Framework and Joint Protocols for Peel Region and its Local Municipalities that will be implemented in 2025;

And whereas the City of Brampton has budgeted \$550,000 for clean-up costs of encampments for 2025, with the approved budget nearly spent as of May 2025;

And whereas the City welcomed the December 12, 2024 provincial announcement of \$75.5 million to support homelessness prevention and provide people living in encampments with access to reasonable alternative accommodation and legislative changes intended to support public safety, including:

- 1) \$5.5 Million top up to the Canada – Ontario Housing Benefit to immediately free up emergency shelter spaces by moving people from shelters to long-term housing
- 2) \$50 Million (provincewide) for Last Mile Funding - Help complete near-finished affordable/supportive housing projects faster
- 3) \$20 Million (provincewide) Encampment Response Initiative – To create additional temporary shelter spaces (tiny homes, sprung structures etc.) and to remediate encampment sites;

And whereas given the scale of the problem and the urgent need to work together to help address homelessness in the Peel Region, all levels of government must work together to allocate the required resources to support Brampton's work on this critical file;

And whereas on April 30, 2025, following the recent provincial election, the Province re-introduced legislation to provide municipalities and police with the enhanced tools they need to end encampments and clean up our parks and public spaces including reference to the \$75.5 million in previously announced funding;

And whereas given the requirements to access the provincial funding flow through the existing homelessness prevention program administered by the Region in Peel, meant the lower-tier municipalities were not able to pursue the funding directly, the City of Brampton, City of Mississauga and Town of Caledon relied on the Region of Peel to pursue the \$20 million funding envelope for encampment response initiatives;

And whereas majority of encampments in the City of Brampton are found on City property, Brampton has provided the Region of Peel with information about costs incurred in 2024 addressing encampments across Brampton for the purpose of drafting a funding application to access the provincial funding and recover the

\$1.15 million in costs incurred in 2024 responding to encampments;

And whereas at the January 9, 2025 Region of Peel Council meeting, regional staff indicated that the Region would reimburse lower-tier municipalities for their costs associated with responding to encampments;

Therefore be it resolved that, the Region of Peel Council direct staff to work with the City of Brampton, City of Mississauga, and Town of Caledon to reimburse the lower-tier municipalities for all costs incurred in 2024, and costs for ongoing response to encampments in 2025, and to consider costs for implementing the Peel Encampment Policy Framework and Joint Protocols in the 2026 Budget process.