

Ref: 2008-M20.7

May 5, 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

City Council on April 28 and 29, 2008, referred the following Motion to the Executive Committee:

M20.7 City of Toronto Act, 2006 - Enhanced Powers for the Mayor of Toronto

Moved by Councillor Del Grande, seconded by Councillor Thompson

SUMMARY:

The City of Toronto Act, 2006, was proclaimed on January 1, 2007, providing the City with broad powers and significant legislative freedoms. Current legislation approved by City Council has been enhanced through this piece of legislation. The Mayor's Mandate for the Implementation of New Revenue Tools, Toronto's Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainable Energy Action Plan, the Agenda for Prosperity and the Online Petition to Canada-wide Ban on Handguns are measures implemented through the Executive Committee and City Council.

Through the Mayor's Fiscal Review Panel, they have suggested that the Mayor be given additional powers to govern the City. Mayor Miller has acknowledged that he has had discussions with the Province of Ontario, on his own without consulting City Council and the public on increasing his powers.

The Province of Ontario will be reviewing the Act as of January 1, 2009. In the event the Province agrees to make revisions to the City of Toronto Act, 2006, and grants additional powers to the Mayor of Toronto, there needs to be a review of how the City of Toronto governs itself.

RECOMMENDATION:

The following proposals be forwarded to the Province of Ontario for consideration during its review of the City of Toronto Act, 2006:

1. That, for the upcoming Council Term of 2010 to 2014, the forty-four (44) positions of City Councillor be eliminated altogether.

2. That the 2010 Toronto Municipal Election be conducted only for the position of the Mayor of Toronto.
3. That the Mayor of Toronto be given the authority to unilaterally hire or fire the City Manager, the Deputy City Managers and anybody else he sees fit, starting in the 2010 to 2014 Council Term.
4. That the Mayor of Toronto for the 2010 to 2014 term be given the authority to appoint or dismiss twelve (12) individuals to serve on the Mayor's Executive or Cabinet Committee to handle the affairs of the City of Toronto.

Council also considered a Fiscal Impact Statement (April 28, 2008) from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd

Attach.