



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED
with Confidential Attachment**

Direction Regarding Land Use Planning in Relation to Hospital Heliports

Date:	June 13, 2016
To:	Executive Committee
From:	City Solicitor
Wards:	All Wards
Reason for Confidential Information:	This report contains advice or communications that are subject to solicitor-client privilege.
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

St. Michael's Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children are concerned that potential development and associated construction could interfere with the flight paths for their respective heliports. The Province has issued a Minister's Zoning Order that regulates development within these flight paths, but it will expire at the end of September 2017. The City must contemplate the most effective approach towards regulating development within proximity to these hospitals.

The City Solicitor requires further directions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Solicitor recommends that:

1. Council adopt the confidential instructions to staff in Attachment 1.
2. Council authorize the public release of the recommendations in Attachment 1 if adopted, with the remainder of Attachment 1 to remain confidential at the discretion of the City Solicitor.

Financial Impact

The financial impacts are set out in the confidential attachment.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In recent months St. Michael's Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children have voiced concern with respect to recently approved development applications potentially interfering with the ability for helicopters to access hospital heliports. In response, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) has issued a Minister's Zoning Order to regulate the use of land within proximity of St. Michael's Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children, but this instrument will expire at the end of September, 2017.

COMMENTS

St. Michael's Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children handle 60 percent of all patient related helicopter landings in all of Ontario. There is a real concern that tall buildings, if approved and developed within proximity of these hospital heliports, will interfere with the use of these hospitals' helipads.

The federal government may pass zoning regulations pursuant to the *Aeronautics Act* to regulate the use of land to prevent incompatibility with airport (heliport) operations. The federal government may also enter into an agreement with the provincial or municipal government to authorize that level of government to regulate the use of lands in the vicinity of an airport (heliport) for the purpose of ensuring that the use or structure is not incompatible with the safe operation of an airport (heliport).

City Council must consider the best approach towards maintaining the safe operation of the aforementioned heliports.

CONTACT

Abbie Moscovich, Solicitor, Tel. No.: 416-392-6905; Fax No.: 416-397-5624

E-mail: amoscov@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Margaret A. Fischer, Acting Interim City Solicitor

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1: Confidential Information