



**Confederation of Resident & Ratepayer
Associations in Toronto**

Written on behalf of the CORRA Council
(Communicating with 137 Neighbourhood Associations City Wide)

November 26, 2019

Mayor John Tory
mayor_tory@toronto.ca
Councillor Bradford
councillor_bradford@toronto.ca
Councillor Cressy
councillor_cressy@toronto.ca
Councillor Fletcher
councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca
Councillor Grimes
councillor_grimes@toronto.ca
Councillor Holyday, Chair
councillor_holyday@toronto.ca
Councillor McKelvie
councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca
Councillor Layton
councillor_layton@toronto.ca
Councillor Nunziata
councillor_nunziata@toronto.ca
Councillor Bailao
councillor_bailao@toronto.ca
Councillor Perruzza
councillor_perruzza@toronto.ca
Councillor Thompson
councillor_thompson@toronto.ca
Councillor Carroll
councillor_carroll@toronto.ca

Councillor Ainslie
councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca
Councillor Colle
councillor_colle8@toronto.ca
Councillor Filion
councillor_filion@toronto.ca
Councillor Ford
councillor_mford@toronto.ca
Councillor Lai
councillor_lai@toronto.ca
Councillor Perks, Vice-Chair
councillor_perks@toronto.ca
Councillor Minnan-Wong
councillor_minnan-wong@toronto.ca
Councillor Matlow
councillor_matlow@toronto.ca
Councillor Pasternak
councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca
Councillor Crawford
councillor_crawford@toronto.ca
Councillor Robinson
councillor_robinson@toronto.ca
Councillor Wong-Tam
councillor_wongtam@toronto.ca
Marilyn Toft, Secretariat Contact
councilmeeting@toronto.ca

Ref: GV5.1–Special Committee on Governance-Request to Support Motions at City Council Nov. 26, 2019

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose

(The more things change, the more they stay the same)

After eleven (11) months of supposed consultation with our communities on suggestions for new models of City Governance with enhanced community engagement in the process, we now have a governance situation which is a nano bite above the Status Quo with an increased awareness of the futility of the public consultation process.

CORRA (The Confederation of Resident & Ratepayer Associations in Toronto) supports and had expected that this consultation would result in the exploration and research of a new Governance vision and organization for the City of Toronto not just a review of the Committee of Adjustment process. The post-secondary institute, as mentioned in this report, should also include at least three (3) governance models within and without Canada and report back its findings to the public session of whatever Standing Committee is appropriate now that it appears that the Special Committee appears to be defunct after this November 1, 2019 meeting.

Imagine our disappointment when the Special Committee turned down the Motions put forward by Councillors Perks and Carroll to approve the funding to support the major themes of this supposed community consultation process:

- Public engagement and civic literacy;
- An Office of Neighbourhoods and supports to neighbourhood associations; and
- Functions of City Councillors and possible delegation of some duties to appointed individuals or bodies.

In the event that these lost Motions (copied at the end of this e-mail) come before the City Council, we request that the whole City Council support the spirit and outcomes of the Community Consultation and these major themes by passing these motions funding initiatives of Public Engagement as requested by the people of Toronto.

In the interim, frustrated by the lack of support for funding of civic engagement, we put forward the following recommendations to enhance the specifics of public engagement in the existing process. We have an expectation that the City Council will receive these recommendations, review them and report back on them at whatever Standing Committee is appropriate with opportunities for public input.

CORRA supports and recommends that:

1. Public Engagement

CORRA supports a comprehensive civic engagement review as set out on page 7 of the report. This research should examine a minimum of three (3) models for the specifics of public engagement. It is our position that prior to retaining consultants the Terms of Reference for such study should be provided to whichever standing committee is assigned this responsibility with notice to the public. The Terms of Reference should specify the methodology for consulting the public and stakeholders.

Further to this review of comprehensive civic engagement models, the following motion was approved at the CORRA Council meeting on September 14, 2019:

That the CORRA Council support sending a request to the Special Committee on Governance and such other bodies as needed to explore the benefits of the Lakeshore Planning Council Corp's plan 'City Planning Commission, City of Toronto' June 24, 2019 and for a report to be sent back to the Governance Committee and whichever standing committee is assigned this responsibility with notice to the public of their recommendations.

2. Office of Neighbourhoods

CORRA supports the creation of an Office of Neighbourhoods to support opportunities for collective discussion and provide information for neighbourhood associations. If directed by Council, staff could report on resource requirements for an Office that would undertake research, develop resources, create and maintain a central databank and map, provide advice and referrals for new and established neighbourhood associations as well as coordinate divisional information for associations.

Notice and Agenda Items for Standing Committees.

a) the need for access to timely information and access to the reports in advance or any public meeting.

- i) Notice of an item without having access to Staff Recommendations is inadequate notice. The report plus draft zoning and draft official plan amendments should be available: a minimum of 30 days in advance of the statutory meeting.**
- ii) All Standing Committee Agenda and non-statutory public reports: should be release at least 15 days prior to the committee meeting not only when they are released to the Councillors which may be as little as 5 days in advance.**
- iii) In addition Planning Staff should be directed to report back in regard to an Official Plan Amendment to allow for at least two public community consultation meetings in the affected area and developing policies to hold Working Group meetings where appropriate in regard to development projects prior to Community Council presentation.**

b) Creation of Lists and or certification of ratepayer, resident and community organizations:

CORRA remains concerned that certain suggestions in the report could result in compromising the Autonomy and independence of such groups. It should be remembered that one of the responsibility of groups is to critique policies of the City.

CORRA supports the maintenance of a list of, but not necessarily the certification of, Neighbourhood Associations but does not support any requirement of providing financial records.

It should be remembered that many groups appear before the TLAB and LPAT from time to time. Providing discovery of their finances would severely impact on their ability to carry out such functions.

Since 1969 CORRA has set out the following minimum criteria to apply to Associations who apply to be members of CORRA Council:

- a) Current paid membership of not less than forty (40);**
- b) Who have a constitution or articles of association;**
- c) Who have an elected executive or other responsible person or persons for the conduct of their affairs;**

which has proved serviceable in identifying active ratepayer and other groups.

3. Issues and Recommendations from the June 11, 2019 Special Committee Mtg re the Committee of Adjustment

CORRA supports Recommendation #2 of the Report which states:

City Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to consider partnering with a post-secondary institute to undertake research on the organizational structure of the Committee of Adjustment to better engage and empower residents in the process

We concur that there is an uneven distribution of applications and workload across the four CoA districts .

We do not believe this can be best achieved by securing dedicated hearing space.

CORRA's recommendation for resolution is that:

- a) Additional Committee of Adjustment Panels be established and that such panels do not need to be limited to the four Community Council boundaries.**

For example, Etobicoke-York Community Council, except during the summer months, had two panels that met at two locations (Etobicoke Civic Centre and York Civic Centre).

**William H. Roberts
CORRA Chair 2019**

**Veronica Wynne
CORRA Secretary 2019**

Motions voted down at the Nov. 1, 2019 Special Committee on Governance

Motions

1a - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to conduct, at the start of each term of Council, a large-scale public consultation on the City's long-term service priorities and financial direction to ensure Council's strategic direction for the four-year term is aligned with and understood by the community it serves.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

1b - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council direct the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to present options for presenting the Tax-Supported Operating and Capital Budgets to the Executive Committee first to report on alignment with the Mayor and Council's strategic direction, then be referred to Budget Committee, for review and engagement with Council members and the community.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

1c - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to conduct an annual, rolling review of local agencies, boards, corporations, and commissions to ensure that each organization's operations are aligned with the City's strategic priorities and report the outcomes of these reviews to the Executive Committee.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

1f - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Carried)

That:

1. City Council request that the City Clerk identify opportunities to create a more welcoming atmosphere for public presentations (deputations), including increased information for newcomers, dedicated deputations guides, and posted speaking schedules.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Carried	Majority Required
Yes: 4	Shelley Carroll, Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair), Gord Perks
No: 0	
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

1g - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to report back as part of the 2020 Budget process on the resources necessary to undertake a review of the City's engagement strategies. This review should include:

- a. an assessment of the current resources applied to the City's engagement efforts citywide;
- b. an analysis of other municipal engagement strategies;
- c. an assessment of best practice models to deliver effective engagement of stakeholders; and
- d. a draft implementation plan of the highest and best practices in a multifaceted community engagement strategy.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

1h - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council direct the City Manager and the City Clerk to report to the Executive Committee by the end of the second quarter of 2020 on steps needed to conduct the 2022 election for Mayor and Councillors by ranked ballot, such report to include, but not be limited to:

- a. an update of previous reports focused on the use of ranked ballots by various municipalities, particularly in London, Ontario in 2018, as well as other comparable North American jurisdictions such as Minneapolis and San Francisco;
- b. public consultation and public education requirements of a successful transition to a ranked ballot system, including those contained in the Municipal Elections Act and associated MEA Regulations;
- c. technical aspects of transitioning to a ranked ballot system, such as compatible electronic tabulation technology and the technological solutions available to enable a cost effective implementation, such as renting technology from Elections Ontario; and
- d. timelines and associated incremental costs required to implement a ranked ballot for the 2022 election.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

li - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Shelley Carroll (Lost)

That:

1. City Council request that the City Clerk to review, and report back to the Special Committee on Governance, on moving to a New York City Campaign Finance Authority model of financing Toronto Municipal Elections, such review to include:

- a. an outline of the components of the model including pre-election day accountability and disclosures, grant campaign financing, nomination procedures to take part in grant financing, etc.
- b. a review of the impacts of the New York City model on post-election compliance challenges and legal challenges, and
- c. a detailed estimate of the cost of a 26 member Council election under this model.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

2 - Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Gord Perks (Lost)

That:

1. Recommendation 1 in the staff report be deleted.
2. City Council request the Budget Committee to consider increasing the 2020 Operating budget for the City Manager's Office by \$3.3 million to fund consultation and research on:
 - a. Public engagement and civic literacy;
 - b. An Office of Neighbourhoods and supports to neighbourhood associations;
 - c. Functions of City Councillors and possible delegation of some duties to appointed individuals or bodies;
 - d. Permanent resident voting;
 - e. Changes to the way committee meetings operate including presentations, Member Motions and agenda management;
 - f. Council advisory bodies; and

g. Public appointments;

and direct the City Manager to carry out the consultation and research once the additional funds are approved.

Vote (Amend Item (Additional))

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão

3 - Motion to Adopt Item as Amended moved by Councillor Stephen Holyday (Lost)

That:

1. The Special Committee on Governance adopt Recommendation 1 of the staff report:

"1. City Council direct that the governance model adopted by City Council on December 4, 2018 (CC1.1) remain in place as the continual model."

Vote (Adopt Item as Amended)

Nov-01-2019

Result: Lost (tie)	Majority Required
Yes: 2	Shelley Carroll, Gord Perks
No: 2	Gary Crawford, Stephen Holyday (Chair)
Absent: 1	Ana Bailão