

Attachment 3: Preliminary Summary of Submissions to Special Committee on Governance to Date – March 2019

Theme	Public ideas	Examples from other jurisdictions	Questions and considerations	What is currently in place in Toronto
<p>1. Supporting Neighbourhoods and Communities' Relationships with Local Governance</p>	<p>Toronto should consider a neighbourhood council model to debate, advise and/or have delegated authority to make decisions on very local neighbourhood issues such as pad parking and fences</p> <p>Model would remove these issues from the agendas of community council meetings.</p>	<p>Los Angeles: 96 Neighbourhood Councils (NC) play an advisory role on a variety of issues; elected by members of the community; each NC represents on average 38,000 people; Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) provides operational funding and support (meeting and office space, office equipment, communications) to facilitate sharing of resources and communication with residents and City staff.</p> <p>New York City: 59 Community Boards (CB) each with up to 50 volunteer members (almost 3,000 CB members in total); half are nominated by a local Council members and all are appointed by Borough</p>	<p>Models will be reviewed with consideration given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity • Scope • Geographic area represented • Resources and supports required • Reporting relationships • Method of selecting members • Previous evaluations/audits of models • Need to determine what gaps each model would be addressing and if there would be alternate ways to achieve goals within the existing governance structure • Review against Toronto's governance structures (e.g. role of "borough president") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council advisory bodies • Program advisory bodies • Current networks with community based organizations, including the Non-Profit Network (SDFA) • Existing tribunals and appeals panels comprised of residents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Property Standards Committee ○ Sign Variance Committee ○ Toronto Preservation Board • Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 supports participation of vulnerable communities through Neighbourhood Improvement Area (NIA) tables, networks and capacity-building programs like the Local Champions Program. • Existing community service clubs, residents associations, networks of public benefit organizations. • City grants to community organizations. • Toronto Foundation. • Community-based agencies (e.g. Arena Boards, AOCCs)

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		<p>President to a two-year term; each CB lead by a District Manager; Mayor's Community Affairs Unit designed to connect City Hall to residents, and includes CBs and Neighborhood Support Teams (NSTs)</p> <p>Portland: An Office of Neighbourhood contracts with 7 non-profit organizations called District Neighbourhood Coalitions (DNC) to build capacity to build capacity for communities to participate in civic governance; each DNC supports a cluster of Neighbourhood Associations (NAs) by facilitating grant programs, City information and administration; City currently recognizes 95 NAs that are self-</p>		

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		<p>governed, volunteer-led organizations.</p> <p>Edmonton: 157 "community leagues" with volunteer board members advise Council on planning and development issues, deliver grants, and manage social and recreational infrastructure (e.g. halls, outdoor rinks, playgrounds) under tripartite agreement between City, leagues and the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues</p>		
2. Standing Committees	Interim standing committee structure should be amended to bring housing, shelter and social policy issues together.	<p>Ottawa reviews its standing committee structure each term.</p> <p>Vancouver has two standing committees (City Finances & Services and Policy & Strategic Priorities)</p> <p>New York City has 35 standing committees, each headed by a member of member of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance of workload/agenda items across committees with policy alignment • Recommend monitoring flow of business and experience of Standing Committee members in considering how 	<p>4 Standing Committees & Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and Community Development • General Government and Licensing • Infrastructure and Environment • Planning and Housing <p>Housing related matters are within the mandate of Planning and Housing Committee. Matters related to shelters and social policy are typically within the mandate of Economic and Community Development.</p>

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		Council, including at least five members.	<p>certain policy areas are being debated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any changes to the existing Standing Committee model would need to ensure a relatively equal distribution in terms of agenda items and work load. Review with Members of Council and staff managing Committee agendas with provide more information. 	
3. Engagement	<p>General comments on a desire for engagement at all points in the governance process at the City.</p> <p>TOCore public engagement was highlighted as a good example of a robust public conversation.</p> <p>Involve more people with lived experience in</p>	<p>Montreal: the Office de Consultation Publique is an agency funded by the City that carries out public meetings on behalf of Montreal City Council or its Executive Committee. Issues primarily involve urban and land-use planning projects, but may include any project suggested by Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to assess best model for Toronto (e.g. centralized vs. decentralized). Resource implications could be significant, depending on the model. The City Manager's Office is currently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council adopted Toronto's Civic Engagement Strategy in 2011 Get Involved webpage and social media promotes public consultation events, volunteer opportunities, public appointments "Community of Practice" of City divisions and agencies share and adapt best practices in civic engagement Civic engagement courses/training Resident participation on advisory bodies, agency and corporation

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	committees, boards and other advisory bodies	<p>or Executive Committee.</p> <p>Consultation processes are prescribed and results reported to Council or Committee for consideration.</p> <p>Vancouver: invites residents to join online community to receive consultation notices, participate in surveys, etc.</p> <p>Hamilton: Public engagement charter and toolkit outline principles and commitment to engagement</p> <p>Toronto and many other municipalities support civic engagement through decentralized approach, where multiple divisions are supported by a central resource coordinating engagement through</p>	<p>undertaking a review of the City's Engagement Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Divisions support public engagement throughout the City organization. • Need to match the objectives of the engagement with the method or tool being used. For each engagement, it is important to examine the issue or topic at hand, stakeholder and community capacity and demographics, potential barriers to participation, previous or related engagements, and existing data. 	boards, round tables and task forces.

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		surveys, meetings, partnerships, etc.		
4. Information	Broad requests for more, clearer, timely, user-friendly information.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider reviving Civics 101; more resources would be required. • Consider ways to get public feedback on current information provided to public and what further information would be desired (e.g. leveraging the Digital Reference Group) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "My Local Government-It's for Me" webpage and booklet (www.toronto.ca/city-government/council/my-local-government-its-for-me) • 211 (online version of "Blue Book") - phone and online • Open Data www.211toronto.ca • Introduction to Toronto's Government (www.toronto.ca/get-involved-how-government-works) • Get Involved (www.toronto.ca/getinvolved) • Budget Information Graphics • City's Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram) • Education booklets, booths and information sessions
5. Greater Autonomy for the City	City should revisit issue of Charter Cities with the province and the federal government. Need more autonomy from the province	Canadian Constitution sets out the role in municipalities in relation to provincial and federal governments; all Canadian municipalities are under the authority of their respective province.	<p>Enhanced autonomy/authority for the City would be a negotiation with the province and potentially the federal government.</p> <p>Committee would need to consider the scope of the mandate of the Special Committee on Governance in</p>	The Government of Ontario, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, is conducting a Regional Government Review. Their consultation is open to all residents until April 23, 2019 at https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-regional-government-review

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			determining whether this issue should be considered as part of its work.	
6. Electoral Reform	Term limits on members of Council should be put in place; Council should approve ranked ballots for the next municipal election; election finance rules should be reviewed.		<p>City Clerk will be reporting on election relation matters to City Council.</p> <p>Term limits: On February 21, 2019, the Committee voted on GV1.3 to defer indefinitely a request for a report on the implementation of term limits.</p> <p>Ranked ballots: On September 2015, as part of EX8.1, City Council voted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> k. that if the Province does amend the Municipal Elections Act to provide for Ranked Choice Voting; a. the use of Ranked Choice Voting be optional for the City of Toronto; and 	

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			<p>b. the City of Toronto only be permitted to implement Ranked Choice Voting after holding public consultations and a referendum.</p> <p>On July 26, 2013, the Executive Committee voted to defer indefinitely EX34.9, which proposed a number of electoral reforms to the provincial government, including exploring alternative voting systems, including ranked voting.</p> <p>Committee would need to consider the scope of the mandate of the Special Committee on Governance in determining whether this issue should be considered as part of its work.</p>	