



Councillor Paul W. Ainslie
City of Toronto Councillor
Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

Chair, Scarborough Community Council
Chair, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo
Chair, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Chair, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
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 Councillor Paul Ainslie Scarborough-Guildwood

 Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

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Date: August 13, 2024
To: General Government Committee Members
Re: IOS Airdrop functionality

Recommendation,

1. The General Government Committee requests that the Chief Technology Officer and Chief Information Security Officer report back to the Committee on November 20, 2024, with an update on the AirDrop functionality.

Background

This email serves as a follow-up on the AirDrop functionality that was disabled for all Councillors in September 2021 due to a security concern.

At that time, we were informed of a vulnerability within AirDrop that could potentially allow unauthorized individuals to obtain phone numbers and email addresses of Councillors. While Apple reportedly planned to address this issue in subsequent iOS updates, we have not received any further information regarding the status of a resolution.

Given that this issue has been ongoing for several years, an update on the current and anticipated future use of AirDrop for Councillors would be greatly appreciated.

Therefore, I kindly request that Technology Services investigate this matter further and provide a comprehensive report at the upcoming Government Management Meeting on November 20, 2024. This report should ideally address the following key points:

- A concise summary of the ongoing AirDrop security concerns impacting Councillors.
- A detailed explanation of the specific challenges that hinder the resolution of this issue, with particular emphasis on backward compatibility considerations.
- An estimated timeline outlining when Apple is expected to release a permanent fix for this vulnerability.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ainslie
City of Toronto, Councillor
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