



REPORT FOR ACTION WITH CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

Cyber Security Update

Date: October 21, 2024
To: Audit and Risk Management Committee of the Board of Directors of
Toronto Parking Authority
From: President, Toronto Parking Authority
Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report concerns matters related to protecting and safeguarding the City's assets, including those belonging to its agencies and affiliated corporations.

SUMMARY

In today's digital age, cyber threats have become increasingly sophisticated, presenting unprecedented challenges to organizations worldwide. The Toronto Parking Authority (TPA) stands at a crucial intersection where protecting our digital infrastructure is not just about preventing attacks - it's about safeguarding our operational integrity and maintaining public trust. As we navigate this complex landscape, our proactive approach to cybersecurity has become more vital than ever.

Our ongoing collaboration with the City of Toronto's Chief Information Security Office (CISO) and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and our commitment to regular independent security audits have revealed both challenges and opportunities. While cyber-attacks continue to evolve - attempting to breach systems, compromise confidential data, and disrupt essential services - our defensive capabilities have matured significantly. The stakes are exceptionally high: a single successful breach could impact operational systems, compromise sensitive data, and potentially erode public confidence in our services.

However, with these challenges come opportunities for transformation. Our strategic investments in cybersecurity are not merely defensive measures; they represent a commitment to operational excellence and digital innovation. By strengthening our security infrastructure, we're not only protecting against threats but also building a more resilient, efficient, and trusted organization. Our proactive threat detection systems,

coupled with advanced incident response capabilities, position us to not just react to threats but to anticipate and neutralize them before they materialize.

The path forward is clear: by continuing to invest in and enhance our cybersecurity measures, we're not just protecting against threats – we're building a foundation for sustainable digital operations that our customers and stakeholders can trust. Our security initiatives represent a crucial investment in TPA's future, ensuring we remain resilient and adaptable in an ever-evolving digital landscape.

The confidential attachment accompanying this report outlines our technology investments and security enhancements critical to maintaining our defensive posture. Given the sensitive nature of these security matters relating to City assets and infrastructure, this presentation will take place in a closed session.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The President recommends that:

1. The Board of Directors of Toronto Parking Authority direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachment 1 remain confidential in its entirety, as it involves the security of property belonging to the City or one of its agencies or corporations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its Mar 26, 2024, meeting, the TPA Board of Directors adopted Item PA8.7, Cyber Security Update.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.PA8.7>

At its May 25, 2023, meeting, the TPA Board of Directors adopted Item PA4.3, Cyber Security Update.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.PA4.3>

At its meeting on April 6 and 7, 2022, Toronto City Council considered Item GL29.16, “Status of Audit Recommendations and Key Cyber Security Risks,” directing Boards of Agencies and Corporations to submit to the City’s Confirmation Program and provide 30 60 90-day remediation plans.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2022.GL29.16>

Toronto City Council, at its meetings on November 9, 10, and 12, 2021, considered Item AU10.4, “Auditor General’s Cyber Security Review: Toronto Fire Services Critical System Review,” directing the City Manager to develop a confirmation program to mitigate cyber security risks across the City of Toronto, including all City divisions, agencies, and corporations.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.AU10.4>

At its meeting on July 19, 2021, the Board reviewed the results of a cyber security assessment of the Toronto Parking Authority’s information technology environment completed on July 2, 2021. At this meeting, the Board authorized staff to proceed with mitigation and remediation recommendations.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.PA25.2>

Toronto City Council, at its meeting of October 29 and 30, 2019, in considering Item AU4.1, “Cyber Safety: A Robust Cyber Security Program Needed to Mitigate Current and Emerging Threats,” requested the City’s agencies and corporations to provide a cyber security enterprise risk assessment to the City of Toronto Chief Technology Officer.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.AU4.1>

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SIGNATURE

W. Scott Collier
President, Toronto Parking Authority

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – Cyber Security Update