



Date: July 16, 2025

Mayor Olivia Chow
Members of Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Re: Request for Reinstatement – IPAC Paving Limited and Pave-1 Construction Limited
Request to Review Supplier Suspensions**

Dear City Council,

I am the owner of IPAC Paving Inc. and Pave-1 Construction Limited. I write to ask for your support at the upcoming Council meeting on July 23, 2025, in adopting the Chief Procurement Officer's recommendation to reinstate IPAC Paving Limited and Pave-1 Construction Limited as eligible suppliers for the City of Toronto.

The matter before you is ultimately one of fairness. It is about recognizing that I am not my father and should not be held accountable for his misconduct that occurred more than a decade ago. Lifting the suspension would allow me and my businesses to move forward and contribute meaningfully to City procurement—delivering competitive pricing, dependable service, and the expertise we have built and stand proudly behind.

A. History

On June 27, 2025, the Chief Procurement Officer issued a [staff report](#) recommending the reinstatement of IPAC Paving Limited and Pave-1 Construction Limited as eligible suppliers to the City of Toronto.

The issue was before the General Government Committee on July 14, 2025 as [Item 2025.GG23.2](#), titled "*Request to Review Supplier Suspensions and Reinstate IPAC Paving Limited and Pave-1 Construction Limited.*" At the meeting, several councillors made thoughtful and candid remarks. The Committee forwarded the item to Council without recommendations which will be considered on July 23, 2025.

I understand that some committee members expressed concern on July 14 that I did not appear on camera during the meeting. I sincerely apologize. I was unfamiliar with the process and did not mean to show any disrespect or appear disengaged. I have reached out to every committee member to offer a face-to-face meeting so I could personally explain the ongoing impact this suspension continues to have on my business, my team, and our ability to contribute to City projects. I have not yet heard back, but I offer this letter in the hope that it may help share my story and provide context for the decision now before Council.

B. Background

In 2009, my father, Sebastian Corbo, who managed IPAC at the time, pleaded guilty in his personal capacity to paying a secret commission related to TTC contracts. IPAC itself was never charged or convicted of any wrongdoing but took responsibility by fully repaying the TTC. My father retired from the business in 2012 and received a pardon in 2020. No one currently employed at IPAC or Pave-1 is still employed from that time.

Following that incident, IPAC was suspended by the City of Toronto in 2011 and added to the list of ineligible vendors. That suspension was made permanent in 2012. In 2014, Pave-1 Construction Limited—



despite being a separate company with no involvement in the underlying matter—was also added to the suspension list on the basis that it was a “related company.” Like me, Pave-1 had no part in the past wrongdoing. It is a completely independent entity, founded by me in 2013.

C. Rebuilding IPAC

After father retired, I took over IPAC during a period of significant crisis. I took immediate steps to reform the business. Over the past decade, my team and I have worked tirelessly to rebuild trust and deliver results. Between IPAC and Pave-1, we have completed over 3,000 infrastructure projects and paved more than one million square metres of asphalt across Ontario. We have earned favourable references from municipalities such as Mississauga and Richmond Hill and have passed review under the Government of Canada’s integrity regime. These achievements reflect the quality of our work and the integrity with which we conduct business.

Yet the City of Toronto’s permanent suspension remains in place and continues to impose significant harm. It prevents us from bidding on City work and is often cited by other municipalities as a reason to disqualify us. That stigma unfairly continues to follow me, even though I had no involvement in the events that led to the suspension.

City staff have now completed a detailed review of our operations and concluded that we meet all current procurement standards and recommend our reinstatement. Fairness requires acknowledging the transformation we have achieved and giving us a fair opportunity to participate once again as responsible suppliers.

The City has need for experienced and capable paving contractors. IPAC and Pave-1 are ready and able to meet that need, offering proven experience, quality service, and competitive value.

If reinstatement is not approved, I may have no choice but to seek removal of the suspension through the Superior Court of Justice. I say this with respect and reluctance. This is not the path I want to take. But the continued presence of my companies on the City’s suspended supplier list is causing real and lasting harm. Other municipalities continue to cite it as a reason not to work with us, despite everything we have done to separate ourselves from the past.

I am asking, sincerely, for the opportunity to move forward. I hope Council will accept the staff recommendation and allow me and my businesses to be judged for who we are today—not for who we were under my father over 15 years ago.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Corbo", written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John Corbo