

NO: R006

COUNCIL DATE: January 16, 2023

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **January 12, 2023**

FROM: **General Manager, Corporate Services**

FILE: **0540-20**

SUBJECT: **Establishment of Select Committees of Council**

RECOMMENDATION

The Corporate Services Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Support the establishment of the following Select Committees of Council:
 - a) Agricultural and Food Policy Committee;
 - b) Environment and Climate Change Committee
 - c) Livability and Social Equity Committee;
 - d) Public Safety Committee;
 - e) Investment, Innovation and Business Committee;
 - f) Parks, Recreation and Tourism Advisory Committee; and
 - g) Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the Select Committees of Council as contained in the recommendations of this report.

BACKGROUND

Section 142 (1) of the *Community Charter* states that "A Council may establish and appoint a select committee to consider or inquire into any matter and to report its findings and opinion to the council."

The City's Select Committees are established by Council and are typically comprised of Council members (acting as a Member or Chair of the Committee) and residents. Their mandate is to provide information and make recommendations to Council on issues of concern to the public and the City.

Council adopts Terms of Reference ("TOR") for each Select Committee which provides the terms and conditions for the committee including its mandate, term and composition. Typically, each Select Committee follows an annual Work Plan that is based on the Committee's mandate. Committee members including Councillors and staff identify tasks to be included in

the Select Committee's Annual Work Plan accordingly at the commencement of each Committee term.

DISCUSSION

It is recommended that Council support the following Select Committees of Council:

1. Agricultural and Food Policy Committee;
2. Environment and Climate Change Committee
3. Livability and Social Equity Committee;
4. Public Safety Committee;
5. Investment, Innovation and Business Committee;
6. Parks, Recreation and Tourism Advisory Committee; and
7. Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Next Steps

Solicitation of External (Public) Committee Members

In early December 2022, staff initiated a solicitation process to recruit volunteers that may be interested in participating as Members of one or more of the above Select Committees of Council. Interested persons are required to submit applications by January 20, 2023.

In addition to the requirement that applicants are citizens of Surrey, membership requires that volunteers possess general experience/expertise in the category of committee(s) they wish to participate in.

Following the January 20, 2023 application deadline, staff will present a list of volunteer candidates to Council to consider for subsequent appointments to any one or more Select Committee(s).

Appointment of Council Members to Select Committees of Council

In addition to the above, appointments of Council Members to either Chair a Select Committee, and/or participate as a Member of a Select Committee, will be considered by Council at a future Council meeting.

Terms of Reference for Select Committees of Council

A proposed TOR for each Select Committee will be presented to Council for endorsement at a future meeting of Council.

At that meeting, Council will be requested to consider specific Committee appointments based on each of the Select Committee's proposed TOR. Following consideration of the applicants and formal appointments at the meeting, staff will contact all of the applicants and then prepare a list of successful appointees to be formally announced by the Mayor at a future meeting.

Each Committee's work plan and TOR will be reviewed at each Committee's first meeting following the appointment of members to review and update as required at the call of the Chair.

Legal Services Review

This report has been reviewed by Legal Services.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendations of this report support the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, the recommendation related to the Sustainability Charter themes of Inclusion, Built Environment and Neighbourhoods, Public Safety, Ecosystems, Education and Culture, Health and Wellness and Infrastructure. Specifically, the acquisition supports the following Strategic Directions ("SD") and Desired Outcomes ("DO"):

- Diversity and Accessibility DO1: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here.
- Community Pride and Engagement DO23: Numerous active local clubs, groups and agencies contribute to the community's well-being.
- Education & Culture DO9: Surrey supports and celebrates its diverse artists, cultures and community heritage through inclusive festivals, programming and events.
- Neighbourhoods and Urban Design DO1: Surrey is comprised of distinct, diverse and compact neighbourhoods and Town Centres, with an engaging public realm.
- Neighbourhoods and Urban Design SD6: Provide a range of community amenities including culture, recreation, health, and educational facilities in each Town Centre.
- Community Safety and Emergency Services SD3: Ensure programs, policies and initiatives exist along the public safety continuum, and support the entire community.
- Natural Areas, Biodiversity and Urban Forest DO3: All development enhances, or minimizes the impacts on Surrey's lush tree canopy and natural environment, and avoids encroachment into natural areas, habitat features and parks.
- Learning DO3: Surrey has a culture of learning, with a broad range of diverse learning opportunities available and accessible to meet the needs of all residents.
- Health Services and Programs DO1: Surrey has a full range of high quality, community-based health and social services and programs that address health and wellness.

CONCLUSION

The adoption of the recommendations of this report will allow Council to establish various City Committees to more effectively carry out its business. Subsequent Council appointments to these committees at a future Council meeting will enhance Council's ability to support the current and future economic, social and environmental well-being of its residents.

Rob Costanzo
General Manager, Corporate Services