



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Final - Final Executive Committee

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

For consideration by General Committee on June 11, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, A. Nuttall at 5:02 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 7 - Mayor A. Nuttall
Deputy Mayor R. Thomson
Councillor C. Nixon
Councillor G. Harvey
Councillor J. Harris
Councillor S. Morales
Councillor B. Hamilton

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor, C. Riepma
Councillor, A. Courser
Councillor, N. Nigussie

STAFF:

Chief Administrative Officer, M. Prowse
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, W. Cooke
Deputy City Clerk, T. Macdonald
Director of Corporate Facilities, R. Pews
Director of Information Technology, R. Nolan
Executive Director of Development Services, M. Banfield
General Manager of Access Barrie, R. James-Reid
General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, J. Schmidt
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, B. Araniyasundaran
Legislative Coordinator, T. Maynard
Manager of Legal Services, A. Mills
Senior Policy Advisor and Legislative Coordinator, E. Chappell
Service Desk Specialist, K. Kovacs.

The Executive Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s) which were dealt with on the consent portion of the agenda:

SECTION "A"

TRAFFIC STUDY FOR INTERSECTION OF MULCASTER STREET AND WORSLEY STREET

That staff in the Development Services Department investigate possible solutions to minimize the possibility of traffic and pedestrian incidents at the intersection of Mulcaster Street and Worsley Street caused by blind spots when travelling west on Worsley Street through the intersection at Mulcaster Street and report back to the Community Safety Committee. (Item for Discussion 1.1, May 28, 2025) (Sponsor: Councillor, C. Nixon)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

TEMPORARY ROAD VEHICLE BLOCKADES

That staff in the Development Services Department prepare an intake form for consideration in the 2026 budget for costs associated with the purchase of temporary road vehicle blockades included but not limited to the Archer 1200 and the MVB 3X modular vehicle barriers for use at road closures for events such as Open Air Dunlop, New Years Eve Countdown and the Remembrance Day ceremonies along with other events and festivals throughout the City to ensure the safety of the attending patrons. (Item for Discussion 1.2, May 28, 2025) (Sponsors: Councillor, G. Harvey and Councillor, A. Courser)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

4 WAY STOP AT KING STREET

That staff in the Development Services Department be directed to add stop signs for north and southbound Reid Drive at King Street, where the roads intersect at the south end of King Street to make a 4-way stop, as it is at the north intersection of the same two roads. (Item for Discussion 1.3, May 28, 2025) (Sponsor: Councillor, G. Harvey)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

EXTENDING COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE - MARSELLUS DRIVE

That staff in the Development Services Department be directed to prepare the following:

- a. An amendment to By-law 2003-160, as amended, Community Safety Zones By-law, to Schedule "A" to add Marsellus Drive from South leg of Downing Crescent to 85 metres west of Farmstead Crescent.
- b. An amendment to By-law 2002-191, as amended, Rates of Speed By-law, Schedule "A", authorized rates of maximum speed - 40 kilometres per hour to add Marsellus Drive from South leg of Downing Crescent to 85 metres west of Farmstead Crescent. (Item for Discussion 1.4, May 28, 2025) (Sponsor: Councillor, G. Harvey)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

PILOT PROGRAM - ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

1. That the CAO establish a 2-year pilot program in order to pursue programs and services supported by Canadian Owned/Based Artificial Intelligence Companies;
2. That notwithstanding the Procurement By-law in order to address the new and changing landscape of Artificial Intelligence programs and services, the CAO be delegated authority to procure such services and programs during the period of the pilot project;
3. That an annual budget for this program be set at an upset limit of no more than \$600k to be funded from the Reinvestment Reserve; and
4. That the CAO report back to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee or by memorandum regarding the programs and services procured, including any efficiencies and return on investment achieved by the City of Barrie. (Item for Discussion 1.5, May 28, 2025) (Sponsor: Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

The Executive Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "B"

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES

Rick Pews, Director of Corporate Facilities provided updates concerning the Performing Arts Centre, Lakehead University, Cadets/Southshore, Library and Recreation Centres, as follows:

The schematic design work continues on the Performing Arts Centre as well as the Sea Cadet's Hayter Centre expansion project. In addition, updated

site fit and testing, block planning and preliminary costing work has been completed to meet anticipated recreational centre capacity needs for the Hewitt and Salem secondary plan areas. Staff reports related to the Performing Arts Centre and recreation centres will be brought forward at the June 11th, 2025 General Committee meeting. Staff were scheduled to bring a report related to the Sea Cadets project to General Committee on the same night, but additional work is required to help ensure budget certainty for that project. Staff expect to have this completed in advance of the scheduled August General Committee and Council meeting and plan to bring it forward at that time.

Design development work on Lakehead University's downtown campus is proceeding quickly. With continued input from Lakehead's academic team, our consultants and contractors are finalizing space layouts to meet the university's specific needs. Staff are developing detailed design plans in phases and are targeting to have the first set of building permit plans completed and ready for submission by mid-June. Subsequent packages will follow throughout the summer months. The team is following these parallel workflows to ensure that the longest lead portions of the project can be started first.

Funding and operating agreement discussions with Lakehead's Executive are expected to continue into the summer months.

Questions asked by members of Committee and Council in attendance:

1. Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson asked about the library having 2 potential sites, one being city owned and the other being owned by a third party and do either of these burden staff with timing.

Jeff Schmidt, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services advised that with respect to location staff have proceeded as directed by Council and have reviewed some locations in the north end, narrowing it down to two possible properties. Mr. Schmidt advised that additional staff resources would be needed to proceed with the city owned site.

2. Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson asked would the privately owned property have a less significant risk than publicly owned property?

Jeff Schmidt, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services advised that City owned property would pose some challenges from a timing and resource perspective and therefore it may be better to look at privately owned property.

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to General Committee for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

The Executive Committee met and recommends adoption of the following

recommendation(s):

SECTION "C"

NORTHWEST BARRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATION

That staff in Corporate Facilities be authorized to negotiate a lease agreement with a property owner in northwest Barrie for the purpose of locating and constructing a boutique library to be executed by the Mayor and City Clerk, in a form acceptable to the Director of Legal Services and General Manager of Community and Corporate Services; and

That a Capital Project be created to be funded by the Development Charge Reserve and the financial contribution approved by the Barrie Public Library Board; and

That staff in Corporate Facilities report back to Council via confidential memorandum detailing the final location and terms and conditions of the agreement.

This matter was recommended (Section "C") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

SECTION "D"

ENCAMPMENTS UPDATE

Mayor, A. Nuttall advised that work has been done with the County to remove encampments and provide services to individuals who are currently in the encampments and there has been a very high success rate relating to Bursey Park with 75% of individuals receiving permanent housing.

1. Mayor, A. Nuttall asked about the other encampments in the City?

J. Schmidt, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services advised that in conversations with the County and City partners they are having trouble finding enough shelter space to accommodate all the individuals in need. Mr. Schmidt advised that the City has offered support and assistance to the County.

W. Cooke, City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services advised that the Barrie Police and Enforcement Services have been part of the conversations with the County and are aware of the encampments located around the City, as well as the number of unhoused individuals.

2. Mayor, A. Nuttall questioned the use of the donated sprung building to assist with shelter space?

W. Cooke, City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services advised that cost was the biggest factor. It was the understanding from the County's recent presentation that they are working with Barrie Cares with respect to the sprung structure. Ms. Cooke indicated that it is expensive to put up and take down such large structures when they aren't permanent.

3. Mayor, A. Nuttall asked if there was an issue with finding suitable locations in Barrie to support the sprung building and the HART Hub services being permanent.

M. Prowse, Chief Administrative Officer advised that these questions would best be directed to the County and advised that in discussions with the County they have been looking at different properties to possibly accommodate these services.

4. Mayor, A. Nuttall asked Councillor, C. Nixon in his work with Barrie Cares if the organization has been experiencing the same difficulties in finding a suitable shovel ready property for the buildings to be housed.

Councillor, C. Nixon advised that Barrie Cares is experiencing the same issues. He advised that some of the issues include things related to location, how the property was zoned and what the property is designated as.

This matter was recommended (Section "D") to General Committee for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

The Executive Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s)

SECTION "E"

ENCAMPMENTS UPDATE - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

That Encampments be added to the list of strategic plan updates provided to Executive Committee at each meeting.

This matter was recommended (Section "E") to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 6/11/2025.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

CHAIRMAN