









# **Presentation Outline**

- 1. Chronology of The MiX Innovation District
- 2. The Collision Conference & Lessons Learned
- 3. Prepare to Go to Market
- 4. Recommendations





# 1. Chronology of The MiX Innovation District

- Active examination of employment land development opportunity for 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue/404/Woodbine began in 2012/13
- Mayor led business mission to China in Nov. 2012









### In 2015:

- City (in collaboration with landowner) began to market area for future "Science Park"
- Promoted opportunity in China



P	roposed Land Use:	建议 上地用途:
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:	Benquet Halls	:

中文宣动: 昂贵琼、万前市高质育务发展专员 sendratam@markheim.ca; 1-418-581-5893 WARKHAM An International Hi-Tech Business Park For Markham Potential Site 万锦国际高科技产业园区





#### 出售 优質可供発展土地

For Sale Prestigious Development Land—Lots Available



2780 Ninetconth Avenue, Markham, Ontario 404 Frontage

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### In 2017:

• City evaluated this property in pursuit of Amazon HQ2









### In 2017/18:

- Attracted attention of site location consultants and urban planners
- City began to formulate vision and strategy for an innovation district















# Vision: MARKHAM INNOVATION EXCHANGE

To create a distinctive new urban innovation district of regional and national significance on the City's substantial land holdings and adjacent lands in the northern part of Markham that will be home to a 21st century employment cluster containing an innovative and exciting diversity of knowledge-based employment and industrial activity







# THE SITE

- 1920 acre site, approximately 410 of which are owned by Markham
- Full realization of the opportunity will require close public-private cooperation
- Phase One of development will be located on City-owned property







### In 2018/19:

- City began to acquire properties in N-W Markham
- Mayor and staff attended "Web Summit" in Lisbon, Portugal









# 2. Collision Conference & Lessons Learned

Collision provided opportunity to market test Markham's innovation district vision:

- Showcase to key target market segments
- Leverage media and industry attention







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#### STAR INVESTIGATIONS Markham uses Collision to put spotlight on land Markham uses Collision to put spotlight on parcel designed for innovation hub

NEWS RELIGIONARY SHOPS . CETTER . LIEF

TORIONTO — The mayor of Maricham is using a major technology conference	
to tell startup enterpreses that his city north of Toronto is preparing a large	
parcel of land to be the home of a new innovation hub	
Meyor Frank Scarpill: says Markham has designated about 770 hectares	
(1,900 acres) of private and oily-owned lands that will be developed as a	
home for innovators.	
He says it will be one of the largest innovation districts in North America and	
be close to the Canadian offices of a number of major technology companies	
such as IBM and American chip-makers Advance Micro Devices and	
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Frank Scarpitti spotlights plan for private and city-owned land parcel at Collision tech conference

The Canadian Press - Posted May 21, 2019 7:26 PM ET | Last Updated: May 21

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Markham mayor pitches land parcel



Markham uses Collision tech conference to put spotlight on new innovation hub



- 17% | Bunday May 20 kRealon.com

#### Markham's 1,920-acre high-tech exchange among largest in North America: mayor

'We want to see our vision take hold in this area'

NEWS Much.2018 by San Kalvest Mutham Convention for



TECH May 21, 2019 0 54 pt





land parcel designed for innovation hub

The mayor of Markham is using a major technology conference to tell

startup enterprises that his city north of Toronto is preparing a large

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ATARI PONG" LOUNGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY

SPORTS

ENTERTAINMENT

RUSINESS

ANGE LOCATION

MARKHAM

CANADA

POLITICS.

By David Paddon The Canadian Press Tues. May 21, 2010

WORLD

LOCAL





### Social Media Engagement:

City of Markham @ @cityofmarkham · May 15 Less than a week until @CollisionHQ!

We are #MarkhamProud to join the @VorkRegionGovt #YRTech Pavilion from May 20-23 to connect with industry leaders, scale-ups and innovators in tech.

Join Mayor @frankscarpitti on May 22 at 2:00 PM for a special #MarkhamMix announcement!



City of Markham 🔮 @cityofmarkham · May 16

With more than 1,500 high-tech and life sciences companies creating more than 37,000 jobs, Markham is a leader in advancing innovation in Canada. We are thrilled to join the #YRTech Pavilion @CollisionHQ from May 20-23! #MarkhamMix #CollisionConf





Mayor Frank Scarpitti © @frankscarpitti · May 21 Have you been by the @cityofmarkham booth in the @YorkLink Pavilion? We are in E172 at @CollisionHQ. Find out why Markham is the place to #ScaleUP your

tech business. We are driving innovation in Canada. Talent lives here. #CollisionConf #MarkhamMix







#### 1 Mayor Frank Scarpitti Retweeted

CBC Here and Now • @CBCHereandNow • May 22 Markham mayor @frankscarpitti was at the @CollisionHQ conference today, talking up plans to create a massive innovation hub in his city. He shared his pitch on the show today.



Markham Mayor wants tech companies to set up shop in his City | He... The Mayor of Markham Frank Scarpitti spoke at this week's Collision Tech Conference to announce a large portion of land that he is dedicating to start cbc.ca

#### 1 Mayor Frank Scarpitti Retweeted Bluewrist Inc. @BluewristIn

Bluewrist Inc. @BluewristInc · May 21 Thank you all (@frankscarpitti and the press community) for dropping by at the #YorkRegion #YRTech @YorkLink Pavilion at the #<u>CollisionConf</u> Day 1 to learn more about our contributions towards the manufacturing sector in Canada and around the world!







### Outcomes:

- Extensive press coverage and exposure
- Significant social media engagement
- 170+ individuals have registered their interest in learning more about The MiX on our web page <u>www.markham.ca/mix</u>

The City of Markham is creating one of North America's signature new innovation districts, the Markham Innovation Exchange. We invite you to get involved. Get in the MiX.

MiX is a large-scale 21st century innovative development of some 2,000 acres located on the northern edge of the Greater Toronto Area, encompassing the extensive land holdings of the City. It will be home to a vibrant mix of leading-edge domestic and international businesses by offering them a wide range of sites in a rich, diverse and connected working environment. It will be home to a compelling variety of uses and activities fostering the exchange of ideas, business and opportunity.







### Lessons/Key Findings:

- The MiX is the last & largest remaining greenfield opportunity to develop an innovation district in the GTA
- Not a 20<sup>th</sup> century research park
- Future uses should include:
  - A distinct employment-first, amenity rich district distinguished by the convergence of technology (IT and digital), innovation, learning, and wellness institutions and businesses
  - Complimented by hotels, restaurants, entertainment, recreation and destination attractions
- A true innovation district distinguished by:
  - Opportunities for life-long learning and new business start-ups
  - A diversified mix of businesses and economic activities
  - Networking spaces and places for idea exchanges
  - Creative cultural programming
  - Strong Regional and GTA connectivity and mobility options





# 3. Prepare to Go to Market

- The Markham Innovation Exchange is a <u>long-term</u> project intended to create a distinctive new urban innovation district that will be home to a 21<sup>st</sup> century, knowledge based employment cluster
  - High value employment
  - New assessment growth
  - Global reputation
- Markham's opportunity is to add value to the properties that have now been assembled by the City. This will be achieved by adopting a marketing and development vision for the district and preparing it for investor/partner purchase or collaboration.





Publish a "Business Case" or "Bid Book" to guide development of The MiX Innovation District

- Authored by highly respected experts and advisory firms
- Deliverables include:

Long & short term vision High-level land use plan & phasing Branding & market positioning Asset Mgt. structure & governance Real estate needs assessment/forecast Infrastructure & servicing strategy Partnering & joint-venture strategy (legal) Target investor marketing strategy

Followed by release of Phase One RFQ or RFP







### Timeline to Go to Market:

- Nov-Dec: Staff to draft RFP for consultants to prepare Business Proposition/Bid Book and recommend process for pursuing Phase One targeted investors
  - Council to budget \$510,000 for 2020 studies and marketing
- Jan-Feb: Council to approve 2020 budget
  - Council to approve consultants RFP
- Feb/Mar: Staff to issue RFP
  - Council to approve contract award
- Apr-Aug: Consultants to complete contracted work
  - Staff to recommend Phase One RFQ/RFP process
- Sept: Council to approve Phase One RFQ/RFP process
- Oct-Nov: Go to Market





- The engagement of external expertise will require an investment of approximately \$400,000 \$450,000
- In the context of other multimillion dollar property holding projects similar to The MiX, and given the size of the City's investment in the lands, the cost is of an appropriate scale
- This approach would be similar to the process undertaken by other municipal development/redevelopment projects (e.g., Waterfront Toronto)





## Recommendations

- 1. THAT the presentation entitled "Markham Innovation Exchange (MiX)" be received;
- 2. AND THAT staff be authorized to engage in an RFP process for the advisory/consulting work necessary to prepare the call for investor interest;
- 3. AND THAT Capital funds not exceeding \$510,000 (inclusive of HST) be preapproved as part of the 2020 Capital Budget for advisory/consulting work to prepare the call for investor interest, and to be funded from the Land Acquisition Reserve;
- 4. AND THAT staff be directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the recommendations in the staff presentation;