



Report to: General Committee

Meeting Date: February 21, 2023

SUBJECT: World Council on City Data ISO 37120 Certification
PREPARED BY: Raj Raman, Ext. 7522

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the report dated February 21, 2023 titled “World Council on City Data, ISO 37120 Certification” be received, and,
- 2) That the formal virtual presentation of the World Council on City Data (WCCD), ISO 37120 Platinum Certification to the City of Markham be received.

PURPOSE:

This report is to inform Council of the receipt of the World Council on City Data (WCCD) ISO 37120 platinum certification for the City’s data for the year ended December 31, 2021. This certification marks the fourth year that Markham has received Platinum Certification from the WCCD.

BACKGROUND:

The World Council on City Data (WCCD) was founded in 2014 to help communities of all sizes - in Canada and across the globe - to embrace standardized, independently verified, and globally comparable city data to become more sustainable, resilient, prosperous inclusive and smart.

Since its founding, the WCCD has been working with 100+ cities worldwide and has helped these cities to adopt ISO 37120, the first international standard for city data. The standard includes 104 indicators across 19 themes and standardizes data to measure progress on city services and quality of life. ISO 37120 provides cities with quantitative, globally comparable and independently verified local-level data enabling any city, of any size, to measure and compare its social, economic, and environmental progress internally year over year, and also in relation to other peer cities locally and globally. The WCCD Global Network includes over one hundred cities across more than thirty countries.

DISCUSSION:

The standard includes a comprehensive set of 104 indicators across 19 themes that measures a city's social, economic, and environmental performance in the following areas- Economy, Education, Energy, Environment, Finance, Governance, Health, Housing, Population and Social Conditions, Recreation, Safety, Solid Waste, Sports and Culture, Telecommunication, Transportation, Urban /Local agriculture and food security, Urban Planning, Wastewater and Water. Reporting over 90 indicators including all core indicators will result in obtaining the WCCD ISO 37120 Platinum Certification (Appendix A). Cities can obtain different levels of certification, platinum being the highest, based on the number of indicators reported and verified according to ISO 37120 methodology.

Staff from across commissions have sourced and compiled data that conform to the ISO methodology of reporting that has been reviewed by both WCCD and an independent external verifier. Each annual certification under ISO 37120 and registration in the WCCD Global Cities Registry for the City is in effect and valid for one year. The City of Markham is one of the 30 Canadian cities and over 100 cities in more than 30 countries worldwide that have been certified for ISO 37120.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

After completion of the three year federal pilot Data for Canadian Cities Pilot Project, the City has signed an agreement with WCCD for three (3) years effective April 2021 for a fee of USD\$15k that will increase by 5% for each of next two years to continue with the certification.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

NA

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Receipt of this certification aligns with the City's leadership in data transparency and sharing which is one of the goals of the Digital Strategy.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

NA

RECOMMENDED BY:

Andy Taylor, CAO

Trinela Cane, Commissioner,
Corporate Services

Arvin Prasad, Commissioner,
Development Services

Alice Lam, Acting
Commissioner, Community Services

ATTACHMENTS:

WCCD Certification Letter – Appendix A