



## **Town of Oakville**

### **Special Council Minutes**

**Date:** May 12, 2025  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Virtual Meeting

Mayor and Council: Mayor Burton  
Councillor Adams  
Councillor Duddeck  
Councillor Elgar  
Councillor Gittings  
Councillor Grant  
Councillor Haslett-Theall  
Councillor Knoll  
Councillor Lishchyna  
Councillor Longo  
Councillor McNeice  
Councillor Nanda (Left at 8:53 p.m.)  
Councillor Xie (Left at 7:07 p.m., returned at 7:20 p.m.)

Regrets: Councillor Chisholm  
Councillor O'Meara

Staff: J. Clohec, Chief Administrative Officer  
M. Mizzi, Commissioner of Community Development  
S. Ayres, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
J. Clarke, Director of Corporate Strategy and Government Relations  
D. Carr, Town Solicitor  
A. Holland, Manager of Council and Committee Services  
N. Coric, Council and Committee Coordinator  
L. Harris, Council and Committee Coordinator

**The Town of Oakville Council met in special session this 12th day of May, 2025, virtually commencing at 6:30 p.m.**

**1. Regrets**

As noted above.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

No declarations of pecuniary interest were declared.

**3. Consent Item(s)**

There were no consent items.

**4. Confidential Consent Item(s)**

There were no confidential consent items.

**5. Discussion Item(s)**

**5.1 Potential Protest By-law near Vulnerable Social Infrastructure**

The following delegates spoke to this item: Mark Sandler; Aliya Khan, Doctors for Humanity; Josh Landu Representing the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA); Anna Starkova; Atif Malik; Ibrahim Baig; Aysha Abdel-Aziz; Raid Kablawi; Amina Khan; Hanadil Ahmed; Muskan Arif; Sarah Khan; Lama Aggad, President of the Multicultural Community Association in Oakville; Cy Brown, Lions of Judah; Hugh Doherty; Jason Guttman.

Moved by Councillor Knoll

Seconded by Councillor Lishchyna

1. That staff be directed to revise the draft By-law 2025-088 with the following amendments:
  - i. The by-law shall apply only to places of worship as well as premises used on a temporary basis to host religious ceremonies or services;

- ii. The by-law shall apply only during the times that such ceremonies or services are actively taking place, including a reasonable period immediately before and after;
  - iii. The by-law shall apply to all municipal properties, or parts thereof, within fifty (50) metres from the boundaries of the properties in paragraph i.
- 2. The by-law shall apply to all municipal properties, or parts thereof, within fifty (50) metres from the boundaries of the properties in paragraph i.
- 3. That the revised by-laws be presented to Council at a future Council meeting for passage, as soon as possible, without a separate report.
- 4. That consideration of the by-law's application to any other forms of vulnerable social infrastructure (such as healthcare, social services, or educational institutions) shall be deferred for a period of one year, to allow time for the federal government to act on its commitment made during the 2025 federal election as announced by Prime Minister Mark Carney to introduce protective legislation.
- 5. That staff be directed to monitor federal developments and return to Council with a report and recommendations no later than May 1, 2026 regarding the potential future expansion of the by-law's application to other vulnerable social infrastructure.
- 6. That Council requests the Attorney-Generals of Ontario and Canada introduce legislation to make it an offence to intentionally and willfully obstruct access to any place of worship, school, and other vulnerable social infrastructure, and an offence to willfully intimidate or threaten those attending services at these locations, while allowing peaceful protests or demonstrations.
- 7. A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Minister of the Attorney General for Ontario, the Members of Parliament and Provincial Parliament for Oakville, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to express the Town of Oakville's support for federal action to protect places of worship and other community spaces from targeted protest and hate-motivated disruption.

Moved by Councillor Haslett-Theall

Seconded by Councillor Knoll

**CLOSED SESSION**

That Council resolve into a closed meeting session for advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; with respect to Item 5.1 - Potential Protest By-law near Vulnerable Social Infrastructure.

CARRIED

*Council resolved into closed session at 8:53 p.m.*

*Council resolved back into open session at 9:20 p.m.*

*Information was provided to Council in closed session.*

Moved by Councillor Knoll

Seconded by Councillor Lishchyna

1. That the revised draft By-law 2025-088, be passed, which includes the following amendments:
  - a. The by-law shall apply only to places of worship as well as premises used on a temporary basis to host religious ceremonies or services;
  - b. The by-law shall apply only during the times that such ceremonies or services are actively taking place, including a reasonable period immediately before and after;
  - c. The by-law shall apply to all municipal properties, or parts thereof, within fifty (50) metres from the boundaries of the properties in paragraph a.
2. That the revised draft By-law 2025-089, by-law to amend Administrative Penalties for Non-Parking Violations and Orders By-law 2021-038, be passed.

3. That consideration of the by-law's application to any other forms of vulnerable social infrastructure (such as healthcare, social services, or educational institutions) shall be deferred for a period of one year, to allow time for the federal government to act on its commitment made during the 2025 federal election as announced by Prime Minister Mark Carney to introduce protective legislation.
4. That staff be directed to monitor federal developments and return to Council with a report and recommendations no later than June 1, 2026 regarding the potential future expansion of the by-law's application to other vulnerable social infrastructure.
5. That Council requests the Attorney-Generals of Ontario and Canada introduce legislation to make it an offence to intentionally and willfully obstruct access to any place of worship, school, and other vulnerable social infrastructure, and an offence to willfully intimidate or threaten those attending services at these locations, while allowing peaceful protests or demonstrations.
6. A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Minister of the Attorney General for Ontario, the Members of Parliament and Provincial Parliament for Oakville, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to express the Town of Oakville's support for federal action to protect places of worship and other community spaces from targeted protest and hate-motivated disruption.

For (12): Mayor Burton, Councillor Adams, Councillor Duddeck, Councillor Elgar, Councillor Gittings, Councillor Grant, Councillor Haslett-Theall, Councillor Knoll, Councillor Lishchyna, Councillor Longo, Councillor McNeice, and Councillor Xie

Absent (3): Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Nanda, and Councillor O'Meara

CARRIED (12 to 0)

## **6. Confidential Discussion Item(s)**

There were no confidential discussion items.

**7. Consideration and Reading of By-Laws**

**7.1 By-law 2025-088**

A by-law to protect safe access to places of worship in the Town of Oakville.

**7.2 By-law 2025-089**

A by-law to amend Administrative Penalties for Non-Parking Violations and Orders By-law 2021-038.

**7.3 By-law 2025-100**

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of Council.

Moved by Councillor Longo

Seconded by Councillor Elgar

That the by-laws noted above be passed.

CARRIED

*The Mayor gave written approval of the by-laws noted above that were passed during the meeting.*

**8. Adjournment**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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Andrea Holland, Acting Town Clerk