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Town of Aurora

## Member Motion

Mayor Mrakas

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**Re:** Protecting Vulnerable Social Infrastructure in the Town of Aurora  
**To:** Members of Council  
**From:** Mayor Tom Mrakas  
**Date:** March 10, 2026

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Whereas safeguarding the quality of life for all Aurora residents requires a firm commitment to combating all forms of hate, intimidation, intolerance, discrimination, and the incitement of violence; and

Whereas acts of intimidation and violence targeting communities, places of worship, schools, and community institutions across the Greater Toronto Area have created fear and distress among residents; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora is a diverse and welcoming community where residents of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds must feel safe attending religious services, schools, childcare facilities, hospitals, and congregate care facilities; and

Whereas all levels of government share a responsibility to ensure vulnerable social infrastructure remains safe and accessible for the people who rely on these essential services; and

Whereas legislative measures have been introduced in Canada to address intimidation near critical services, including amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada through Bill C-3 which created an offence for intimidating health care workers or those seeking health care services; and

Whereas other municipalities in Canada have implemented access or safety zones to ensure safe and inclusive access to public and community facilities; and

Whereas any measures taken to protect vulnerable social infrastructure must respect and preserve the fundamental right to lawful and peaceful protest;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council direct staff to report back to Council at the earliest opportunity with options for a bylaw or policy framework that would prohibit demonstrations or activities that intimidate, incite hatred, violence, intolerance, or discrimination within a defined distance of vulnerable social infrastructure, including places of worship, schools, childcare centres, hospitals, and congregate care facilities within the Town of Aurora; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That Council request that staff review best practices from other municipalities and relevant provincial and federal legislation in developing any recommended framework; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That any proposed bylaw ensure penalties are consistent with applicable legislation and municipal authority under the *Municipal Act*; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That nothing in any proposed bylaw restrict the right to lawful and peaceful protest or demonstrations, including lawful labour activity; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That staff consult with York Regional Police regarding enforcement considerations and coordination should such measures be implemented; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That this resolution be circulated to the Government of Ontario, York Region, York Regional Police, and York Region municipalities for their information.