PUBLIC REPORT 02 | AUGUST 2026

TORONTO LEADS AGAIN

GigaCity Toronto: 25-Year Integrated City-Building Strategy

Build the next Toronto as one connected system: homes, mobility, utilities, jobs, public services, nature and civic capability.

Campaign Policy Proposal - Not a City of Toronto Publication

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Public release | August 2026

People first. Families first. Machines serve. Democracy decides. Nature sets the constraint. Art gives the future meaning.

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Why this matters

GigaCity is a system, not a megaproject

The 25-year vision is not a single construction program. It is a way to stop approving growth in isolation from the power, water, transportation, public-service, climate and economic capacity required to make that growth work.

No neighbourhood left behind

Every neighbourhood should be able to see how housing, jobs, transit, parks, learning, care and digital capability improve over time. GigaCity must be measured spatially, not only citywide.

Executive Summary

GigaCity Toronto is a 25-year integrated city-building strategy, not a single megaproject. It treats housing, transportation, electricity, water, digital infrastructure, employment, public services, parks and neighbourhood quality as one capacity system.

The strategy begins with the Toronto people already live in: a regional labour and housing market, infrastructure with hard capacity limits, and neighbourhoods that need investment as growth occurs. The first term is therefore about mapping capacity, protecting options, coordinating agencies and aligning the projects Toronto can actually control.

No Neighbourhood Left Behind is the social test of GigaCity. Growth must expand access to homes, jobs, services, nature and mobility across Toronto rather than concentrating advantage in a few districts.

Major commitments

- Create an integrated growth-and-capacity map for housing, water, power, transit and public services.
- Identify infrastructure-ready and infrastructure-constrained growth districts.
- Protect future rail, utility and public-realm corridors before land decisions close them off.
- Coordinate major public investments through a common sequencing framework.
- Use district-scale planning for energy, heat, stormwater, compute and community services.
- Publish neighbourhood-level measures so GigaCity benefits can be tested geographically.

How this fits the governing program

Financial treatment: first-term actions in this report must reconcile to Report 03. Unsigned partner funding and unverified technology savings are not booked in the municipal base case.

How to read commitments and numbers

Status	Meaning
OFFICIAL BASELINE	Current public evidence or an inherited program.
ADOPTED CITY TARGET	A target already approved by the City; not a new campaign promise.
CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT	A first-term action proposed by the campaign, subject to lawful Council/budget authority.
CAMPAIGN TARGET	A measurable result the campaign proposes to pursue.
PLANNING ASSUMPTION / SCENARIO	A decision-support input, not a guarantee.
PARTNER-DEPENDENT OBJECTIVE	Requires another government, agency, utility, institution or private partner.
LONG-RANGE ASPIRATION	Part of the 25-year direction; future Councils retain democratic authority.

Key public baselines and planning anchors

Indicator	Value	Date / status	Use in this report
Toronto population forecast	3.65M	2051 | Official forecast	Long-range planning denominator; refresh when official forecast changes.
Toronto jobs forecast	1.98M	2051 | Official forecast	Planning horizon; not guaranteed jobs.
Jobs in Toronto	~1.624M	2025 | Official survey baseline	Current economic scale.
Net new jobs	23,410	2025 | Official survey result	One-year result; do not extrapolate mechanically.

Indicator	Value	Date / status	Use in this report
Housing facilitation target	285,000 homes	By Mar. 2031 | Government target	Target, not forecast of starts or completions.
Proposed units in development pipeline	791,045	2025 pipeline | Official pipeline	Planning capacity, not construction/occupancy.
Purpose-built rental units in pipeline	151,122	2025 pipeline | Official pipeline	About 19.1% of pipeline.
Pipeline units with 2+ bedrooms	38%	2025 pipeline | Official pipeline	Family-sized share.
Potential residents if full pipeline built/occupied	1.36M	2025 estimate | Official City estimate	Illustrative capacity, not population forecast.
Infrastructure burden per additional unit	~$104k midpoint	$2024 reference | External reference / planning reference	Reference range approximately $78,000-$130,000; use only as a system-level planning reference.
Toronto peak electricity demand	~5,000 MW	Current planning context | Official/utility context	Scale denominator, not site capacity.
Toronto Third Line capability	900 MW	Planned/approved | System capacity project	Not equal to spare capacity at every parcel.
Summer eDSM by 2045	1,167 MW	2045 | Planning forecast/target	847 MW planned plus 320 MW incremental in the campaign planning scenario.
Ontario data-centre connection proposals	>10,000 MW	2026 context | Connection queue / proposal set	Queue is not a demand forecast.
Toronto electricity demand growth	~70-100%	To 2044 | Scenario range	Broad regional scenarios, not single forecast.
TransformTO GHG target	65% below 1990	2030 | Official target	Toronto’s adopted net-zero target is 2040.
Tree canopy target	40%	2050 | Official target	The cited 2018 canopy estimate is approximately 28.4%-31%.
Basement Flooding Protection Program estimate	~$22B	2026 program estimate | Official program estimate	Rate-supported, multi-decade program.
Don River/Central Waterfront stormwater program	>$3B	Current program | Official program scale	Major enabling resilience infrastructure.
Port Lands Flood Protection	~$1.35B	Project scale | Official project cost	Future dredging and operating/maintenance costs remain relevant

Indicator	Value	Date / status	Use in this report
			lifecycle considerations.

GigaCity in one view The destination: a Toronto metropolitan system with enough homes, transportation, energy, infrastructure, jobs, public services and environmental resilience to support a larger population without making everyday life harder. What GigaCity is An integrated planning and delivery framework. It aligns growth with the enabling systems that make growth real: power, water, transit, streets, schools and community infrastructure, construction capacity, workforce, climate protection and public-service capability. What GigaCity is not It is not a single megaproject, a municipal cheque, a promise that Toronto can unilaterally redraw regional boundaries, or permission to treat every long-range concept as funded. Major corridors and regional systems require business cases, engineering, legal authority and partners.

Vision and Outcomes

The strategy is organized around outcomes that can be understood by residents and tested through delivery.

- More homes without infrastructure failure.
- A regional housing and labour market connected by useful mobility.
- Utilities and public services planned ahead of growth.
- Neighbourhood investment distributed across the city.
- Growth that improves public space, nature and accessibility.

Visualizing the Strategy

Selected campaign visuals from the earlier reference reports are retained here because they explain relationships that are harder to understand in prose alone. They are explanatory illustrations; the surrounding text and tables define commitments, costs, authority and status.

GigaCity Toronto links growth to a wider regional geography rather than treating the municipal boundary as the edge of everyday life.

Integrated city-building means testing housing, mobility, utilities, public services and public realm together.

Regional rail and high-speed connections are enabling infrastructure for a larger housing and labour market.

The five connected capacity systems

Homes & neighbourhoods More completed homes, family-sized supply, complete communities and infrastructure-ready growth. Mobility & region TTC, GO, regional express service, High-Speed Rail, Pearson and complete journeys working as layers. Power & utilities Electricity, water, wastewater, district energy, cooling and digital/compute capacity planned ahead of demand. People & productive economy Skills, trades, AI enablement, construction capability, firms, culture, research and Canadian supply chains. Nature & resilience Flood, heat, emissions, urban forest, water, circular systems and climate risk treated as operating constraints.

A 25-year sequence, with first-term proof 2027-2030 - Prove capability Establish baselines and capacity budgets; accelerate housing delivery; coordinate construction; launch bounded AI/robotics and service pilots; protect HSR/Union/Pearson interfaces; secure partner agreements; publish public scorecards. 2031-2038 - Scale what works Expand infrastructure-ready housing districts, grid and utility capacity, regional mobility, industrialized construction, district energy, skills pathways and successful public-service systems. Stop or redesign weak pilots. 2039-2051 - Complete the integrated system Deliver the mature metropolitan network: substantially more homes, high-capacity regional movement, resilient energy and utilities, productive districts, strong natural systems and civic institutions capable of continuous learning. No neighbourhood left behind GigaCity cannot mean concentrating all new capability downtown. The plan should track access to housing, jobs, rapid transportation, parks, libraries, learning, health services, safe public space and economic opportunity across the entire city.

How the signature ideas fit together GigaCity The destination - the integrated metropolitan system. High-Speed Rail The intercity spine that changes Toronto's economic geography. Slipstream The delivery idea: coordinate approvals, infrastructure, utilities, procurement and governments so important work does not fight the system one file at a time. Civic Intelligence The brain: model, remember, compare and learn before committing public money. Intellectual Lifeboat The human protection: make advanced tools, learning and assistance broadly accessible during the AI transition. Construction robotics A physical-capacity tool: help skilled people build more safely, consistently and quickly when evidence supports it. Crunch & Munch Toronto The everyday-life reminder: food security, children and neighbourhood health belong inside the same affordability strategy. Design for the Human Body The test: measure what a person actually experiences - walking, waiting, transfers, heat, accessibility burden and time.

Authority, money and reality A credible GigaCity plan distinguishes what Toronto can do from what Toronto can lead, negotiate or advocate for. City-controlled / Council-authorized Municipal service standards, permitting and coordination, City land, local streets and public realm, bounded pilots, City capital within approved envelopes. Shared / agency-dependent TTC/Metrolinx interfaces, Toronto Hydro and utility capacity, major station planning, housing partnerships, regional transportation and infrastructure sequencing. Provincial / federal partnership High-Speed Rail construction, major regional rail corridors, large energy/transmission projects, national housing and infrastructure programs. Institutional / private / community Universities, hospitals, builders, unions, suppliers, cultural organizations, investors, non-profits and neighbourhood partners. Financial rule The first-term City budget and the 25-year metropolitan investment system are different things. City-controlled commitments live inside the campaign's municipal fiscal controls. Large partner infrastructure is counted only when authority, engineering, funding and agreements exist.

Measure the city people experience Homes Completions and occupancy, family-sized supply, affordability, approval-to-start, start-to-occupancy and infrastructure readiness. Time Back Door-to-door travel time, reliability, waiting, transfers, walking and vertical burden, and construction disruption. Safety & care Preventable harms, crisis response, repeat hazards corrected, clean and dependable public space. Jobs & capability Paid pathways, firms created, skills proven, skilled-trade capacity, IP ownership and productive technology adoption. Infrastructure Grid/water/transit headroom, state of good repair, climate resilience, delivery schedule and lifecycle cost. Trust Clear ownership, public status labels, service standards, pilot results, accessibility and transparent decisions. The point of GigaCity is not scale for its own sake. It is to build enough coordinated capacity that more people can afford a good life, spend less time fighting the city, find opportunity, live safely and leave a healthier, more capable Toronto to the next generation.

How does the platform become government? Which ideas are municipal, shared or partner-dependent? What evidence determines whether a pilot scales?

Strategic Priorities and Delivery Framework

A city cannot be governed by ideas alone. It needs an operating model, a sequence, shared authority and measurable outcomes.

The Integrated Responsive City

The operating doctrine is the Integrated Responsive City: housing, mobility, safety, climate, economy, culture, public services, infrastructure and governance reinforce one another instead of behaving like separate bureaucratic worlds. The Civic Operating System is not one software product. It is the combination of service standards, data practices, institutional memory, procurement methods, human review, dashboards and cross-division coordination that lets the city notice earlier, coordinate faster and learn after action.

The Seven-Pillar Delivery Framework

Pillar Delivery purpose

The City That Works Reliable services, simpler access, One Front Door, clear owners and public evidence. The City That Homes People More completed homes, family-sized choices, construction capacity, renter stability and infrastructure that supports growth. The City That Flows Reliable transit, complete journeys, regional rail, accessibility and time returned to people. The City That Reuses Everything Flood protection, circular systems, energy efficiency, heat reuse, food resilience and environmental stewardship. The Human-Centred Intelligent City Public AI governance, civic memory, AI literacy, compute readiness and accountable automation. The Safe and Caring City Clean public space, prevention, right response, child and high-rise safety, battery safety and emergency readiness. The City the World Learns From Prove locally, measure honestly, publish methods and share what works internationally.

The City That Works

Residents do not experience government through organization charts. They experience whether a 311 request is answered, a permit moves, a missed collection is corrected, a sidewalk is repaired, a person in crisis reaches the right service and someone can explain what happens next. The first-term agenda should establish service standards, One Front Door navigation, case-status visibility and clear ownership of unresolved issues. Don't fire workers. Fire the paperwork. The first target for automation should be repetitive administrative friction rather than frontline human service. If AI can pre-fill information the City already holds, retrieve policy, route a request, draft a routine summary or flag a missing field, staff can spend more time on judgment and residents. Productivity should first be measured as hours returned to service, not simply headcount reduced.

The City That Homes People

Housing delivery has four layers: approve appropriate housing, convert approvals into construction, expand construction capacity, and connect Toronto more effectively to a larger regional housing and labour market. The scorecard should follow approvals through permits, starts and occupancy so the city does not confuse paper capacity with keys in doors.

Housing Rule

Measure completions, not just announcements. Track the path from approved capacity to construction to occupancy, and use new construction methods only when they improve safety, cost, speed or quality.

One-Hour Toronto Housing Region

The One-Hour Toronto Housing Region reframes transportation as housing and labour policy. It asks how many homes, jobs, schools, institutions and communities become practically reachable when travel time falls. The campaign planning model is a scenario tool, not an engineering promise. Destination Current reference Planning midpoint Public range / wording Pearson / West GTA 25 min (UP reference) ~15 min 12-18 min / about 15 minutes Waterloo Region Gateway 96 min ~37.5 min 35-40 min / about 35-40 minutes London 147 min ~60 min 55-65 min / about an hour Chatham-Kent - ~92.5 min 85-100 min / about 1.5 hours Windsor 255 min ~110 min 100-120 min / under two hours These are station-to-station campaign planning estimates. Final performance depends on alignment, curves, gradients, rolling stock, stop pattern and dwell. They are not official Alto travel times. Toronto Union Pearson / West GTA Waterloo London Chatham-Kent Windsor

The Connected GigaCity Region

GigaCity is not primarily an amalgamation slogan. Mega City integrated municipalities; GigaCity integrates capabilities. Toronto should cooperate more deeply with Vaughan, Thornhill, Markham, Richmond Hill, Peel, Durham and northern communities on housing, infrastructure, labour markets and transportation long before any boundary question is considered.

Three north-south spines and an outer orbital Western spine - build on the Barrie GO corridor through Downsview Park, Vaughan/Rutherford, Maple, King City, Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury toward Barrie and beyond. Central spine - strengthen the North York-Vaughan-Richmond Hill axis through rapid-transit and regional-rail integration. Eastern spine - give Scarborough a stronger gateway through Markham and toward Stouffville. Outer orbital - pursue a Highway 7 / 407 rapid-transit logic connecting Brampton, Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, Richmond Hill/Langstaff, Markham Centre and the Durham gateway.

Alto and the Connected Canadian Corridor

Toronto should treat the official Toronto-Quebec City high-speed rail spine as the beginning of a connected Canadian corridor. Toronto's municipal role is station-area planning, integration, housing and economic readiness; the railway itself is a federal and intergovernmental project. A future westward extension through Pearson/West GTA, Waterloo Region, London, Chatham-Kent and Windsor is a campaign advocacy position requiring federal-provincial leadership and full engineering. North to Barrie and beyond The north-south vision is complementary rather than a claim that Barrie is already inside Alto. The immediate foundation is better GO and regional rail, transit integration and corridor protection. A true high-speed or higher-performance alignment north would require separate technical work.

The City That Reuses Everything

Climate resilience and resource efficiency should be treated as household economics. A flooded basement is a public- infrastructure failure and a family-finance event. Wasted heat is an emissions problem and a potential energy input. Toronto should prioritize building efficiency, flood protection, tree canopy, district energy where viable, waste reduction, cleaner fleets and infrastructure that performs under future conditions.

Guardian Grid - Protective Intelligence

Guardian Grid is the long-horizon protective intelligence layer: lawful sensing, weather data, asset condition, frontline reports and community knowledge used to improve warning and coordination across floods, heat, water, power, buildings and emergencies. It must never become generalized surveillance or autonomous emergency authority. Consequential action remains with accountable people. Giga Grid, Heat Loop and Climate Advantage AI and robotics depend on physical infrastructure. Giga Grid is the planning doctrine that power capacity, reliability, electrification, compute and major growth must be considered together. Heat Loop explores reuse of steady waste-heat sources where a nearby demand and sound lifecycle case exist. Toronto should seek more intelligence per unit of environmental impact rather than technology exceptionalism.

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Food Security and Crunch & Munch Toronto

The source reports cite food insecurity affecting 24.7 per cent of Toronto households in 2024. A human-flourishing platform cannot treat that as separate from affordability. Crunch & Munch Toronto is the campaign umbrella for neighbourhood food resilience, dignified access, logistics, school and community supports, and practical connections between poverty reduction and food systems. Technology can help with inventory, routing, waste reduction and service navigation, but food insecurity is primarily an income and affordability problem. Digital tools must not become a substitute for the material conditions households need.

The Safe and Caring City

Safety is prevention and response. It includes cleaner streets, traffic safety, battery and micromobility safety, flood and fire prevention, high-rise child safety, emergency preparedness, youth opportunity and appropriate mental-health response. The city should use policing where policing is required and health or social expertise where those are the real needs. Encampments, mental health and Family-First public space Toronto should pursue a humane but definite approach: offer real indoor pathways, individualized case coordination and mental-health or addiction support where needed; maintain clear timelines and ownership; and restore parks, ravines, playgrounds and shared public spaces for safe public use. A compassionate city does not abandon the person living outside, and it does not abandon the family that needs the park. Both are residents. Battery and high-rise safety Risk-tiered

battery safety should distinguish ordinary certified consumer ownership from bulk charging, modified packs or unsafe commercial operations. High-rise child safety should use a hierarchy of prevention: safer design, restricted openings, non-climbable guards, stronger glazing where appropriate, inspection and targeted secondary protection.

The Human-Centred Intelligent City

Public AI governance should include an inventory or registry, risk classification, documented human accountability, privacy and security review, accessibility testing, incident reporting and meaningful review for consequential uses. The campaign adds a capability layer around governance: staff training, resident literacy, the Intellectual Lifeboat, Civic Intelligence Reviews and controls against artefact amplification being mistaken for democratic consent.

Mayoral Commitment

AI assists. People decide. Maintain public transparency for consequential City AI, clear human responsibility, risk-based review, correction or appeal pathways where appropriate, privacy and cybersecurity controls, and evidence that a system improves service rather than merely adding technology.

The City the World Learns From

Toronto should create a global civic-learning practice around reforms that actually work. Responsible-AI templates, accessibility measures, robotic construction lessons, Safe Passage safeguards, climate-resilience methods, procurement playbooks and high-speed-rail integration experience can become civic exports. Culture

belongs in the same strategy: Toronto OVO, film, music, design, public art and the Toronto Yearbook give the world a human account of what the city is becoming. Solve it here. Prove it here. Measure it honestly. Share what works. Let the world follow the example - not the slogan.

The Platform

What does this improve in daily life, what can a Mayor and Council actually do, and what evidence should residents see?

Accountability & Implementation The first term is the proof period: baselines, owners, pilots, scorecards, jurisdiction and visible learning.

Measurement - The Toronto Leads Again Scorecard

Outcome Core measures What success means Homes Completions, starts, approval/permit time, family-sized supply, affordability, regional homes reachable. More keys in doors and a larger practical housing market. Time Back Commute, waiting, transfers, service resolution, 311 and permitting time. Millions of usable hours returned. Safety Preventable harms, crisis response, repeat hazards corrected, child/ family safety and resident confidence. Earlier prevention and faster recovery. Clean Streets Missed collections, litter, bins, washroom uptime, graffiti and repair time. Neighbourhoods visibly cared for. Jobs Placements, apprenticeships, robotics/trades/creative jobs, businesses, wages and Toronto-owned IP. More people enter productive pathways. Trust Service standards, audit follow-through, project cost/schedule disclosure, AI transparency and appeals. People can verify what City Hall

says. Family flourishing Housing choice, time, parks/recreation, child safety, crisis support and cost burden. Families can remain, grow and participate. Human freedom Ability to move, learn, create, challenge decisions and live without unnecessary machine dependency. The city expands human agency rather than conformity.

Public outcome test

Did technology make Torontonians' lives better? Did people gain time, affordability, safety, capability, independence, opportunity, creativity and trust? The machine is measured by what it does for humanity - not humanity by how well it conforms to the machine. The Toronto Time Dividend A future dashboard should estimate total hours returned through faster transit, better service resolution, fewer repeat trips, accessible journeys and reduced administrative friction. Operational efficiency becomes a human measure.

Delivery Sequence

First 100 Days - Establish the Operating Discipline

Publish the delivery-dashboard and status-label framework. Establish the AI inventory, risk framework and Spirit of Machine / artefact-amplification governance work. Begin Civic Intelligence Review and Intellectual Lifeboat design. Create the Family First cross-cutting test for housing, safety, mobility and public space. Identify bounded Project Six, robotic construction/maintenance, Safe Passage and cleaning pilots. Publish service-standard baselines and housing bottleneck maps. Convene the Connected GigaCity and intergovernmental rail/infrastructure tables. Launch Toronto Built by Artists / Yearbook commissioning design with open eligibility and creator-rights rules.

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Years 1-4 - Pilot, Prove, Scale Every pilot requires a named owner, budget, duration, safety process, public outcome measure and exit rule. Procurement should define evaluation criteria before the pilot begins. Failed pilots should be reported rather than hidden. The goal is institutional learning, not permanent pilotitis.

Year 1

Launch bounded pilots and public dashboards.

Years 2-3

Scale only demonstrated successes; correct or stop weak approaches.

Year 4

Publish independent results, institutionalize what works and identify what should stop or pass to the next Council. 2026-2051 - Direction, Not a Blank Cheque The long horizon describes a more connected housing region, mature human-governed AI, useful physical robotics, family-friendly public space, stronger creative ownership, widespread technology literacy, resilient infrastructure and more human freedom. Future Councils retain authority; the horizon should be refreshed at least every five years against evidence, fiscal capacity and public priorities.

Cooperative Federalism and Jurisdiction

Toronto cannot deliver the full platform alone. Housing finance, transit, electricity, healthcare, education, building codes, high-speed rail, immigration, telecommunications and many technology rules involve Ontario or Canada. An Atkinson administration would make jurisdiction visible rather than promising powers City Hall does not have. Area Toronto Ontario Canada Housing Zoning, approvals, City land, local infrastructure, property standards. Building code, planning law, provincial programs and transit. Housing finance, infrastructure funding, tax and national programs. Transit / rail TTC, streets, station-area planning, integration and advocacy. GO, regional transit, highways, provincial coordination. Alto / HSR, major federal funding and rail regulation. AI Municipal procurement, service uses, data practices, registry and workforce. Public-sector privacy, labour and education frameworks.

Competition, telecom, privacy, national AI / compute policy. Robotics Controlled municipal sites, buildings, parks and procurement within authority. Road, labour, building and safety frameworks. Aviation, telecom, standards and commercialization support. Family / care Parks, shelters, housing pathways, recreation, local public health and coordination. Health, mental-health systems, education, social policy and justice frameworks. Income supports, immigration and national housing / social programs. Energy / climate Local adaptation, buildings, waste, urban forest and infrastructure. Electricity system, building code and environment programs. Climate finance, infrastructure and national standards.

Mayoral Role

Define Toronto's needs with evidence, distinguish municipal authority from shared authority, bring partners to one table and maintain a visible timetable. Cooperative federalism becomes practical when projects are ready enough for other governments to say yes.

Facilitating Conditions

Authority

Confirm which government, agency or professional can lawfully act.

FUNDING

Identify capital, operating and lifecycle cost, not only launch cost.

PEOPLE

Provide time, training, maintenance capability and change-management support.

Interoperability

Connect systems and responsibilities without unnecessary centralization.

Procurement

Create a path from test to scale while preserving competition and exit rights.

Data Governance

Collect the minimum required and define access, retention, provenance and accountability.

Public Legitimacy

Explain purpose, safeguards, evidence, appeal and who remains responsible.

Measurement

Define success before implementation and publish results after.

Family & Human Impact

Ask who gains time, safety, freedom and opportunity and who could be made more dependent.

Machine Stewardship

Prevent scale, replication or artefact volume from outrunning democratic oversight.

Policy Inventory and Status

Concept Status Policy treatment Family First CROSS-CUTTING Housing, time, care, safety, public space and opportunity tested against family flourishing. Intellectual Lifeboat PROPOSED Institutional memory and civic intelligence baseline. Project Six PILOT THEN SCALE Youth capability, portfolios, paid pathways, AI, robotics, art and climate. Compute Commons PROPOSED Public-access learning and compute pathways. Ethical Compute Exchange UNDER STUDY Shared governed compute and infrastructure partnerships. Robotic construction / maintenance PILOT THEN SCALE Controlled use cases with independent benchmarks and labour transition. Slipstream UNDER STUDY Dedicated machine geography so public space can remain human. Seven public promises PROPOSED Homes, Time Back, Safety, Clean Streets, Jobs, Trust and The City the World Learns From. Spirit of Machine safeguards DOCTRINE Human authority, provenance, artefact-amplification awareness and democratic appeal.

Concept Status Policy treatment Toronto OVO PROPOSED Creator development, ownership and global identity. Toronto Yearbook BOUNDED COMMISSION Paid human-authored civic memory with open eligibility and archival standards. Safe Passage Toronto UNDER STUDY / PILOT Child-safety technology with strict privacy and human guardrails. Robot for Every Child LONG HORIZON Access to safe assistive / companion robotics only after standards and evidence. Alto eastern HSR CONFIRMED PROJECT Toronto integration and readiness. Western HSR to Windsor PURSUE / STUDY Federal-provincial advocacy; campaign screening times only. North-south Barrie corridor PURSUE / STUDY Regional rail first; higher-performance alignment subject to study. Connected GigaCity cooperation PROPOSED / PURSUE Vaughan, Thornhill, Markham, Richmond Hill and broader regional coordination. Guardian Grid UNDER STUDY / PILOTS Protective intelligence; no generalized surveillance. Encampment / right-response coordination PROPOSED / SHARED Indoor pathways, mental-health support, case ownership and restored public space.

Conclusion

A city advanced enough to remain human - and capable enough to deliver. Toronto's challenge is not whether to embrace technology or reject it. The real challenge is whether we can become sophisticated enough to use extraordinary technology without allowing the logic of the machine to become the purpose of the city. The platform begins with humanity and works outward: homes for stability, transportation for time, clean streets for dignity, climate resilience for household security, AI for capability, robotics for safer physical work, art for meaning and democracy for legitimate authority. Humanity determines the destination. AI assists us in understanding the possibilities. Robotics helps us build them. Democracy establishes the rules. Nature establishes the boundaries. Art gives the future meaning. Opportunity must reach every Torontonian. Yet again, the world is looking t ad. We must lead by example.

Implementation and Delivery

First 100 Days

The opening 100 days create the integrated planning map GigaCity needs: growth districts, infrastructure dependencies, responsible owners and the first cross-government negotiations.

- Create the GigaCity executive steering table and name accountable portfolio leads.
- Publish a first integrated capacity atlas using existing City, utility and agency data.
- Identify the first five growth districts for cross-system readiness review.
- Begin corridor-protection and utility-capacity discussions with Ontario, Toronto Hydro, Hydro One, IESO and Metrolinx.
- Publish a GigaCity status legend distinguishing first-term commitments, partner files and long-range options.

2027-2030 First-Term Action Plan

During 2027-2030, GigaCity moves from integrated mapping to sequenced district delivery: housing, transit, water, power, public realm and community infrastructure are coordinated through real capital and development decisions.

Phase	Action	Lead / authority	Resident result
Map	Integrated capacity atlas and infrastructure readiness	City Planning / Toronto Water / Transportation / utilities	Growth decisions expose constraints before approval.
Sequence	Five priority district delivery plans	City-led / agency partners	Housing and infrastructure arrive in a workable order.
Protect	Long-term mobility, utility and public-realm corridors	City / Province / agencies	Future options are not designed out prematurely.
Pilot	District energy, green infrastructure and digital-capacity planning where justified	City / Toronto Hydro / private partners	Integrated systems are tested before broad scale.
Measure	Neighbourhood GigaCity scorecard	City	Residents can see whether investment is broadly shared.

2031-2051 Long-Term Direction

Through 2051, the GigaCity framework protects corridors, utility capacity, natural systems and growth options so future Councils can build a larger Toronto without inheriting avoidable bottlenecks created decades earlier.

- Maintain a rolling 25-year capacity plan refreshed with each major Official Plan and capital-plan cycle.
- Integrate regional rail, energy, water and economic geography into future growth choices.
- Use evidence from early districts to refine standards rather than locking one technology or urban form for 25 years.

Risks and dependencies

Risk	Specific mitigation
Infrastructure lags approved growth	Use capacity triggers and staged approvals tied to funded delivery plans.

Risk	Specific mitigation
GigaCity becomes a branding exercise	Publish district-specific milestones, owners and infrastructure dependencies.
Regional ambitions exceed municipal authority	Separate City-controlled actions from negotiated regional and provincial decisions.
Growth concentrates benefits	Measure access, affordability, public realm and investment by geography.

Review and renewal

GigaCity will receive an annual dependency update and a first-term review of growth assumptions, infrastructure sequencing and district readiness.

Accountability and Public Reporting

Performance framework

GigaCity reporting will track growth, serviced capacity, housing delivery, infrastructure milestones, travel access, grid and water readiness, public-realm delivery and major unresolved dependencies by district.

Metric	Baseline	Target / direction	Horizon	Responsible body	Reporting
Housing units with confirmed servicing path	Establish integrated baseline	Increase share of growth with credible servicing	Annual	City Planning / utilities	Annual
Priority districts with integrated delivery plans	0 under new framework	Complete first set and expand based on results	First term	City Planning / City Manager	Semi-annual
Infrastructure-capacity constraints identified before approval	Establish baseline	Increase early identification	First term	City / utilities	Quarterly
Neighbourhood access to jobs/services	Existing mobility data	Improve 30/60/90-minute access	Long term	Transportation / TTC / partners	Annual

Sources and Notes

Primary public sources are listed by organization and title. Campaign commitments, targets, scenarios and long-range aspirations are distinguished from adopted government policy throughout the report.

- City of Toronto - Official Plan
- City of Toronto - Development Pipeline
- City of Toronto - Infrastructure and development planning
- IESO - Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan