



City of Hamilton
GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 20-023
Date: December 9, 2020
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Stephanie Paparella, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 3993

4. COMMUNICATIONS

4.1. Communications respecting COVID-19 Matters:

- *4.1.d. Christine Campbell, Ballare Studio Dance
- *4.1.e. Robert Burke
- *4.1.f. Darren Mullin
- *4.1.g. Fran Spoelstra
- *4.1.h. Sandra Smith

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

8.1. Report of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery

- *8.1.b. Motion - COVID-19 Support for Local Businesses
- *8.1.c. Motion - Financial Relief for Local Businesses
- *8.1.d. Stimulating Local Development - Affordable Housing Projects - Cash-in-lieu Parking Policy – Downtown Secondary Plan Area -Temporary Period
- *8.1.e. Motion - Supporting "Shop Local"

- *8.1.f. Creative Enterprise Facilities Property Tax Sub-class
- *8.1.g. Federal and Provincial Assistance with COVID-19 Economic Recovery Initiatives

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- *9.14. West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 20-001, December 2, 2020
- *9.15. Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee Report 20-005, December 8, 2020

13. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

- *13.9. City of Hamilton Transfer Stations and Community Recycling Centre Update (PW20068(c)/LS20039(b)) (City Wide)

Pursuant to Section 8.1, Sub-sections (e) and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 18-270, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (e) and (k) of the *Ontario Municipal Act*, 2001, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and, a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

From: Ballare Studio Dance <ballarestudiodance@sympatico.ca>

Sent: November 20, 2020 2:57 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Covid Guidelines

To whom it may concern, I am the Owner and Studio Director of Ballare Studio Dance in Ancaster, ON. We provide dance training and education for children ages 1.5 years and up in a safe, positive and friendly environment. We have followed all necessary guidelines and have met the intense restrictions in order to stay open during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government has wisely chosen to keep schools open for children. There is no doubt that children are safer in schools than out in the community. The same can also be said for their after-school activities. Children attend these activities in cohorts much like in their schools and are in controlled environments that have greater restrictions and safety protocols than public schools. Parents trust the providers of these activities to keep their children safe. Families do not travel or leave municipalities to attend their extra-curricular activities. There is no concern for travel from hot spots to other Regions in the Province, as these children are crossing the street to attend a dance class or hockey practice with their classmates. These environments are safer and better controlled than hanging out at each other's homes, and these activities have not been a source of transmission. Parents recognize the benefits for their child's physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being while attending these activities. We ask that the Province ensure children can attend their respective activities with restrictions no greater than the current Red – Control measures. This is necessary for the betterment of the children, their families, and these businesses.

Sincerely,
Christine Campbell
Owner/Director
Ballare Studio Dance

From: Robert Burke
Sent: December 2, 2020 12:57 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Public inquiry

Dear City Council,

Thank you to you and your families for your sacrifices in public service.

I do not envy the terrible position you leaders find yourself in, having to approve regulations that clearly destroy people's lives and cause death in your effort to protect citizens from Covid-19 while the benefit remains unclear. There is no absolutely clear scientific information that supports lockdowns and closures. There are also many credible arguments against lockdown measures like the WHO's statements on lockdowns or the most recent data as citing that 0.1% of Covid transmissions took place in a retail environment.

I am writing to you request that you allow, in your workplace, the discussion and examination of counter narrative opinions on current covid-19 health policies. Sources like Dr. David Welsh of UWO medical school or the Collateral Group seem to me to be credible sources of information on Covid.

I am also writing you to ask to support the creation of some type of inquiry as to our response to covid after the hysteria subsides. I, for one, will not vote or support anyone who does not demonstrate the objectivity to pick through the wreckage of our Covid response.

In the meantime I have ceased donation to charitable causes because I think the best way to help our most at need citizens is to get people working. To that end I am donating to organizations like The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms to help fund their selective legal challenges against the current policies of lockdowns and restrictions. I am also donating to the Collateral Group to support their research on the effectiveness of government covid policy in the hopes that it will be used in future enquires and Royal Commissions.

Sincerely
Robert Burke

From: Darren M <>

Sent: November 24, 2020 9:42 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; clerks@hamilton.ca; Municipal Law Enforcement <mle@hamilton.ca>; Filomena.Tassi@parl.gc.ca; Shaw-CO, Sandy <Sshaw-CO@ndp.on.ca>; Doug Ford <premier@premier.gov.on.ca>; legal@ohrc.on.ca; mon00067@loblaw.ca

Subject: Face Mask/Covering Exemption - Please Address

Good Evening,

I would really appreciate if this was discussed in council and addressed Immediately for those individuals who **can not** wear a Face Covering of any kind due to a Medical Condition or Disability.

It was brought to my attention that as of December 1st 2020, Fortino's along with many other Businesses are and have been implementing policies which will prohibit entry to those individuals who **can not** wear a Face Covering or a Face Shield. Due to my medical conditions both physiological and visual impairment I am unable to abide and therefore my entry to these establishments will be restricted. This is unfortunate as this goes against basic Human Rights Codes and this is clearly Discrimination.

Under the City of Hamilton By Law, the bylaw states that there are exemptions to Mandatory Masking and Face Coverings. In addition, on the City of Hamilton Website it is stated:

"It's vital that no member of the public be denied entry or stigmatized if they are unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a listed exemption, we ask for patience and kindness as everyone adjusts and navigates through these uncertain times."

My question to Hamilton City Council is this, why are businesses being allowed to impose these "No Mask, No Entry" type policies. What is the justification of allowing this type of Discrimination to occur in our Community and what is going to be done to fix and correct this?

I would really appreciate an immediate response.

Thank you,

Darren Mullin

-----Original Message-----

From: Fran <

Sent: November 30, 2020 11:22 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: MASKS/LOCKDOWNS

We are pleading with you, Mayor Fred.....

PLEASE, PLEASE....cancel the severe LOCKDOWNS for the city of Hamilton!

Lives, and business are being destroyed.

Also, please diminish the mandatory masking for everyone. There is no need for this law to be implemented.....as for common sense, they should only be worn by those who are ill, or by personal choice.

Thanks, Respectfully, Fran Spoelstra

4.1.h

From: Sandra Smith < >

Sent: December 5, 2020 1:24 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: complaint to ombudsman- neglect of covid 19 precautions by city of Hamilton

Greetings, FYI, since the City is refusing to set up temporary toilets or housing for the growing transient population on the rail trail, I will do the utmost to bring this neglectant Covid 19 response to the attention of the Province. By allowing OPEN DEFECATION, the City is endangering the general public as there is evidence that Covid 19 spreads through fecal matter. The trail is littered with human excrement into which children and dogs get and carry it home on the soles of their shoes etc.

City council is ignoring the issue and largely absent from city politics at a time when they should be working extra hard.

There will be repercussions.

Sandra Smith

Hamilton resident.

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. CLARK.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR M. PEARSON.....

COVID-19 Support for Local Businesses

WHEREAS, the Report of the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery includes a number of recommendations related to supporting economic recovery by providing easy access for local businesses to information and resources related to financial support programs and public health best practices;

WHEREAS, the City’s three Chambers of Commerce have undertaken significant efforts to support their members through COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the City has been partnering with the Chambers of Commerce to ensure that local businesses have the resources they need to navigate the new COVID-19 rules and regulations, including collaborating to develop and launch the COVID-19 Business Continuity and Economic Recovery website as well as the COVID Business Impact Survey;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the City’s Economic Development Division collaborate with the Hamilton, Flamborough and Stoney Creek Chambers of Commerce to **establish a COVID-Concierge service through the Hamilton Business Centre**, including the creation of information materials, phone line, and on-line one-stop resource centre for COVID-19 related information for local businesses, to be funded to an upset limit of \$150,000 from the Economic Development Initiatives capital account (3621708900).

8.1.c.

**CITY OF HAMILTON
MOTION**

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR T. JACKSON.....

SECONDED BY MAYOR F. EISENBERGER.....

Financial Relief for Local Businesses

WHEREAS, the Report of the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery includes a number of recommendations related to supporting economic recovery through temporary financial relief for businesses; and,

WHEREAS, the City currently regulates 44 categories of businesses through its Business Licensing Program, comprising a total of 8,320 businesses;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That all General Business License Fees, Trade License Fees, Taxi and Personal Transportation Providers (PTP) Fees, and Film Permit Fees be frozen at 2020 levels for 2021, with the loss in budgeted revenues in 2021 of an estimated \$275,000 to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives capital account (3621708900).

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR J. FARR.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS.....

Stimulating Local Development - Affordable Housing Projects - Cash-in-lieu Parking Policy – Downtown Secondary Plan Area -Temporary Period

WHEREAS the Report of the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery includes a number of recommendations related to supporting economic recovery by stimulating local development, and particularly construction of new affordable housing;

Parking Requirements

WHEREAS, the City previously used a temporary reduction in parking requirements to stimulate downtown development, through a Temporary Use By-law for the period November 1, 1996 to September 1, 1999;

WHEREAS, Section 40(1) and 40(2) of the *Planning Act* allows municipalities to enter into an agreement with an owner or occupant of a building that effectively allows for the payment of cash-in-lieu of any parking requirement and the City of Hamilton has such a policy in place in its Official Plan that authorizes the City to consider a cash-in-lieu payment for all or part of the parking required under the applicable in-force Zoning By-law requirements;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton Official Plan directs that cash-in-lieu of parking payments are to be used for the acquisition of lands and/or the provision of off-street parking as deemed appropriate by the City;

WHEREAS, the former City of Hamilton has operational guidelines in place on how cash-in-lieu of parking payments are to be calculated which currently state that “payments made by proponents will not be less than 50% of the total cost of the parking not provided” and set out a formula for calculating the cost of parking based on both land and construction costs;

WHEREAS, the most recent use of the cash-in-lieu of parking policy was in 2017 for 8 parking spaces for a project in downtown Hamilton and which resulted in the payment of \$140,400 (approximately \$17,550 per parking space);

WHEREAS, a temporary amendment to the cash-in-lieu of parking policy to reduce the cash-in-lieu rate could be used to reduce the overall cost of development;

Building Permit Fees for Affordable Housing

WHEREAS, since 2018 the City of Hamilton has waived various application fees for planning approvals (e.g. zoning, minor variances, site plan applications) for affordable housing projects, which has resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in savings for new affordable housing projects, but has not waived Building Permit fees which, for recent affordable housing projects, have cost affordable housing developers thousands of dollars per project, such as the Parkdale Landing (\$46k), North End Landing (\$118k); Ken Soble Tower (\$129k); and, Good Shephard (\$56k);

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton currently maintains a Building Permit Revenue Stabilization Reserve, which is forecast to have a balance of approximately \$22 million as of December 2020, but the use of these funds is regulated provincially under the *Ontario Building Code Act*, which limits their use to the administration of the Building Code Act;

WHEREAS, if the Province were to allow it, the City could use a small portion of its Building Permit Revenue Stabilization Reserve funds to offset the cost of waiving Building Permit fees for affordable housing;

Surety Bonds

WHEREAS, the Report of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery specifically recommends that the City of Hamilton permit surety bonds as a means of securing various financial obligations to the City on the part of developers;

WHEREAS, surety bonds can potentially reduce the cost of development by providing developers with a lower-cost option for financial securities, compared to current City practice which largely require Letters of Credit; and,

WHEREAS, there are potential risks to the City with respect to surety bonds, for example, related to the ease of accessing to the funds should the City have to draw upon them;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That Planning staff be directed to report back to Planning Committee with options for modifying the City's existing cash-in-lieu of parking policy to provide for a temporary, reduced cash-in-lieu of parking fee within the Downtown Secondary Plan Area for a temporary period;
- (b) That the Mayor be authorized and directed to write to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the local MPPs to request that the

Province amend the *Ontario Building Code Act* to permit municipalities to utilize Building Permit Reserve funds to offset the cost of waiving Building Permit fees for affordable housing projects;

- (c) That, if the amendments are made to the *Ontario Building Code Act* to permit municipalities to utilize Building Permit Reserve funds to offset the cost of waiving Building Permit fees for affordable housing projects, staff be directed to report back to the Planning Committee on a recommended program for waiving Building Permit fees for affordable housing projects, to be funded by the Building Permit Revenue Stabilization Reserve (Reserve Number 104050); and,
- (d) That Finance and Legal staff be directed to report back to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee on the potential for the use of surety bonds as financial security for development projects to secure municipal agreements.

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR E. PAULS

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Supporting “Shop Local”

WHEREAS, the Report of the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery includes a number of recommendations related to supporting economic recovery by encouraging people to shop local, explore local, visit local business areas, and support local businesses;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is committed to supporting local businesses as one component of its broader economic recovery planning;

WHEREAS, there are currently 13 Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) in the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the BIAs are established through the coordination and request of the local business community, legislated through the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, and are governed through a Board of Management, which is a Local Board;

WHEREAS, the BIAs are primarily funded through a levy placed on each commercial property owner;

WHEREAS, the City currently supports the 13 BIAs with funding enhancements by providing an annual Contribution to Operating Grant Program (\$89,100 per year total), a share of parking revenues (10% of Hamilton Municipal Parking System operating surplus to a maximum of \$167,280 per year), and an annual grant for holiday programming (\$1,000 per BIA); and,

WHEREAS, the City’s annual Winterfest festival, which has a 2021 budget of approximately \$65,000 to curate outdoor activities primarily in parks across the City, presents an opportunity for an immediate impact by extending its scope to include outdoor activities in the City’s BIA areas;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That each of the City's existing thirteen Business Improvement Areas be provided a one-time enhancement grant of \$10,000 each to support special programming in 2021 to help to support local businesses, subject to the submission and approval of a plan and budget to the City's Economic Development Division, to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives capital account (3621708900);
- (b) That the budget for the February 2021 Hamilton Winterfest be increased by \$25,000, to add additional programming in each of the City's 13 Business Improvement Areas, to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives capital account (3621708900); and,
- (c) That the Commercial Districts and Small Business Section of the Economic Development Division and Tourism Hamilton be directed to include an enhanced focus on supporting local tourism and support for local businesses in their 2021 programming, using their existing budgets.

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR J.P. DANKO.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN

Creative Enterprise Facilities Property Tax Sub-class

WHEREAS, the Report of the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery includes a number of recommendations related to property tax relief for small businesses and businesses in the arts and culture sector;

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2020, the Province of Ontario announced that it would be enabling municipalities to provide property tax relief for small businesses by giving municipalities the ability to create a new "Small Business" Tax Sub-Class in 2021; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018 the City of Toronto was successful in having the Province create a special Creative Enterprise Facilities Property Tax Sub-Class, which the City of Toronto has used to provide a reduction in property tax for eligible creative enterprises and live music venues, but this authority does not yet exist in the City of Hamilton;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with options for the creation of a Small Business Tax Sub-class;
- (b) That the Mayor be authorized and directed to write to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, with a copy to the local MPPs to request that the Province extend the eligibility for the Creative Enterprise Facilities Property Tax Sub-class to the City of Hamilton;
- (c) That, should the Province support extending the Creative Enterprise Facilities Property Tax Sub-class to the City of Hamilton, Finance staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with options for creating such a sub-class.

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 9, 2020

MOVED BY MAYOR F. EISENBERGER

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Federal and Provincial Assistance with COVID-19 Economic Recovery Initiatives

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 has resulted in widespread economic hardship across multiple sectors in Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery has recognized that a successful economic recovery will require involvement and collaboration from all levels of government;

WHEREAS, the Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Recovery has identified specific recommendations that are beyond the authority of a municipality and require action from upper levels of government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff directed to prepare correspondence from the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Ontario, copying all local MPs and MPPs, in support of the following:
 - (i) establishing trade policies that support the manufacturing and auto sectors;
 - (ii) continuing transfers to municipalities to cover municipal budget shortfalls due to COVID impacts;
 - (iii) instituting Universal Paid Emergency Leave;
 - (iv) extending the Commercial Rent Assistance Program beyond 2020;
 - (v) extending the Extension of Termination and Severance Protection beyond Jan 2, 2021;
 - (vi) extending the CERB/CEWS wage subsidy programs and committing to study the potential for a Universal Basic Income program;

- (vii) establishing a national universal childcare program;
 - (viii) allowing for the extension of Corporate Tax deferral programs;
 - (ix) providing funding for non-governmental organizations that provide well-being supports, such as services for people with mental health and addictions)
 - (x) establishing a centralized contact point for businesses for information on pandemic-related provincial restrictions and guidelines;
 - (xi) ensuring fair wages/consistent policy for workers WSIB claims to align with COVID-19 impacts;
 - (xii) advancing investments for major infrastructure projects as a catalyst for job creation and economic stimulus;
 - (xiii) investing in skills development, employment supports and employer incentives for marginalized groups; and,
 - (xiv) support a home renovation tax credit; and,
- (b) That staff be directed to devise work plans for follow-up on the task force recommendations with their federal and provincial counterparts such as deputy ministers, directors and policy staff.



Hamilton

**West Harbour Development Sub-Committee
Report 20-001**

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 2, 2020
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillors J. Farr (Chair), M. Wilson (Vice-Chair), C. Collins, and
J.P. Danko

THE WEST HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 20-001 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan – Implementation Status Update (PED17181(b)) (Item 10.1) (Attached hereto as Appendix “A”)**
 - (i) **Animation of Piers 5-8 Lands**
 - (a) That staff from the Tourism and Culture Division be directed to prepare and execute an agreement with an external entity to a maximum value of \$40,000 for the implementation of operating and programming temporary animation of the Piers 5 to 8 lands, inclusive of the Waterfront Trust Centre (formerly the Discovery Centre), with nominal cost for leasing of the lands, for the 2021-2022 seasons, to be funded through Project 4411606003 (West Harbour Community Engagement) in a manner and on conditions deemed appropriate by the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department, and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor; and,
 - (b) That staff report back to the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee by the end of the first quarter of 2021 with interim and long-term strategies for the use of the Waterfront Trust Centre (formerly the Discovery Centre), including animation of the surrounding outdoor area.

(ii) West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan – Implementation Status Update

That Report PED17181(b), respecting West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan – Implementation Status Update, be received.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the Agenda.

The Agenda for the December 2, 2020 meeting of the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee was approved, as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 4)

(i) December 18, 2019 (Item 4.1)

The Minutes for the December 18, 2019 meeting of the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee were approved, as presented.

(d) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

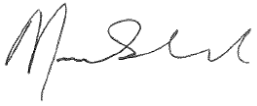
Councillor J. Farr, Chair
West Harbour Development
Sub-Committee

Tamara Bates
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Appendix "A" to West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 20-001



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members West Harbour Development Sub Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 2, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan - Implementation Status Update (PED17181(b)) (Ward 2)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 2c
PREPARED BY:	Chris Phillips (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5304 Ed English (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5461 Gord McGuire (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2439
SUBMITTED BY:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION - Not Applicable

INFORMATION

The West Harbour Development Sub-Committee (WHDS-C) periodically reviews the status of the West Harbour Re-Development Plan (the Plan), which consists of capital infrastructure and construction projects, as well as complementary projects necessary to facilitate private-sector and public-space development.

The Plan is led and managed by an inter-departmental team of senior staff within the Planning & Economic Development (PED) and Public Works (PW) departments, with significant and on-going support from Corporate Services department, including Finance, Legal Services, and others.

Previous status reports during this term of Council include:

- February 26, 2019, Report PED17181(a) entitled "West Harbour Re-Development Plan Implementation - Status Update";

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan - Implementation
Status Update (PED17181(b)) (Ward 2) - Page 2 of 12**

- February 26, 2019, Report PW17075(b) entitled “Status of West Harbour Implementation”;
- September 9, 2019, Report PW17075c entitled “Status of West Harbour Implementation”; and
- October 22, 2019, Report PW19090 entitled “West Harbour Strategic Initiatives Piers 5-7 Public Realm Capital Works”.

This report emphasizes the progress from Q4 2019 to Q3 2020, including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Land Development Projects – Municipal Land Development Office (Ec. Dev. PED):

Piers 6 and 7 and Pier 8: - Planning Approvals - LPAT Settlement

On May 24, 2017, Council approved Planning Committee Report 17-009 (Report PED17074), Applications to Amend City of Hamilton Zoning By-law No. 05-200, Approval of a Draft Plan of Subdivision and Temporary Use By-law for Lands Located at Pier 8, 65 Guise Street East, which approved the zoning and Draft Plan of Subdivision, to facilitate the mixed-use residential, commercial, institutional and park uses on the Pier 8 lands. This decision was subsequently appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT, formerly the OMB), characterized as Phase 1 issues concerning local residential neighbourhood impacts, and Phase 2, the impacts to existing industrial users.

On July 13, 2018, City Council approved Waterfront Shores Corporation (WSC) as the Preferred Proponent to develop the Pier 8 lands, who were granted full Party status through the LPAT process.

With the involvement of WSC, through negotiation and both private and tribunal-led mediation sessions, City staff achieved settlements with the appellants and obtained Council approvals.

On December 10, 2019, the LPAT issued the following Orders:

- Case number PL170742, approving the Minutes of Settlement with the local neighbourhood appellants, and the subsequent Draft Plan and Zoning By-law for the Pier 8 lands; and
- Case PL140314, approving OPA 233 and Zoning By-Law 14-042, that was revised to require that parking generated by the uses on Piers 6&7 be provided north of Guise Street and Bay Street North.

On September 22, 2020, the LPAT issued the following Order:

- Case PL170742, approving the Minutes of Settlement with the industrial appellants, and Zoning By-law No. 05-200 respecting the Pier 8 lands.

**SUBJECT: West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan - Implementation
Status Update (PED17181(b)) (Ward 2) - Page 3 of 12**

The result, the planning instruments for both the Piers 6 and 7 and Pier 8 lands are approved, allowing for the development application processes to proceed for both the commercial village concept on Piers 6 and 7, as well as the residential/commercial/mixed-use development on Pier 8.

In preparation of the Site Plan approval process, City staff are undertaking clearing the necessary conditions which include reviewing noise and dust studies, overseeing the commissioning of the sanitary pumping station, and the completion of the Record of Site Condition (RSC) and Certificate of Property-Use (CPU) process with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). It is anticipated that waterfront staff will apply to release the “Hold” provision on the zoning by the end of Q4 2020.

Pier 8 LPAT Settlement – Re-designation of Land-Use for Block-16

There were several components of the residential Phase 1 LPAT Settlement, including the following key items:

- The total density allowed within the 9 development-blocks of Pier 8 remains unchanged at 1,645 units;
- 15% of the units developed on Pier 8 must be “family-sized”, defined as being two or more bedrooms in size;
- The Parties agree that the City shall direct staff to bring forward for Planning Committee and Council’s consideration and approval, in its sole and unfettered legislative discretion, an amendment to Setting Sail (OPA) that would redesignate the existing Institutional block (“Block 16”) to permit residential or mixed use in a mid-rise or high-rise form, as well as an implementing zoning bylaw (the “Block 16 ZBL”); and,
- If an OPA is approved with additional density of Block-16 by Council, additional family-sized units would be required based on the number of additional storeys approved for Block-16.

City Staff have undertaken a 2-staged process to comply with the commitment to bring forward for consideration the OPA/ZBA process for Block-16 as outlined below.

Phase 1 – Block-16 Opportunity Study - Urban Design Study and Guidelines (UDS)

Led by Community Planning Staff, Phase 1 will involve a review of the existing Pier 7+8 Urban Design Study (2016) in order to assess the opportunity and parameters required to accommodate a mid-rise or high-rise building on Block 16 and to develop associated urban design guidelines. These guidelines will be brought forward for Council approval and will assist Staff and Council when evaluating an application for increased height for this property.

**SUBJECT: West Harbour Waterfront Re-Development Plan - Implementation
Status Update (PED17181(b)) (Ward 2) - Page 4 of 12**

Phase 2 – Block-16 OPA Application Process

This will involve the preparation of an OPA and ZBA for Block 16, based on the recommendations and urban design guidelines established and approved by Council in Phase 1. Consistent with the previous practice, West Harbour staff have retained an external planning consultant to prepare and formally submit the applications to the Planning Division for review. The development applications will be prepared and bring forward for consideration through the statutory planning application process under the *Planning Act*, including a statutory public meeting of the Planning Committee to consider any changes to the Setting Sail Secondary Plan and the associated Zoning By-law applicable to Block-16.

Planning staff have retained the consulting firm Brook-McIlroy, the original authors of the Piers 7+8 Urban Design Study (2016), to conduct the Phase 1 work. Although the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the timing of the study, Staff have embarked on public consultation through the City's online Engage Hamilton tools at <https://engage.hamilton.ca/piers7and8> as well as a virtual information meeting that took place on November 5, 2020. Public comments were accepted until November 15, 2020, with comments being posted on-line in December. Staff expect to bring a report to Planning Committee for consideration of the Phase 1 Urban Design Study in early 2021.

Development Agreement (DA) - City of Hamilton & Waterfront Shores Corporation

As noted above, Council approved Waterfront Shores Corporation (WSC) as the Preferred Proponent for the Pier 8 Development. Subsequently, on September 11, 2019, Council approved Confidential Report PED14002(i), entitled Pier 8 Development Agreement between the City of Hamilton and Waterfront Shores Corporation, identifying the framework to be used within the negotiated DA.

Since that time, City staff and WSC have been engaged in a series of constructive negotiations. Although the timing is longer than anticipated, both parties agreed to the importance of a successful LPAT resolution, and decided to prioritize the LPAT process, with the DA to follow. As of the writing of this report, both parties have agreed to all business terms, the agreement is consistent with approved Council direction, and the DA is being reviewed by respective legal counsel. Staff expect the DA to be executed by January 2021.

Piers 6 and 7 Land Sale

On January 22, 2020, Council approved GIC Report 19-004 including Report PED19191(b) entitled Piers 6 and 7 Land Disposition Plan. This report directed Corporate Real Estate staff to sell four (4) specified development blocks on the city-owned Piers 6&7 lands, for private sector development.

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City staff expected to begin to market the properties within Q1 or Q2 2020; however, as the COVID-19 pandemic began, it was decided to delay the sales process until the Q3 2020. Staff prepared marketing materials and the properties were listed for sale on August 12, 2020, with formal offers being reviewed after October 31, 2020.

Led by Corporate Real Estate, with support from the West Harbour office and Economic Development, the marketing plan included using the City's website, proactive marketing to key development and real estate industry professionals, a targeted paid and earned media promotional campaign throughout the GTHA, social media through the City's Linked-In channels, as well as targeted e-mail distribution.

Real estate staff are preparing to review offers and will begin negotiations if necessary. Staff expect to report back on the progress by the end of 2020 or January 2021.

Piers 6 and 7 Temporary Programming & Animation Plan

On November 27, 2019, Council approved GIC Report 19-024 containing Report PED19191(a) entitled Pier 6 and 7 Land Disposition and Interim Activation Plan. This report approved capital funding of up to \$40,000 and directed staff to retain an external entity to plan and operate a temporary animation program located on the Piers 5 to 8 lands, during the 2020 season (spring-fall).

Although staff from the Tourism and Culture Division were preparing to enact the direction, the COVID-19 pandemic restricted the ability to execute the envisioned plan, and no further action was taken. It is anticipated that this plan may be re-evaluated for the 2021 season.

Capital Projects – Waterfront Development Office (WDO-PW):

The West Harbour capital plan includes projects for the rehabilitation and re-construction of aging shoreline and marina infrastructure, the creation of new public-space and parks, and the construction of new municipal service infrastructure. To date, Council has approved over \$100 million of an original \$140 million capital plan to enhance the existing uses and enable the planned new uses within the Piers 6 and 7 and 8 area. Completed projects include the following:

- Re-construction of the Pier 7 shorewall and creation of the new public waterfront boardwalk and temporary boat slips;
- Breakwater structure and City-owned Marina dock and boat slip renewal;
- Pier 8 shorewall rehabilitation;
- Relocation of the HPS Marine Unit building;
- Decommissioning of the former Marina (Macdonald Marine) site; and

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- Parking and Parking Structure Location Studies

Notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic, the on-going design and construction projects continued to progress throughout 2020, with significant results. The following is an update on the projects that are on-going.

Pier 8 - Underground water & Sanitary Services and Above-ground roads & sidewalks

The Pier 8 servicing project consisted of 2-phases of work; Phase 1 focused on the lands east of the existing Discovery Drive, and Phase 2 involved the re-construction of Discovery Drive and the internal roads adjacent to the Williams Café, The Hamilton Waterfront Trust (HWT), and the HWT (former Discovery) Centre building.

Phase 1 began in September 2019, was completed and opened to public access in July 2020, with Phase 2 beginning in August 2020. Staff recognize that timing and location of the Phase 2 work has impacted and disrupted the normal operations of the HWT, Williams Café, and the HWT Centre building. To ensure public safety and employ safe labour standards, the area bounded by Discovery Drive and the existing parking lots adjacent to Williams Café have been fenced, temporarily eliminating adjacent vehicular access, parking, modifying pedestrian mobility.

The projects continue to progress both on-time and on-budget, with completion expected in November 2020, at which time full access to the site will be restored.

A significant component of the servicing is the construction and commissioning of a new sanitary pumping station. Located just east of the HWT Centre building and south of the new Copps Pier (Pier 8 Promenade Park), this project consists of both underground sanitary services and holding tank, as well as sanitary pumping infrastructure located in a newly constructed building. The project began in May 2019 and is substantially complete. It will be fully commissioned by the end of 2020.

Copps Pier (Pier 8 Promenade Park) Construction

The Pier 8 Promenade Park, approved by Council as part of the “Setting Sail” Secondary Plan and the Piers 7+8 Urban Design Study, will be the focal point of the Pier 8 re-development. In partnership with the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation, the City commissioned an international competition to determine the design of this new 1.41-hectare park. Forrec Ltd.’s “Hammer City” design was awarded the contract for the 30-metre-wide linear park that will wrap around the north and east sides of Pier 8. In 2018, Council also approved the formal naming of the new park as Copps Pier.

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The park construction was tendered in March 2020, was awarded in July, and initial material staging, mobilization, survey work, as well as the finalization of construction drawings and permits took place between August and October 2020. From a visual perspective, the area is defined by a blue construction fence, which delineates the park construction from the other construction happening on Pier 8.

Construction will proceed in 2 phases; Phase 1 has started and will include heavy civil engineering work including underground services. Phase 2 is set to start in March 2021, and will include the above-ground landscaping, trail construction, and other amenities. It is anticipated the new park will be open to the public in July 2021.

Piers 6 and 7–Shore wall, Boardwalk, Public-Space & “Commercial Village” Construction

In January 2015, the City and the Hamilton Waterfront Trust (HWT) entered into a Project Management Agreement (PMA) where the Trust would manage select City projects within the West Harbour waterfront. The HWT played an important role in forming stakeholder and public consensus with the West Harbour Waterfront Recreation Master Plan (WHWRMP) in 2010. Council’s approval of the plan facilitated the decision for the HWT to project manage the capital projects within the Piers 5 to 7 area. When complete, these projects will transform an old asphalt parking lot and boat storage and maintenance facility into a new 4 hectare pedestrianized public-space, stretching from the foot of James Street North to the water’s edge, and will include both public and commercial uses.

On November 27, 2019 Council approved GIC Report 19-024 including Report PW19090 entitled West Harbour Strategic Initiatives Piers 5 to 7 Public Realm Capital Works, which authorized budget enhancements to complete these projects as envisioned and tender the Phase 1 works including the Piers 5 to 7 Marina Shoreline Rehabilitation and the Piers 5 to 7 Boardwalk.

The project is divided into two (2) phases; Phase 1 includes the shoreline rehabilitation, construction of 950 meters of new water’s edge boardwalk, the rehabilitation of the water’s edge around the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club (RHYC) building and the marina services area, as well as the demolition of the existing aging structures on the site. This project was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was tendered in September 2020 and scheduled to close in November 2020, with construction commencing in December 2020, and completion expected by fall 2021.

Phase 2 will include the above-ground surface areas, a new gateway and public art feature at the foot of James Street North, the construction of the waterfront trail link, as well as other landscaping features. Construction is scheduled to begin in Q2-Q3 2021, with completion by fall 2022.

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Emerging Issues – 2021-2022:

To date, the West Harbour Re-Development Plan has focused on planning policy, real estate disposition, and capital project work, with significant progress being made as the planning policy work will be complete in 2021 and capital projects by 2022.

It is time for a coordinated approach to both the short-term and long-term operation of the newly constructed areas. In particular, co-ordination is required as the City integrates the existing uses with the newly developed areas, as well as identifying the inter-dependencies as they are phased-in over time. The following list highlights some of these emerging issues that staff will be reporting back to the Sub Committee throughout the 2021 and 2022 time horizon.

1. Short-Term and Long-Term uses for the HWT (Discovery) Centre Building

The HWT Centre building is a city-owned facility, that has been primarily vacant for the past few years. Initially built and operated as the Parks Canada Marine Discovery Centre, the building footprint is zoned for institutional use, but has most recently been used as a full-service restaurant with waterfront patio and an informal event and meeting facility. Upon closure, the internal and patio restaurant furnishings and fixtures were removed, leaving the former restaurant primarily vacant open interior space. Parks Canada still occupies the north-east portion of the building as office-space, with the remainder consisting of an entrance lobby, two small meeting rooms with waterfront patio access, a 50-seat theatre, washroom facilities, and direct access to the north portion of the waterfront trail.

Since taking ownership, the City's facilities group has taken management of the building and the HWT was retained to operate and maintain the building on a day-to-day basis, as well as managing the programming and rental bookings. With no immediate long-term plan for the building, combined with the timing of the capital project work taking place on the adjacent Pier 8 lands, rental programming has been limited to short-term bookings, based on a 6 month calendar, with limited success. In 2020, the pandemic restrictions led to the cancellation of all activities and the building remains closed as a City facility.

The long-term future of the building has been a topic of discussion at Council and within the community. Opinions vary on the future-state, but generally they can be categorized into the following broad categories:

- i. Remain a City-owned facility with primarily public-uses (e.g. library, museum, community space);

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- ii. Remain a City-owned facility with a combination of private and public uses (e.g. restaurant, convention facility, other commercial uses); or
- iii. Sell the building outright, either with or without restrictions.

On January 24, 2018, Council approved GIC Report 18-002, which included direction to investigate the feasibility of incorporating the former Parks Canada lands/building, into the Pier 8 Request for Proposals (RFP) process and to report back with a recommendation that best maximizes the disposition value, does not adversely affect the value the City can expect to receive from the Pier 8 lands, and best ties into the vision of Setting Sail and the successful developer. Staff informed the RFP Proponents of the Council direction and the general public on March 29, 2018 during a comprehensive Community Conversation Meeting. Although the future of the building was discussed during the DA negotiations, the building was not incorporated into the final agreement.

Over time, several private and non-profit entities have approached staff with an interest in pursuing the building for various uses, and generally the public would like to see activity within the facility.

Although not a condition of the DA, WSC has explicitly expressed an interest in obtaining a short-term lease for the building, with a commitment to incorporate a variety of indoor and outdoor uses including food and beverage, the continuation of meeting/event space, as well as office and marketing space for their on-site operations.

To be clear, staff is not seeking a decision on the future of the site through this report and Council remains in full control over the decision-making process. Staff believe however, the short-term and long-term future of this site is an outstanding issue worth consideration and will continue to explore and assess possible options and report back to the Sub-Committee.

2. Long-Term Parking for West Harbour Area

Addressing long-term parking needs in the waterfront area remains an outstanding issue. At present, parking is serviced by shared surface lots with marina and boating users, commercial tenants and customers, as well as the general public collectively utilizing the existing spaces. Although acceptable at present, it is expected there may be a long-term parking shortage of approximately 500-600 spaces for the entire West Harbour project area, mainly as a result of the elimination 300-400 existing surface parking spaces as these lots are re-developed over time.

On January 22, 2020, Council approved GIC Report 19-004, including Information Report PW17076(a) entitled Piers 6-8 Interim Parking, which advised Council about the preferred interim parking plan throughout the construction period. The report also

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highlights that the parking pressures will evolve and increase over time as the new parks and public-spaces become operational, as well as when the private-sector developments are constructed on Piers 6 and 7 and Pier 8 simultaneously.

This pressure has also been noted within the capital budget forecast. Report FCS19091 entitled City of Hamilton 2020 Tax Supported Capital Budget 2021 – 2029 Tax Supported Capital Forecast, noted that a long-term parking solution is integral to the viability of the area over time. The report states:

“As part of the overall re-development plan, existing free public parking located on Piers 6-8, as well as the parking for the marina facilities, will be eliminated over time as development progresses. West Harbour Staff has identified a long-term need to replace approximately 500-600 parking spaces. Although the WHWRMP identified the future need for a parking structure to address this concern, both the specific site and the funding options for this have not been finalized, and as such Staff would seek possible funding options that mitigate the impact on the City’s capital budget.”

The capital budget forecast notes the new public parking garage is estimated at \$33.2M, broken down into the functional planning, pre-engineering, and design work forecasted in 2023 at \$4.9 Million (\$3.675M net of DCs) and construction costs of \$28.3M in 2025 (\$21.225M net of DCs).

As a result of the LPAT Settlement for OPA 233, it has been determined that any parking required to support the waterfront would need to be located north of Guise Street. Options could include existing lands, or integration with the Pier 8 development.

WSC has expressed an interest in partnering with the City to build additional public parking as part their development, with an opportunity to address the issue as part of the Block-16 OPA process.

There is no immediate decision being sought on the long-term parking plan and Council is in full control of the decision-making process. Staff continue to explore and assess possible options and will report back to the Sub Committee.

3. Pier 8 Greenway – Public Right-of-Way

In line with the Pier 7+8 Urban Design Guidelines, the approved Draft Plan of Subdivision establishes a public right-of-way referred to as the “Greenway”, which is envisioned to serve as part of the storm water management infrastructure and a public pedestrian corridor. Consistent with the DA, the developer (WSC) will design and build this project, with the City having full approval over the specifications, design, and

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budget. Upon completion it will be owned and maintained by the City as a public right-of-way.

Consistent with the timing of development on Pier 8, on November 27, 2019 Council approved GIC Report 19-024 including Report PW19090 entitled West Harbour Strategic Initiatives Piers 5-7 Public Realm Capital Works, which included direction to defer the project to the 2023 capital budget year and refine the scope of the stormwater infrastructure component within the public right-of-way.

As WSC begins to finalize their phasing plans for Pier 8, they have requested staff to begin the process of establishing the specifications, budget, and timing of this project. Staff continue to explore and assess possible options and will report back to the Sub Committee.

4. Proposed new Public “artisan” Market & Open-air Buildings on Piers 6&7

As part of the WHWRMP, the new commercial village public open-space envisions replacing the existing structures on Pier 6 and 7 with two (2) new buildings; the first being an “open-air” structure to replace the existing small “varnish-shed”, and the second being an “artisan market” building to replace the large marina building. As construction begins on the public-space elements and the four (4) development-blocks are being listed for sale, it will be necessary to further define the visions for these new facilities, and any associated financial and operational impacts. As part of their existing work plan, the HWT will be conducting a design study for these proposed structures, and the construction funding is identified within the City’s capital budget forecast. This analysis should also involve coordinating the existing and proposed new uses throughout the West Harbour, to ensure they work cohesively over time. Staff will report back to the Sub Committee at the appropriate time.

5. Short-term & Long-Term Operating – Programming & Animation

On September 9, 2019, the WHD-SC received Report PED19191 entitled Pier 6 and 7 Commercial Village Activation Plan. In part, this report presented the findings of the retail and commercial uses study and public-space animation and place-making study. They focused on how institutional, residential, commercial, and recreational uses, both proposed and existing, can work to support the vibrant new private and public spaces. Staff recognize that in general terms, the WHWRMP has been a successful plan for capital investments, but the next stage should involve a plan guiding the operations within the area and identify the roles for the following:

- i. City departments and divisions;
- ii. Private-sector development partners (WSC & future Piers 6 and 7 developers);

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- iii. External Agencies (HWT, existing marinas/clubs, other non-profit/community groups)
- iv. External private-sector Sector (commercial operators such as food & beverage, arts, events, retail, recreational etc.)

Staff will report back to the Sub Committee at the appropriate time.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED – N/A



Hamilton

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT 20-005

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

- Present:** Councillor Esther Pauls (Chair)
 Tracy MacKinnon – Westdale Village BIA and Stoney Creek BIA
 Cristina Geissler – Concession Street BIA
 Lisa Anderson – Dundas BIA
 Kerry Jarvi – Downtown Hamilton BIA
 Susan Pennie – Waterdown BIA
 Rachel Braithwaite – Barton Village BIA
 Susie Braithwaite – International Village BIA
 Heidi VanderKwaak – Locke Street BIA
 Jennifer Mattern – Ancaster BIA
 Maggie Burns – Ottawa Street BIA
- Absent:** Michal Cybin – King West BIA
 Bender Chug – Main West Esplanade BIA

THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 20-005 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

- 1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair (Item 1)**
 - (a) That Councillor E. Pauls be appointed as Chair of the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee for 2021; and,
 - (b) That the Vice-Chair position rotate among Committee members for the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee for 2021.
- 2. Letter to the Premier on Behalf of the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee (Item 10.2)**

That the Mayor of the City of Hamilton send a letter to the Premier of Ontario on behalf of the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee (attached as Appendix "A" to Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee Report 20-005), respecting the COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open and the impact it has on small businesses and Business Improvement Areas.

3. Barton Village Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.1)

- (a) That the expenditure request from the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$6,222.03 for the cost to hire youth through the summer to clean and maintain the sidewalks in Barton Village to be funded from the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Contribution Program (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved; and,
- (b) That the expenditure request from the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$10,192.27 for the cost of marketing for the Barton Village BIA (\$554.24), Office Equipment (\$1,482.23), Banners and Planters (\$4,654.58), and the cost to hire a manager to oversee street cleanup (\$3,501.00) to be funded from the Shared Parking Revenue Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-45559), be approved.

4. Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.2)

That the expenditure request from the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$8,046.70 for the cost of winter greenery for planters, Christmas decor lights, Christmas decorations maintenance, and materials for summer planters, to be funded from the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Contribution Program (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.1 Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, respecting a community and small business initiative (For today's meeting)

The agenda for the December 8, 2020 Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee meeting was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) November 10, 2020 (Item 4.1)

The November 10, 2020 Minutes of the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee were approved, as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

(i) Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, respecting a community and small business initiative (For today's meeting) (Added Item 6.1)

The delegation request from Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, respecting a community and small business initiative was approved for today's meeting.

(e) VIRTUAL DELEGATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, respecting a community and small business initiative (Added Item 8.1)

Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, addressed the Committee respecting a community and small business initiative, with the aid of a presentation.

The delegation from Krysta Boyer, Winter Wakeup, respecting a community and small business initiative, was received.

(f) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

(i) COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (Item 9.1)

Dr. Doug Sider, Public Health Physician and Elissa Press, Health Promotion Specialist addressed the Committee with information on COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control.

The staff presentation on COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control, was received.

(ii) COVID-19 Enforcement Update (Item 9.2)

Kelly Barnett, Emergency Operations Centre, Council Liaison and Kelly Beaton, Acting Manager Service Delivery, Licensing and By-law Services addressed the Committee with an update on COVID-19 Enforcement.

The staff update on COVID-19 Enforcement, was received.

(g) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Verbal Update from Julia Davis, Business Development and BIA Officer (Item 13.1)

Julia Davis advised Committee of the General Issues Committee dates that individual BIA Budget requests will be on the agenda.

Julia reminded Committee that the Christmas Grant Program spending must happen in 2020 and that receipts must be submitted by January 6, 2021. The due date for the Pre-Christmas Parking Receipts is also January 6, 2021.

At the December 9, 2020 General Issues Committee there is a presentation on the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery (Item 8.1) going to GIC tomorrow. Julia encouraged the Committee members to have a look at the presentation and advised Committee that they can watch online tomorrow. Julia advised Committee that Kerry Jarvi sits on the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery.

For the January BIA Advisory Committee meeting, Julia will be inviting Accounting services to attend to talk about the audit process. If there are any questions ahead of time, let Julia know and she will send them to staff in advance.

In early 2021 there will be an Employment and COVID-19 Impact Survey and Julia will share the survey results with the BIA's once it's completed.

Julia was on Chamber TV last week and the recording is available online at www.hamiltonchamber.ca.

Julia introduced Anita Vidovic to provide an update on Public Works Staff. Anita advised Committee that Berkley Uhrig will be the new Public Works staff representative for the BIA Advisory Committee.

The verbal update from Julia Davis, Business Development and BIA Officer, was received.

(ii) Statements by Members (Item 13.2)

BIA Members used this opportunity to discuss matters of general interest.

Rachel Braithwaite assumed the Chair as Councillor Pauls had to leave the meeting.

That the updates from Committee Members, be received.

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Esther Pauls
Chair Business Improvement Area
Advisory Committee

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Appendix "A" to Item 2 of Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee Report 20-005

Premier Doug Ford

December 2020

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open

We understand that times are unprecedented, and we are very grateful for how the government has stepped up to protect the safety of Canadians along with creating programs to assist and support business, especially Digital Main Street. The decisions you are making each day are challenging and we are sure you are being pulled in many different directions, with no rule book on which to follow. We appreciate you regularly mentioning supporting the small business owners.

We are writing with regards to the restrictions imposed on small businesses in the COVID-19 Response Framework and more specific to Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) that pay an extra tax levy so they can have proper collective cohesion and representation, especially important during times like this. As you know, in Hamilton, we are now in the red stage because of the changing formula and the rising numbers. This means increased restrictions to our small businesses, while the large corporately owned big box stores, malls and casinos are still able to operate, seemingly without impact.

We were concerned at the shocking way Hamilton moved from yellow to red stage, apparently catching even our public health officials off guard. We are concerned that we may soon too go into lockdown stage, with similar notice. Virtually all of our small businesses are complying and following all of the guidelines, while spending and borrowing to cover required PPE expenses and other necessities to operative with restrictions. We simply ask to consider the value of our small businesses when deciding next steps. We appreciate having a premier who understands and supports small business.

We urge you to please create a level playing field so that our small independent Canadian businesses and BIAs, who reinvest their profits back into the local economy, survive. Malls, big box stores and casinos should see the same restrictions imposed on them. If a local retailer is unable to sell books in person, why should a big box store be allowed to?

We appreciate your support for our home-grown businesses who are not only rooted in this community, but also nourish it and add greatly to the tax foundation of this economy. If small business does not survive COVID-19 then the hearts of our cities will be severely impacted, and it will not be the Canada that has historically encouraged entrepreneurship and investment in small business.

Please keep our small businesses, the heart of the Ontario economy, in your heart and mind when making these decisions.

We appreciate your consideration and compassion.

Warm Regards.

BIAAC

Cc Kay Matthews, ED Ontario Business Improvement Area Association