



Hamilton

**REPORT 11-002  
TASK FORCE ON CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY  
IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE  
2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, October 20, 2011  
Council Chambers  
Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West**

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**Present:** Councillors J. Farr (Chair), C. Collins  
K. Drewitt (Vice Chair) S. Braithwaite, T. Mines, J. Hawker,  
M. Pocius

**Absent with  
Regrets:** M. Platts

**Also Present:** G. Norton, Manager, Urban Renewal  
L. Browett, Business Analyst, Urban Renewal  
E. Devries, Program Co-ordinator BIA's, Waterfront  
Development  
K. Barnett, Community Liaison Co-ordinator  
M. Field, Project Manager, Traffic Engineering Streetlighting  
& Electrical  
A. Grozelle, Legislative Assistant

**THE TASK FORCE ON CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN  
CORE PRESENTS REPORT 11-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. List of Walkabout Items - Problem Pigeon Populations (Item 7.2)**

That staff be directed to investigate the health effects of pigeon feces and examine animal control options for dealing with problem pigeon populations and report back to the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

**(a) Boys Toys Update**

Chair Farr provided an update on the efforts to date by property standards and police enforcement. Chair Farr indicated that he would be provide further updates at a future meeting.

**(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)**

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

- (i) There is a revised Draft list of Walkabout items to replace item 7.2 on the agenda.
- (ii) Added (for information purposes only) is a letter of Correspondence from the Chamber of Commerce to the General Issues Committee meeting of October 13, 2011. This will be item 7.3 on the agenda.

The agenda was approved as amended.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)**

**(i) September 15, 2011 (Item 3.1)**

Task Force members identified an error of omission in Item 7.4 of the Minutes. The Committee Clerk indicated he would correct it.

The Minutes of the September 15, 2011 meeting were adopted as as amended.

**(d) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) Delegation by Jenna Roberts respecting concerns around safety and crime (Item 6.1)**

Jenna Roberts was not in attendance. Task Force members indicated that Ms. Roberts would be given another opportunity to appear before the committee.

**(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 7)**

**(i) Downtown Façade Program Grants verbal update (no copy) (Item 7.1)**

Glen Norton, Manager of Urban Renewal provided an update to Task Force members. Highlights included but were not limited to the following:

- Discussed the façade grant program
- Indicated there are plans to expand the Downtown urban growth area as will be proposed at the November 8, 2011 Planning Committee
- Discussed that staff want to use up the reserve fundings and grants over the next three years to prepare the area for the Pan Am Games
- Discussed the Gore Building Improvement Grants
- Indicated that this grant has a \$50,000 maximum matching funds for the next three years, the criteria for applying is much more general than the façade grants and does not limit people from also applying to the façade grants
- Indicated that the Gore Building Improvement Grants are meant to address areas that require improvements to reach full occupancy
- Discussed efforts to cover 75% of sign cost to encourage removal of signage that does not fit with the architecture of the Downtown area
  
- Task Force members asked about expanding the Growth district and financing further future projects
  
- Task Force members asked on how to absentee owners could be informed of the plan
- Staff indicated that they sent mail-out brochures to all property owners and business operators where available and hope to do so again
  
- There was some discussion on how Property Standards works together with Urban Growth to help identify opportunities to address properties that need work

The update respecting Downtown Façade Program Grants was received.

**(ii) Draft list of Walkabout Items (Item 7.2)**

Chair Farr indicated that a revised list had been presented as part of the changes to the agenda and asked the Task Force members to refer to this list. Task Force member had some discussion on the Draft list highlights included but were not limited to the following:

- Task Force members asked for an update on the Sand Bar
- Staff indicated that the property has been secured and that there is a City department is looking towards the possibility of using the

building and that interest has also been expressed from private retail businesses

- Staff provide an update on James North and indicated that they talked to the property owner today indicated that they had received a reasonable quote for work on the property. Staff have suggested that they try to complete the work this year rather than wait until next year.
- There was some discussion on lighting and alleyway lighting Staff asked for clarification on the what they would like to see in respect to alleyway lighting
- Staff indicated that they have placed \$100,000 towards general upgrades in lighting in the downtown area to address the issues in the Downtown area, that they would do a costing of the projects identified by the Task Force and come back for them to be prioritized.
- Staff updated the Task Force indicating that they placed have placed \$50,000 towards benches in next years budget to replace the benches in the Gore Park area
- Task Force members suggested expanding the having water front shuttle route through Gore Park
- Task Force members discussed the pigeons in Gore Park and suggested adding signage prohibiting pigeon feeding and removing pigeon nests when working on lighting
- Task Force members requested the cleaning the pigeon feces in Gore park be given a higher priority

For disposition on this item refer to Item 1.

The list of Walkabout items was approved.

**(iii) Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Letter Respecting LRT (Added Item 7.3)**

Chair Farr informed Task Force members that this letter had already been presented to General Issues Committee and was therefore only being presented to the Task Force for information purposes.

**(g) OTHER / NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)**

**(i) Budget Requests**

There was some discussion on bringing forward any items that can not be covered under normal operating budgets for the consideration of the Task Force to make budgetary requests for 2012.

**(ii) McNab Street Terminal**

Chair Farr provided an update on efforts to work with staff on the issues identified during the 2011 Walkabout.

**(h) ADJOURNMENT**

On a Motion the meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Councillor J. Farr, Chair  
Task Force on Cleanliness  
and Security in the  
Downtown Core

Andy Grozelle  
Legislative Assistant  
October 20, 2011