



Hamilton

**TASK FORCE ON CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY  
IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE  
REPORT 14-002  
10:00 a.m.  
Monday May 26, 2014  
Room 192  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West**

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

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**THE TASK FORCE ON CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE  
PRESENTS REPORT 14-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Enforcement of Nuisance By-Laws in the Downtown Core**

- (a) That staff be directed to report on the feasibility of establishing a three-year pilot project between Municipal Law Enforcement staff and the Hamilton Police Services that examines how to better enforce by-laws dealing with nuisance complaints in the Downtown Core; and
- (b) That staff include in the report the possibility of having a full-time Municipal Law Enforcement Officer and a full-time Hamilton Police Services Officer to participate in a pilot project; and
- (c) That staff include in the report information regarding a similar project that is in place in the City of Barrie.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

**(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda.

- (i) Added as Item 4.1 – a Delegation Request from Irene Hubar and Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., respecting Loitering and Security Concerns at 35 King Street East
- (ii) Added as Item 5.4 - Correspondence from John Hawker respecting Sign Kiosks and Poster Sleeves Evaluation

The agenda for the May 26, 2014 meeting of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Task Force was approved as amended.

**(b) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(i) May 5, 2014 (Item 3.1)**

The Committee Clerk advised that on page four of the May 5, 2014 Minutes the name Kathy Braithwaite should instead read Kathy Drewitt.

The Minutes of the May 5, 2014 meeting of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Task Force meeting were approved as amended.

**(c) PRESENTATIONS (Item 4)**

**(i) Delegation Request from Irene Hubar and Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., respecting Loitering and Security Concerns at 35 King Street East (Added Item 4.1)**

The Delegation Request from Irene Hubar and Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., respecting Loitering and Security Concerns at 35 King Street East was approved for today's meeting.

**(ii) Delegation from Irene Hubar and Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., respecting Loitering and Security Concerns at 35 King Street East (Added Item 4.1)**

Ms. Irene Hubar and Mr. Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., addressed the Task Force regarding their concerns with loitering and security at 35 King Street East.

Ms. Hubar reported that drug use and drug paraphernalia are visible in front of the building. She and Mr. Gordon have been harassed and

assaulted. Ms. Hubar indicated that five floors of the building are empty and it is difficult to attract tenants when there are security concerns present.

Ms. Hubar has researched a nuisance by-law that the City of Barrie has enacted. In Barrie, municipal by-law officers can charge individuals who interfere with pedestrian traffic. The fine is \$150 fine plus a \$30 victim impact surcharge. Police services are only able to levy a \$35 fine.

Ms. Hubar reported other security concerns at the property including: spitting on the sidewalk, urinating on the street, and overflowing garbage. Some individuals use the bus stop as an excuse to stand in front of the building all day knowing they cannot be removed.

Mr. Gordon reported that he has caught addicts injecting drugs in the building. He is able to remove them but on city property he cannot and the drug users are aware of that.

Ms. Kelly Barnett, Community Liaison Coordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement reported to the Task Force that she has talked with municipal officials in Barrie about their nuisance by-law to investigate the measures they have taken and how they might be applicable to Hamilton.

The delegation from Irene Hubar and Randy Gordon, Argon Properties Ltd., respecting Loitering and Security Concerns at 35 King Street East was received.

**(iii) Pan Am Games Update (Item 4.2)**

Mr. Greg Maychak, Pan Am Games Initiatives Office, addressed the Task Force and provided an update respecting the Pan Am Games with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the public record.

The presentation included but was not limited to the following:

- Consultation with Hamilton Police Services, the International BIA and the Downtown BIA to ensure the Downtown Core is secure during the Pan Am Games
- Scope of the Pan Am Games
  - will be the largest sporting event ever held in Canada with 41 nations are participating
  - Soccer games will be broadcast live and represent a great way for Hamilton to be showcased; millions will watch the gold medal games

- Games represent a celebration of sport as well as the Cultures of the Americas
- Upcoming Events to mark the countdown to the Games
- Ticket Sales and Pricing
- Volunteer Recruitment

The presentation respecting the Pan Am Games Update was received.

**(d) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 5)**

**(i) Overview/Results of the May 5, 2014 Environmental Scan/Walking Tour of the Downtown Core (Item 5.1)**

The Task Force discussed the Environmental Scan/Walking Tour of the Downtown Core held on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

The Task Force agreed that the Tour was very successful and that it was well covered in the local media.

Ms. Kelly Barnett reported on the enforcement measures that were taken as a result of the Walking Tour.

Ms. Kathy Drewitt submitted notes she took during the Walking Tour for distribution to the Task Force.

The correspondence from Kathy Drewitt respecting City Maintenance Issues – Spring Walkabout was received.

**(ii) Verbal Update from Kelly Barnett, Community Liaison Coordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement and Peter Wobschall, Program Coordinator, Corporate Assets & Strategic Planning, respecting Nuisance Pigeons in Gore Park (Item 5.2)**

Kelly Barnett, Community Liaison Coordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement and Peter Wobschall, Program Coordinator, Corporate Assets & Strategic Planning, provided the Task Force with an update respecting Nuisance Pigeons in Gore Park.

Ms. Barnett reported that 15 complaints (across the City) about the feeding of nuisance pigeons have been received since June 2012. No charges were laid. Mr. Wobschall reported that the “Do not feed the pigeons” signs in Gore Park cannot be altered, nor can more signs be added, because of the Gore Park Pedestrianization Project that is currently underway.

The Task Force members expressed concern about this timeline and asked Mr. Wobschall to look into this matter so that the signs could be installed sooner rather than later.

The verbal update respecting Nuisance Pigeons in Gore Park was received.

**(iii) Verbal Update from Peter Wobschall, Program Coordinator, Corporate Assets & Strategic Planning, respecting String Weed Trimmers/Weedwackers for Downtown Litter Clean-up Staff (Item 5.3)**

Peter Wobschall, Program Coordinator, Corporate Assets & Strategic Planning, provided the Task Force with an update respecting String Weed Trimmers/Weedwackers for Downtown Litter Clean-up Staff.

Mr. Wobschall indicated the City's Downtown Cleanliness staff will be piloting a weedwacking program this season to address weeds in sidewalks throughout the Downtown. He indicated that feedback from members of the Task Force for staff's consideration is encouraged and that any comments received will be included in the evaluation of the program.

The verbal update respecting String Weed Trimmers/Weedwackers for Downtown Litter Clean-up Staff was received.

**(iv) Correspondence from John Hawker respecting Sign Kiosks and Poster Sleeve Evaluation (Added Item 5.4)**

The Task Force discussed the Correspondence received from John Hawker respecting Sign Kiosks and Poster Sleeve Evaluation.

Ms. Barnett provided information about the questions posed in Mr. Hawker's correspondence and explained that the program is being expanded. The Public Works Department is taking the lead on consulting with stakeholders. Ms. Barnett explained the process that By-law Enforcement follows when enforcing the by-law surrounding the posting of signs and posters.

The Correspondence from John Hawker respecting Sign Kiosks and Poster Sleeve Evaluation was received.

The update from Kelly Barnett respecting Sign Kiosks and Poster Sleeve Evaluation was received.

**(e) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS**

**(i) Update from the Committee Clerk respecting Upcoming Agenda Items (Item 6.1)**

The Update from the Committee Clerk respecting Upcoming Agenda Items was received.

**(ii) Items Requested for the Agenda of the next meeting (Added as Item 6.1)**

The following items be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Task Force:

- Discussion on the John Street Methadone Clinic
- Update from Phil Homerski on the program to combat graffiti
- Timeline for No Smoking Signs in Gore Park
- Update on “Wayfinding Signs” in the Downtown

**(f) ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:52.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

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

Lauri Leduc  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk