



Hamilton

**REPORT 14-002
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Monday, June 23, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Room A/B

**Ancaster Fairgrounds
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster**

Present: Chair D. Cranston
Councillors R. Pasuta, L. Ferguson, B. Johnson
W. Arndt, F. Trantmansdorff, R. Shuker, C. McMaster, P.
Krakar, M. Switzer

Absent with Regrets: Councillor J. Partridge – City Business
Vice Chair A. Spoelstra, D. Smith, R. Saccomano, N. Mills, J.
Mantel, G. Hyde

**THE AGRICULTURAL & RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT
14-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

1. CRTC – Fibre Optic Cable in Rural Areas (Item 8.3)

That the update respecting Fibre Optic Cable in Rural Areas, attached hereto as Appendix A, be received.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change:

- (i) Added as Item 11.1 – Local Health of Honey Bees

The agenda was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) March 24, 2014 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee of March 24, 2014, were approved as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(i) Janet Horner, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, respecting the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan (Item 4.1)

The delegation request of Janet Horner was approved, and the Rules of Order waived to allow for the delegation to speak at the meeting.

(e) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Janet Horner, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, respecting the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan

Janet Horner presented the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been included in the public record.

The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance

- Action Plan 2021
- 2012 Fall Alliance forms
 - Charged with implementation of the Action Plan
 - Represents municipalities, food industry, farming and more
- Stages of Group Development
- Regional Investment by all Municipalities
- Alliance Workplan 2014-15
- Asset Mapping
- Link Food, Farming and Health

The presentation respecting the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Action Plan was received.

(f) DISCUSSION (Item 5)

(i) Road Salt Usage in the Rural Area (Item 8.1)

The Committee had a general discussion respecting road salt usage.

Mike Christian, Acting District Superintendent, Roads and Maintenance and Sarah Poole, Acting Superintendent – District West, Roads and Maintenance answered questions from the Committee respecting the following:

- Calibration of Equipment
- Affect on Vegetation
- Types of Roads
- Salt Mixture

The verbal update respecting road salt usage was received.

(ii) Culverts and Rural Road Drainage (Item 8.2)

The Committee had a general discussion respecting rural road drainage, culverts, water flow and road resurfacing.

The verbal update respecting rural road drainage was received.

(iii) CRTC – Fibre Optic Cable in Rural Areas (Item 8.3)

The Committee noted that with satellite technology available today, fibre optic cable is not a pressing issue.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

(iv) Animal Control in Rural Areas (Item 8.4)

The Committee discussed private contracting respecting animal control.

(v) Correspondence from Hamilton-Wentworth Federation of Agriculture respecting Proposed Rural Zoning (Item 8.5)

Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Planning Policy and Zoning By-Law Reform and Heather Travis, Senior Planner, spoke to the Committee about revisions to the Draft Rural Zoning By-law.

The Committee had a general discussion respecting revisions to rural zoning, Provincial Policy Statement and the Greenbelt Act.

The correspondence from Hamilton-Wentworth Federation of Agriculture respecting Proposed Rural Zoning was received.

(vi) Development of a Farmers' Market Policy Update and Draft Zoning By-law Definition (Item 8.6)

Staff provided an update to the Committee respecting farmers' markets and how they relate to private property, commercial areas and zoning.

Staff advised the public will be consulted again in November/December 2014.

The update respecting Development of a Farmers' Market Policy and Draft Zoning By-law Definition was received.

(vii) Urban Agriculture Policy Development (Item 8.7)

Staff advised the Urban Agriculture Policy Development is a work in progress.

The verbal update respecting Urban Agriculture Policy Development was received.

(f) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

(i) Local Health of Honey Bees (Item 11.1)

Walter Zimmerman, Beekeeper, spoke to the Committee about the Association and local health of honey bees.

Whereas there has been a motion put forth to Council respecting the Local Health of Honey Bees; and

Whereas there is pending research related to neonicotinoid insecticides;
and

Whereas there is pending regulations to come forth from the Pest
Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA); and

Whereas the Cosmetic Pesticide Ban Act supersedes municipal by-laws;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee recommend
that the motion respecting Local Health of Honey Bees not proceed
pending further regulation and research.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)

There being no further business the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory
Committee adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Doug Cranston, Chair
Agricultural and Rural Affairs
Advisory Committee

Jasmine Branton
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk