



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES 15-002

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger, Deputy Mayor R. Pasuta (Chair)
Councillors A. Johnson, J. Farr, L. Ferguson, M. Green, S. Merulla, C. Collins, T. Jackson, S. Duvall, T. Whitehead, D. Conley, M. Pearson, A. VanderBeek, J. Partridge

**Absent
with Regrets:** B. Johnson – Bereavement

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 1. Accessibility Initiatives Undertaken for the 2014 Municipal Election (CL15001) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)**

(Pearson/Partridge)

That Report CL15001, respecting Accessibility Initiatives Undertaken for the 2014 Municipal Election, be received.

CARRIED

- 2. Public Art Piece Honouring Lincoln M. Alexander (PED15004) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)**

(Pearson/Partridge)

That Report PED15004, respecting a Public Art Piece Honouring Lincoln M. Alexander, be received.

CARRIED

- 3. Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) – 140 Main Street West, Hamilton (PED15003) (Ward 2) (Item 8.1)**

(Collins/Pearson)

- (a)** That a Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) application submitted by 150 Main Street West Holdings Inc. (Darko Vranich), for the property at 140 Main Street West, Hamilton, for a Hamilton Tax Increment

Grant Program (HTIGP) grant estimated at \$953,172.19 over a maximum of a five-year period, and based upon the incremental tax increase attributable to the redevelopment of 140 Main Street West, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Program; and,

- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED15003, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

CARRIED

4. Lease Agreement for Veevers Estate, 22 Veevers Drive to Hamilton-Wentworth Green Venture (PED15005) (Ward 5) (Item 8.2)

(Eisenberger/Collins)

- (a) That a Lease Agreement with Hamilton-Wentworth Green Venture for the occupation of the City-owned Veevers Estate, 22 Veevers Drive in Hamilton, attached as Appendix "A" to PED15005, be approved; and,
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, the Lease Agreement between the City of Hamilton and Hamilton-Wentworth Green Venture, for the property known as Veevers Estate, located at 22 Veevers Drive in Hamilton, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED15005, and all associated necessary documents, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

CARRIED

5. King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project (PW11079(g)) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)

(Pearson/Green)

That Report PW11079(b), respecting King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project, be received.

CARRIED

6. Bell Municipal Access Agreement Status Update (Item 12.4)

(Pearson/Conley)

That the Mayor be directed to bring forward the Bell Municipal Access Agreement / CRTC hearing matter to the Big City Mayor's Caucus meeting in 2015 for discussion.

CARRIED

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 4.2 – A delegation request from William A. Warnick, to attend the February 4, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting, respecting the Implementation of Super Mailboxes by Canada Post
- (ii) Item 12.2 – Labour Relations / Benefits Strategy - staff has withdrawn this matter from today's agenda
- (iii) Item 12.3 – Hamilton Water / Carpenters Union Update - staff has withdrawn this matter from today's agenda
- (iv) Added as Item 12.5 – Private & Confidential Report PED13209(b), respecting the Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) Phase 3 Ontario Municipal Board Hearing - Proposed Joint Settlement
- (v) Added as Appendix "F" to Item 12.5 – Private & Confidential Report PED13209(b), respecting the Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) Phase 3 Ontario Municipal Board Hearing - Proposed Joint Settlement - Correspondence from the Parties, dated January 9, 2015
- (vi) Councillor Partridge has requested that Item 8.3, respecting King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project (PW11079(g)) (City Wide), be moved up on the agenda to be considered following Item 7.1.

(Pearson/A. Johnson)

That the agenda for the January 14, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

(VanderBeek/Farr)

That the Minutes of the December 10, 2014 meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

4.1 Patrick Deane, President of McMaster University, respecting an Update on McMaster University's Activities

(Eisenberger/Jackson)

That the delegation request submitted by Patrick Deane President of McMaster University, respecting an Update on McMaster University's Activities, be approved for the February 4, 2015 General Issues Committee.

CARRIED

4.2 William A. Warnick, to attend the February 4, 2015 General Issues Committee Meeting, respecting the Implementation of Super Mailboxes by Canada Post

(Partridge/Duvall)

That the delegation request submitted by William A. Warnick, respecting the Implementation of Super Mailboxes by Canada Post, be approved for the February 4, 2015 General Issues Committee.

CARRIED

(e) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Arts Advisory Commission Annual Report (2014) (Item 7.1)

Josefa Radman Member of the Arts Advisory Commission, provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting the Arts Advisory Commission's 2014 Annual Report. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Making Public Art Calls more Accessible for Artists
- Public Art Competitions
- 2015 - Identify Opportunities to Work with the Hamilton Arts Council
- Continued Support of Arts Funding Program as part of the City Enrichment Fund
- Monitor Implementation of the City Enrichment Fund through 2015 Transition Year

(Pearson/VanderBeek)

That the presentation, respecting the Arts Advisory Commission's 2014 Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

A full copy of the presentation is available on the City's website at www.hamilton.ca.

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project (PW11079(g)) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)

David Dixon, Director of Transit, provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting Report PW11079(g) - King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- King Street Transit Only Lane (TOL) Pilot Project
 - Council Approval May 22, 2013
 - Operational since October 23, 2013
 - Funded from Metrolinx Quick Wins
- Monitoring Activities
 - Transit Operations and Ridership
 - There has been a positive impact on transit travel times.
 - Operators found the Transit Only Lane made operations easier.
 - Ridership growth data specific to the Transit Only Lane Pilot period is not available.
 - Between 2009 and 2014 ridership along the corridor increased by approximately 4% Per Year.
 - Between 2009 and 2013 city wide ridership increased by approximately 1% per year.
 - Traffic Analysis
 - Traffic along King Street has been affected.
 - On average, it takes just over 5 minutes longer to drive through the corridor (p.m. rush hour).
 - Collision Data
 - There have been collision increases in 2014 as compared to the previous 6 years.

- Due to the short duration of the pilot, data is not statistically significant or sufficient to identify trends.

- On Street Parking
 - Payment method changed to pay and display kiosks (west of Bay Street).
 - Parking usage is down from Caroline to Queen streets.

- Enforcement and Driver Adherence
 - Police Services advise (verbally) that 21 violations were issued to May 13, 2014.

- Stakeholder Comments and Issues
 - Cyclists
 - The Transit Only Lane should be a shared bus and bike lane.

- Impacts to Traffic
 - Traffic in the core is congested due to the Transit Only Lane

- Businesses King Street West BIA
 - Opposed to the Transit Only Lane, which is having an adverse impact on businesses.
 - Opposed to the relocation of parking to the south side of King Street.

- International Village BIA
 - Out of 38 businesses: 9 in support; 8 unaffected and 21 not in support.

- Taxis
 - Preference is to have full use of the Transit Only Lane.
 - Allowing loading/unloading in the Transit Only Lane was determined to be the best compromise.

- Transit Passengers
 - Positive feedback from transit passengers.
 - Effectiveness of Public Transit - King Street and Bay Street during the morning rush hour:
 - 3 general purpose lanes - a volume of approximately 1,190 vehicles;
 - 1 Transit Only Lane - approximately 1,104 passengers; and,
 - 1 lane dedicated to transit can be as effective in moving people as 2-3 general vehicle lanes.

- Conclusions
 - Moving forward with a proactive public transportation strategy will:
 - Avoid future traffic congestion and associated delays.
 - Avoid a need to invest more in roads.
 - Help achieve health, social and environmental benefits.
 - The Traffic Only Lane is an important and strategic step in developing the City's long term transportation network.

(Pearson/Green)

That the presentation, respecting King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project (PW11079(g)), be received.

CARRIED

- (i) **Motion to TABLE Report PW11079(g), respecting King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project**

(Farr/Green)

WHEREAS, a full transit report is coming forward to the General Issues Committee meeting of February 6, 2015;

AND WHEREAS, this Friday, January 16, 2015, the City's Director of Transit is meeting with Metrolinx and the discussions may inform the City's Transit Only Lane debate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Report PW11079(g), respecting King Street Transit Only Lane Pilot Project, be TABLED to the February 6, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting.

The above motion was DEFEATED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas:	F. Eisenberger, A. Johnson, J. Farr, M. Green, S. Duvall, M. Pearson, A. VanderBeek
Total:	7
Nays:	S. Merulla, C. Collins, T. Jackson, T. Whitehead, D. Conley, L. Ferguson, R. Pasuta
Total:	7
Absent:	B. Johnson, J. Partridge
Total:	2

(ii) Discontinuation of the Transit Only Lane Pilot Program

(Collins/Ferguson)

WHEREAS, the number of vehicular accidents has significantly increased along the Transit Only Lane Pilot route;

AND WHEREAS, many commercial operators have been adversely affected by the implementation and operation of the Transit Only Lane Pilot project;

AND WHEREAS, there are no documented transit benefits listed in the Transit Only Pilot report;

AND WHEREAS the Transit Only Lane Pilot project has created unnecessary traffic congestion, causing lengthy delays for downtown shoppers, residents, workers and merchants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Transit Only Lane Pilot project be discontinued;
- (b) That staff be directed to make the necessary arrangements to return the transit lane to a fully functional lane for all vehicles; and,

- (c) That staff be directed to prepare a by-law to amend By-law 01-215 to reflect these changes and present to Council for enactment.

The above motion was DEFEATED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas: T. Jackson, C. Collins, D. Conley, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, R. Pasuta
Total: 6
Nays: T. Whitehead, S. Duvall, S. Merulla, M. Green, J. Farr, A. Johnson, M. Pearson, F. Eisenberger
Total: 8
Absent: B. Johnson, J. Partridge
Total: 2

(iii) Suspension of the Transit Only Lane Pilot Program

(Whitehead/Duvall)

WHEREAS, staff will be presenting the comprehensive Transportation Master Plan to the General Issues Committee in 2016 that will provide additional current data;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Transit Only Lane Pilot project be suspended;
- (b) That staff be directed to make the necessary arrangements to return the transit lane to a fully functional lane for all vehicles; and,
- (c) That staff be directed to suspend enforcement of the Transit Only Lane until such time as further direction has been provided by Council.

The above motion was DEFEATED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas: T. Whitehead, S. Duvall, D. Conley, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, F. Eisenberger
Total: 6
Nays: T. Jackson, C. Collins, S. Merulla, M. Green, J. Farr, A. Johnson, M. Pearson, R. Pasuta
Total: 8
Absent: B. Johnson, J. Partridge
Total: 2

(iv) Reconfiguration of the Transit Only Lane

(A. Johnson/Green)

- (a) That staff be directed to review the feasibility of having the King Street Transit Only Lane reconfigured in Spring 2015, to the second lane from the north curb with parking being reinstated in the north curb lane, from Bay Street running westerly; and,
- (b) That staff be directed to evaluate potential improvements to signal operations to be implemented in spring 2015, including transit priority, in order to continue to improve the overall operations throughout the corridor and report to the General Issues Committee.

The above motion was DEFEATED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas:	S. Merulla, A. Johnson, J. Farr, M. Green, D. Conley, M. Pearson, F. Eisenberger
Total:	7
Nays:	C. Collins, T. Jackson, S. Duvall, T. Whitehead, R. Pasuta, J. Partridge, A. VanderBeek, L. Ferguson
Total:	8
Absent:	B. Johnson
Total:	1

(g) MOTIONS (Item 9)

This matter was not addressed at the January 14, 2015 meeting:

(i) Transit Only Lane Pilot Project Report (Item 9.1)

That the General Manager, Public Works Department be directed to include in the Transit Only Lane Pilot Project report, scheduled for the January 14, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting, available to Councillors and the public as of January 7, 2015, giving consideration to alternatives to the current design and operation, such as but not limited to:

- (a) Restricting hours of operation of the Transit Only Lane, to weekday morning and afternoon rush hours only and unrestricted use on weekends;
- (b) Modification to allow the use of the Transit Only Lane to other High Occupancy Vehicles; and,

- (c) Alternative design to relocate the Transit Only Lane to the second lane from the north curb lane and to restore parking back to the north curb land while eliminating parking in the south lane, in the area west of Bay Street.

(ii) Comprehensive Review of the 2014 Municipal Election (Item 9.2)

(Eisenberger/Partridge)

That staff be directed carry out a comprehensive review the 2014 municipal election and report to the General Issues Committee.

CARRIED

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

- (i) Amendments to the Outstanding Business List (Item 11.1)

(Eisenberger/Ferguson)

- (a) That the following items be considered complete and removed from the General Issues Committee's Outstanding Business List:

1. Items "A" and "J" – Agreement – Hamilton Harbour Commissioners; and, HPA Land Lease - Parking (*Item 3, GIC Report 14-008 (CM12015(b))*)
2. Item "L" – Bus Only Lane on King Street Pilot Program (*Item 8.3 on today's agenda.*)
3. Item "M" – Particulate Matter Reduction By-law (*Referred to Board of Health – Item 18, GIC Report 14-018 (PED14203/BOH14032)*)
4. Item "EE" – Piers 5-8 Sewage Pumping Station (*Item 1, GIC Report 14-016 (PED14029(a))*)

- (b) That the following item be removed from the General Issues Committee's Outstanding Business List:

- (i) Item "H" – Government Relations Strategy – Special Strategic Priorities for 2013 and 2014 (timeline has passed)

- (c) That the proposed new due dates for the following items, be approved:

1. Item "P" – Tactical Urbanism
Current Due Date: February 4, 2015
Proposed New Due Date: April 15, 2015
2. Item "W" – Public Works Fleet Service Delivery Review
Current Due Date: September 17, 2014
Proposed New Due Date: June 17, 2015
3. Item "X" – 2014 User Fees
Current Due Date: August 11, 2014
Proposed New Due Date: May 20, 2015
4. Item "LL" – One Third Expense Allowance for Council
Current Due Date: January 14, 2015
Proposed New Due Date: March 30, 2015

CARRIED

(i) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 12)

(i) Closed Session Minutes – December 10, 2014 (Item 12.1)

As the General Issues Committee determined that no discussion, respecting the Closed Session Minutes of the December 10, 2014, meeting of the General Issues Committee was required, the Minutes were approved in Open Session, as shown below:

(Whitehead/Pearson)

- (a) That the Closed Session Minutes of the December 10, 2014, meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved, as presented; and,
- (b) That the Closed Session Minutes of the December 10, 2014 meeting of the General Issues Committee, remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure.

CARRIED

(ii) Labour Relations / Benefits Strategy (Item 12.2)

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

(iii) Hamilton Water / Carpenters Union Update (Item 12.3)

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

(Partridge/Eisenberger)

That the General Issues Committee move into Closed Session, at 4:12 p.m., respecting Item 12.4 – a Bell Municipal Access Agreement Status Update; and, Item 12.5 – Report PED13209(b), respecting the Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) Phase 3 Ontario Municipal Board Hearing - Proposed Joint Settlement, pursuant to Section 8.1, Sub-sections (e) and (f) of the City's Procedural By-law 14-300, and Section 239, Sub-sections (e) and (f) of the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, as the subject matters pertain to litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; and, the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

(iv) Bell Municipal Access Agreement Status Update (Item 12.4)

Staff was provided with direction in Closed Session.

(v) Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) Phase 3 Ontario Municipal Board Hearing - Proposed Joint Settlement (PED13209(b)) (City Wide) (Item 12.5)

The following resolution was forwarded to a Special meeting of Council for consideration, on January 14, 2015, immediately following the General Issues Committee:

(Ferguson/Pearson)

- (a) That staff be directed to enter into the Minutes of Settlement with Silvestri Investments and Twenty Road West Group for the Joint Settlement Offer, as amended, based on the Principles of the Proposed Minutes of Settlement section as shown in Report PED13209(b), in a form satisfactory to the Solicitor;
- (b) That staff be authorized and directed to add additional lands to the Secondary Plan boundary to achieve the 555 net hectares and to include the DeRubeis (961 Southcote Road) and Hossack Farm (992 Southcote Road) properties; and,
- (c) That Report PED13209(b), respecting the Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) Phase 3 Ontario Municipal Board Hearing – Proposed Joint Settlement, and its appendices, with the exception of Appendix “E”, remain confidential and not be released as a public document.

CARRIED

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Merulla/Collins)

That, there being no further business, the General Issues Committee, be adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor R. Pasuta, Deputy Mayor
Chair, General Issues Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk