



## **GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES 16-005**

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

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**Present:** Deputy Mayor T. Whitehead (Chair)  
Councillors T. Jackson, C. Collins, S. Merulla, M. Green, D. Conley, M. Pearson, B. Johnson, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, J. Partridge

**Absent  
with Regrets:** Mayor F. Eisenberger, Councillors J. Farr, A. Johnson – Vacation  
Councillor R. Pasuta – Illness  
Councillors B. Johnson – Personal

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### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- 1. Hamilton Police Services Board Monthly Report PB16-007, January 29, 2016 (Item 5.1)**

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That the Hamilton Police Services Board Monthly Report PB16-007, January 29, 2016, be received.

**CARRIED**

- 2. Identified Tobogganing Locations on City Property for Winter 2015 / 2016 Season (PW15086(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 5.2)**

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That Report PW15086(a), respecting the Identified Tobogganing Locations on City Property for Winter 2015 / 2016 Season, be received.

**CARRIED**

**3. Nikola Tesla Public Art Project (PED16030) (Ward 4) (Outstanding Business List) (Item 5.4)**

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That Report PED16030, respecting the Nikola Tesla Public Art Project, be received.

**CARRIED**

**4. Business Improvement Areas - City Responsibilities (PED16046) (Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13 and 15) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 5.5)**

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That Report PED16046, respecting Business Improvement Areas - City Responsibilities, be received.

**CARRIED**

**5. Our Future Hamilton (CM15001(b)/CES15010(b)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

**(Pearson/Partridge)**

(a) That Our Future Hamilton, attached as Appendix "A" to Report CM15001(b)/CES15010(b), be endorsed;

(b) That staff be directed to use Our Future Hamilton to guide the development of the 2016-2025 Strategic Plan for the City of Hamilton;

(c) That staff continue further engagement with residents and community stakeholders in line with the project plan, to share Our Future Hamilton, develop tangible actions and establish a community implementation plan; and,

(d) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee annually regarding the progress made by community stakeholders and the City of Hamilton in implementing Our Future Hamilton.

**CARRIED**

**6. Development of 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan (CM16003) (City Wide) (Item 7.2)**

**(Collins/Ferguson)**

That Report CM16003, respecting the Development of the 2016-2025 Strategic Plan, be received.

**CARRIED**

**7. 2016 Budget Request – Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (FCS16014) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

**(Jackson/Pearson)**

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) 2016 base budget submission in the amount of \$1,500, be approved and referred to the 2016 budget process for consideration.

**CARRIED**

**8. Westdale Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) Revised Board of Management (PED16015) (Ward 1) (Item 8.2)**

**(Pearson/Collins)**

That the following individuals be appointed to the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board of Management:

- (i) Parul Ferrie; and,
- (ii) Vanessa Gilmour

**CARRIED**

**9. Concession Street Business Improvement Area (BIA) Proposed Budget and Schedule of Payment for 2016 (PED16032) (Wards 6 and 7) (Item 8.3)**

**(Jackson/Partridge)**

- (a) That the 2016 Operating Budget for the Concession Street Business Improvement Area (BIA), attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED16032, in the amount of \$144,651 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the Operating Budget for the Concession Street Business Improvement Area (BIA) in the amount of \$80,750 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, to levy the 2016 Budget as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED16032; and,
- (d) That the following Schedule of Payments for the Concession Street Business Improvement Area (BIA) for 2016 be approved:

February	\$40,375
June	\$40,375

**CARRIED**

**10. Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application, 467 Charlton Avenue East (ERG15-03) (PED16037) (Ward 2) (Item 8.4)**

**(Collins/Merulla)**

- (a) That Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application ERG-15-03, submitted by 467 Charlton Avenue Inc. (Ronald Van Kleef), owner of the property at 467 Charlton Avenue East, Hamilton, for an ERASE Redevelopment Grant not to exceed \$2,129,400, the actual cost of the remediation, over a maximum of ten years, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to effect recommendation (a) of Report PED16037, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
- (c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to approve and execute any grant amending agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant, as approved by City Council, are maintained.

**CARRIED**

**11. Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (PW16008) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List) (Item 8.5 – formerly Item 5.3)**

**(Collins/Ferguson)**

That Report PW16008, respecting the Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance, be received.

**CARRIED**

**12. 2016 Easter Egg Hunts at City Parks (Item 9.1)**

**(Jackson/Collins)**

That all City facility rental fees for Easter egg hunts, be waived for 2016.

**CARRIED**

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

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

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

**1. DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)**

- 4.1 Tristan Willis, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (to appear before Committee today)
- 4.2 Zora Martinac, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (to appear before Committee today)

**2. CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)**

- 5.3 Councillor Collins has requested that Item 5.3 respecting Report PW26008 – Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance, be moved from the Consent Items section of the Agenda to the Discussion Item section of today's Agenda, as Item 8.5.

**3. DELEGATIONS (Item 6)**

- 6.2 Keanin Loomis, President of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Destination Marketing Fund proposal with Tourism Hamilton

This delegation has been withdrawn, as Mr. Loomis will be in attendance as part of the delegation for Item 6.1.

- 6.1(a) Correspondence from Joseph Fardell, as a member of the Hamilton Tourism Partnership, respecting Tourism in Hamilton.

**4. STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)**

- 7.3 Our Future Hamilton – staff has asked six members of the public to assist with the presentation, so although they were not approved as delegations, staff is asking for the Committee's indulgence for this particular presentation.

**(Pearson/VanderBeek)**

That the agenda for the February 17, 2016 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)**

**(i) February 3, 2016 (Item 3.1)**

**(Ferguson/Jackson)**

That the Minutes of the February 3, 2016 meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)**

**4.1 Tristan Willis, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (to appear before Committee today)**

**(Ferguson/Collins)**

That the delegation request submitted by Tristan Willis, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance, and to provide additional background to the General Issues Committee respecting the NERC Guidelines and corridor clearing practices in other jurisdictions subject to NERC, be approved to appear before Committee today.

**CARRIED**

**4.2 Zora Martinac, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (to appear before Committee today)**

**(Jackson/Partridge)**

That the delegation request submitted by Zora Martinac, respecting Item 5.3 – Red Hill Valley Hydro Corridor Forestry Maintenance and how it will affect her as a resident, be approved to appear before the General Issues Committee today.

**CARRIED**

**(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)**

**(i) Meeting Minutes of Various Advisory and Sub-Committees (Item 5.6)**

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That the following Advisory / Sub-Committee Minutes, be received:

1. Open for Business Sub-Committee, November 30, 2016 (Item 5.6(a))
2. Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, September 8, 2015 (Item 5.6(b))
3. Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, October 13, 2015 (Item 5.6(c))
4. Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, December 8, 2015 (Item 5.6(d))

**CARRIED**

**(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) P.J. Mercanti, Hospitality Hamilton Partner Steering Committee, respecting the Tourism / Hospitality Industry in Hamilton (Item 6.1)**

P.J. Mercanti, Hospitality Hamilton Partner Steering Committee, addressed Committee respecting the Tourism / Hospitality Industry in Hamilton. Mr. Mercanti's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- P. J. Mercanti introduced Peter Tosh, Director of Operations for the Vrancor Group, Karen McQuade, Regional Director of Sales and Marketing for the Vrancor Group, Keanin Loomis, President of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, and Duncan Ross, President CEO of the Royal Botanical Gardens, and acknowledged other industry attendees in the audience.
- Mr. Mercanti was before Committee to talk about all the positive outcomes over this past year and the outstanding and cooperative relationship between the hospitality sector and the staff team at Tourism and Culture (Tourism Hamilton).
- In Hamilton, tourism is becoming increasingly important to the prosperity of the City and is a platform for building further economic growth. Today, approximately 2,300 residents are employed in the hospitality sector. The city attracts over 4.5 million visits annually, and these visitors spend an estimated \$359.5 million per year.

- The city has, and is, seeing many encouraging changes including a shift to a more positive image and profile in local and international media, and a growing cultural and social vibrancy. There is no better example of the economic impact of tourism than the successful 2015 JUNO Awards Week this past year in Hamilton. Anyone who works in the field of tourism and culture, public events, municipal services, local business, media and outreach, and economic development appreciates the success Hamilton garnered by being the host community for this prestigious event.
- The owner of this event, Canadian Academy of Arts and Science (CARAS), expressed it well when it stated, “The Host Community of Hamilton was without a doubt the best JUNO Awards Week in our 44-year history.” This success was as a result of the dedicated staff, volunteers, businesses and hospitality partners that made it such an overwhelming achievement.
- But, the number crunchers place the economic impact or direct spend in Hamilton at \$11 million! This number doesn’t even begin to touch upon the elevated reputation Hamilton garnered from the media coverage, industry leaders, visitors, artists, and businesses all saying Hamilton is a city in transformation, and there is no doubt the role the JUNO’s played to elevate our reputation as “the Ambitious City” is immeasurable.
- In contrast, each year there are approximately 200,000 vacant hotel rooms in Hamilton. These empty rooms translate into \$20 million in lost revenue to the hotel industry. Herein lies the opportunity for Hamilton.
- In March 2015, following extensive input from the local tourism industry and community, City Council approved a Tourism Strategy to guide the development of tourism in Hamilton and set priorities for both the municipality and broader local tourism industry. When the final Tourism Strategy was approved by Council, recommendation (e) from the report directed Tourism and Culture Division staff to work with Hamilton’s tourism sector to facilitate the creation of a Destination Marketing Program (DMP).
- As noted in the Strategy, the task of growing tourism in Hamilton requires additional and new sources of funds, beyond the municipal levy, for tourism development and marketing. The local tourism industry leadership has embraced the adoption of a DMP, for Hamilton, as a suitable source of new dollars. These additional funds are intended to supplement, but not replace, resources traditionally available from the municipality.



- So what is a Destination Marketing Program? A DMP is a voluntary program led by the tourism industry, which generates additional funds for investment in local tourism. Consumers are charged a supplemental fee on accommodation rates which, in turn, is remitted by the participating hotels for investment in local destination marketing and development activities.
- In July 2015, following the completion of the Tourism Strategy, local tourism leadership came together as a working group, now called the Hospitality Hamilton Partner Steering Committee (HHPSC) to explore the feasibility of a DMP with the support of City staff from the Tourism and Culture Division.
- In my role as Co-Chair of the Steering Committee, I am currently in discussion with our hotel and university/college residence partners about their potential involvement in a Hamilton DMP.
- Possible areas for investment, in partnership with the City, relate to the Meetings & Conventions and Sport Tourism markets such as:
  - Bid Incentives
  - Delegate Attendance Building
  - Familiarization Tours
- Just to be clear, the DMP is money that is collected and the decision on how the money is invested in projects with Tourism Hamilton is solely at the discretion of the Steering Committee (or whatever group it becomes once established).
- No DMP funding will be used to fund the City's Tourism Hamilton budget; rather DMP funds will supplement select projects to invest in with Tourism Hamilton. These particular projects will align with the goals of the Steering Committee (basically more 'heads in beds') to increase the potential for attracting more meeting, convention, sport tourism events, and major events like the JUNOs and the Canadian Country Music Awards.
- All DMP funds raised will be administered by our 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider (ORHMA) and do not go directly to Tourism Hamilton. The management of the funds is the significant difference from the former DMF, which did go directly to Tourism Hamilton.
- With the greatest respect, the Steering Committee is looking for Council's leadership in the support of a stable, sustainable budget for Tourism Hamilton to continue with the development of a DMP. Much of the work we are interested in developing with Tourism Hamilton

crosses over several budget years. The assurance of a healthy Tourism Hamilton operating budget in the long term is critical.

- It is our understanding that the loss of the provincial funding has caused Tourism Hamilton to get out of, or severely reduce participation in, the kind of actions and functions we are most interested in investing in. It is also our understanding that Tourism Hamilton has had to rely on their reserves to meet basic destination marketing. We know that these reserves are not being replenished and will run out within a few years. Hence our desire to confirm that the Tourism Hamilton budget is stable and sustainable.
- Tourism is one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the world. It is also one of the most competitive sectors. For this reason, the DMP is the industry's attempt to create a more level playing field for Hamilton. We need to compete with neighbouring cities that have already implemented a DMP - Toronto, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Kingston, Ottawa, and Sault Ste. Marie - or are in the process of implementing one - London, Windsor, and Burlington.
- We stand here today as partners committed to the enhanced growth of this sector and to thank you for your commitment to this industry.
- We all share a vision – that “Hamilton is a distinctive destination recognized for creativity, authentic experiences and people and outstanding hosting capabilities.”

**(Ferguson/Partridge)**

That the presentation provided by P.J. Mercanti, Hospitality Hamilton Partner Steering Committee, respecting the Tourism / Hospitality Industry in Hamilton, be received.

**CARRIED**

**(Pearson/Conley)**

That the correspondence from Joseph Fardell, as a member of the Hamilton Tourism Partnership, respecting Tourism in Hamilton, be received.

**CARRIED**

- (ii) Keanin Loomis, President of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Destination Marketing Fund proposal with Tourism Hamilton (Item 6.2)**

This delegation has been withdrawn, as Mr. Loomis was in attendance as part of the delegation for Item 6.1.

(iii) **Tristan Willis, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (Item 6.3)**

Tristan Willis addressed Committee, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance. Ms. Willis' presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Mr. Willis is a Public Interest Articling Fellow at Lake Ontario Waterkeeper and was asked by Julie Brezden, resident, to speak about the planned vegetation maintenance along the Red Hill Hydro Corridor.
- Would like to focus on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards that Hydro One is bound by when it comes to vegetation clearing.
- There is an impression among some residents that Hydro One is unfairly using these standards to justify the drastic corridor clearing approach that is currently proposed.
- NERC is a non-profit corporation based out of Atlanta. NERC works with utilities across North America to develop standards for power systems and electrical transmission.
- NERC has developed a standard for vegetation management. Although NERC doesn't have any jurisdiction in Ontario the standard has been incorporated into *Ontario's Electricity Act* through a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Ontario Energy Board and NERC. So it's important to understand what NERC requires, and what it doesn't.
- Basically NERC sets a performance based standard for vegetation management. There are two main requirements: the first is annual monitoring, the second is ensuring that there is no vegetation encroachment within the Minimum Vegetation Clearance Distance at any time.
- This second requirement is a bit more technical, but essentially there is a formula that NERC uses called the Gallet Equation to determine this minimum distance. As long as vegetation stays beyond this minimum distance there is virtually no chance of flashover and the NERC requirement is satisfied.
- These minimum distance requirements tend to fall somewhere between one and two and a half meters. Now, these are minimums meaning that you have to consider summer sag and potential movement due to wind, expected vegetation growth etc., but these

numbers make it pretty obvious that the NERC standards do not require vegetation to be cut right down to the ground.

- If you look at other NERC jurisdictions you will find that utility companies are meeting their obligations without taking such a hard-nosed approach. For example National Grid; responsible for electricity transmission over a large chunk of New York State, has acknowledged that shorter maintenance cycles and more selective management techniques may be needed in residential areas. It has even noted in the guidelines that “the pruning and topping of tall growing trees may be used to satisfy the aesthetic requirements when compatible shrubs and small trees are absent”.
- British Columbia Hydro’s vegetation management guidelines are less conscientious than New York’s, but they also acknowledge that selective control and pruning may be required in some instances.
- A look at NERC’s standards and how they are applied in other jurisdictions makes it clear that there is nothing that requires Hydro One to clear cut corridors. The fact that the Red Hill Corridor has been largely untouched for the past decade confirms this.
- Hydro One was free to take a different approach here. They could have considered how we would be able maintain corridor safely while minimally inconveniencing the residents who spend a good portion of their life next to these corridor lands. I’m not sure exactly what the answer would be, but the problem is that this question was never asked. Instead Hydro One has been set on a drastic approach from the outset. There has been no real consultation and no accommodation.
- The reason for this is simple clear cutting the corridor will allow for longer maintenance cycles and it will save Hydro One money.
- These pictures (see PowerPoint presentation) show flooding that occurred along Glen Castle Drive in July 2009. The City installed a catch basin in 2013 to address this; however, residents worry that tearing down most of the vegetation along the corridor will decrease soil retention and lead to future flooding. This is why proper consultation is important.
- If you visit Glen Castle Drive, you get a sense of just how close the corridor is to the houses. Hydro One employees will literally be working just past resident’s doorsteps. Changes to the corridor will affect these residents personally and it is unacceptable that Hydro One’s only consideration here is cost.

- Hydro One may be quick to raise the rights they have under their existing easement. However, it's worth recalling that the Province ultimately has the power to change the terms of this easement. More importantly, Hydro One should have a strong interest in a good working relationship with the City of Hamilton. I urge you to inform Hydro One that you expect the residents of Glen Castle Drive, and Forest Hill Crescent, to be treated with courtesy and respect.
- Doing so will require good faith consultation, compromise and accommodation.

**(Collins/Ferguson)**

That the presentation provided by Tristan Willis, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance, be received.

**CARRIED**

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available on the City's website at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca) or through the Office of the City Clerk.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 11.

**(iv) Zora Martinac, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (Item 6.4)**

Zora Martinac, resident, addressed Committee respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance. Ms. Martinac's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Residents of Glen Castle Drive and Mount Albion Road are upset regarding Hydro One's approach to clear cutting, and we believe that they are not being honest with the City or the residents.
- Hydro One's cutting will include clearing vegetation from residents' backyards.
- North American utilities use far less aggressive approaches than Hydro One. They need to be challenged.
- Is there an Easement Agreement between the City and Hydro One regarding Hydro One's access to these areas?
- We need assurance that Hydro One is permitted to do what they are going to do.
- Will the extreme clearing exacerbate flooding in our neighbourhood.

- Local residents are growing vegetables in yards and are concerned about cross-contamination.
- We have reached out to many Ministries to no avail. We need the City to assist in discussions with the appropriate Ministries.

**(Collins/Pearson)**

That the presentation provided by Zora Martinac, resident, respecting Item 5.3 - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance, be received.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 11.

**(g) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)**

**(i) Our Future Hamilton (CM15001(b)/CES15010(b)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

Suzanne Brown, Director Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives, introduced the presentation and provided a brief overview of Our Future Hamilton.

John Ariyo, Manager of Community Initiatives, continued the presentation and introduced the following citizens who spoke to the sections of the presentation as noted below. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Sebastian Skrobos, Member of the Hamilton Engagement Committee – Community Engagement & Participation
  - New resident to Hamilton; originally from France (5 years).
  - Participates as a member of the Citizen Engagement Committee.
  - The Vision for next 25 years is to give a voice to our citizens, make sure that everyone is heard and that all minorities and communities are heard and represented to our leaders.
  - Ultimately, participation in the elections could be improved as well.
- Peter Mokrycke, Small Business Owner – Economic Prosperity and Growth
  - Born and raised in the city of Hamilton. As a Hamilton resident and new small business owner, the future of our city is important to me.

- There are sustainable, long-term opportunities for Hamiltonians and small businesses like mine.
  - As a new small business owner, I see the City is my partner not my opponent. We have the same vision and goals and are motivated to work together to achieve them.
  - In Our Future Hamilton, we are able to focus on creating a strong argument to keep local talent in Hamilton. This is a city that has a smart, focused economic vision that supports Hamiltonians who are proud to call Hamilton home.
  - In order for Hamiltonians to remain competitive within our own economy, we need to foster a shared vision that prioritizes streamlined processes, efficiency, common goal setting and collaboration.
  - For example, when I look at my own experience and the entire licensing and permit process I went through to establish my business legally, I realized something shocking. Throughout the process, I felt like I was the only one who had the incentive for me to succeed. While various departments and individuals throughout the process had their own timeframes, goals and motivation, they were almost always unique to their office or independent of each other, or so it seemed. Therefore, the burden is left on the small business owners; individuals who are often already taking a big risk and don't usually have ample resources as it is.
  - In my future Hamilton, my city isn't afraid to take a step back and take a critical look at what our goals are, our processes and how we motivate each other to get there.
- Kelly O'Halloran, Hamilton Health Sciences – Healthy and Safe Communities
    - The challenge is how to make our community healthier.
    - As the Code Red Report, written several years ago, illustrated that there is a 20 year life expectancy differential between the urban core and the suburbs.
    - What makes Canadians sick: 50% is your life (income, early childhood development disability, education, social exclusion, gender, race, access to safe and nutritious food, housing/homelessness, etc); 25% is your health care (access to health care, the healthcare system, and wait times); 15% is your

- biology (genetics); and, 10% is your environment (air quality, civic infrastructure, etc.).
- It is important to have organized care - getting the right supports to the right people at the right time.
  - We make visits to people who are high users of our emergency rooms to connect them with the services that protect their health.
- Kathryn Enders, Executive Director of Green Venture – Clean and Green
    - Hamilton has made a commitment to protect our natural environment.
    - Natural areas across Ontario are under threat, farmland is being built over and we are losing agricultural land.
    - My future Hamilton would be for the City to support alternative transportation methods such as LRT.
  - Anna Roberts, Member of the Hamilton Engagement Committee – Built Environment and Infrastructure
    - Has been living, working and volunteering in Hamilton for over 40 years.
    - Participated in the Hamilton Engagement Committee as part of the Infrastructure Working Group and has made a personal investment in the development of Our Future Hamilton.
    - The direction provided in this initiative was based on input from more than 48,000 Hamilton citizens who believe that quality of life and public safety must form the basis for infrastructure decisions.
    - Citizens, staff and politicians all have different roles. Although our roles might differ, our goals should not.
  - Gary Warner, Retired McMaster University Professor – Culture and Diversity
    - Came to Hamilton 1967 and raised our family here; in the city we love.



- I have spent forty years of looking at inclusion and have noticed that successful cities are places that embrace diversity and, in turn, are culturally vibrant.
  - We need to maintain cultural vibrancy, celebrate culture and ensure all aspects of our city's cultural groups are represented.
  - There are things that can be done at the local level – Hamilton can play a prominent role to recognize and promote the indigenous community.
  - Inclusion and equity is achieved by respecting and including all residents; avoiding all forms of discrimination.
  - An age friendly city – Hamilton needs to stand out as a community that has very well coordinated services.
- Next Steps:
    - Using the Vision to inform the City of Hamilton's Strategic Plan development.
    - Sharing the Vision with community partners and stakeholders to inform key priorities and planning.
    - Bringing partners and stakeholders together for a workshop in April – implementation, actions and success measures.
    - Annual progress reporting.

**(Pearson/Partridge)**

That the presentation, respecting Report CM15001(b)/CES15010(b) – Our Future Hamilton, be received.

**CARRIED**

A full copy of the presentation is available on the City's website at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca) or through the Office of the City Clerk.

A copy of the Our Hamilton video can be found on <https://youtu.be/glbL0 GDgMI>.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 5.

**(Green/Merulla)**

WHEREAS, recommendations from Our Future Hamilton, under the first theme of Community Engagement and Participation, includes specific requests for openness and access to information;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City Manager, in consultation with all Departments, report to the General Issues Committee regarding the release of new data sets, in accordance with the Open Government and Access to Information.

**CARRIED**

**(ii) Development of the 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan (CM16003) (City Wide)  
(Item 7.2)**

Chris Murray, City Manager, addressed the Committee respecting the Development of the 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan. Mr. Murray's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Vision 2020 (1992)
  - Our population was 451,655 (Statistics Canada, 1991)
  - Our employment was 195,215 jobs (Statistics Canada, 1991)
  - We supported the development of the City's first community vision.
  
- Our Future Hamilton (2041)
  - Our population will be 780,000 (projection)
  - Our employment will be 350,000 jobs (projection)
  - 48,205 citizens engaged in the development of the community vision.
  - Enhanced partnerships amongst all City Stakeholders
  
- Our Strategic Journey
  - First Strategic Plan developed in 2008
  - This is the City's third iteration
  - New to the development of the 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan
  - Shift from 4-year plan to 10-year plan
  - Streamlining of Components (Vision, Mission, Values)
  - Integration of community voice through Our Future Hamilton
  - Broader internal engagement
  - Measureable Outcomes and related key performance indicators
  - Direct linkage to multi-year budgeting

- Strategic Relationships
  - Priority discussions required to develop a multi-year budget in support of the Strategic Plan
- Next Steps
  - March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Special ½ day Strategic Planning General Issues Committee
  - June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 - 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan presented for approval

**(Conley/Ferguson)**

That the presentation, respecting Report CM16-003 – Development of the 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan, be received.

**CARRIED**

A full copy of the presentation is available on the City's website at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca) or through the Office of the City Clerk.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 6.

**(iii) Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee presentation respecting the Committee's Activities, Accomplishments and the Importance of Small Businesses in the City of Hamilton (Item 7.3)**

Kathy Drewitt, Executive Director, Downtown Hamilton BIA and Jennifer Mattern, Executive Director, Ancaster Village BIA, addressed Committee on behalf of the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee, respecting the Committee's Activities, Accomplishments and the Importance of Small Businesses in the City of Hamilton. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- What is a BIA?
  - This is a "made in Ontario, innovation that allows local businesses and commercial property owners/tenants to join together, with the support of the municipality, to organize, finance and carry out physical improvements and to promote economic development within their district.
- Who are we?
  - We represent over 1,000 properties and over 1,800 businesses within the 13 unique districts of Hamilton.

- BIAs in Hamilton
  - Ancaster
  - Barton Village
  - Concession Street
  - Downtown Hamilton
  - International Village
  - King Street
  - Locke Street
  - Main West Esplanade
  - Ottawa Street
  - Stoney Creek
  - Waterdown
  - Westdale
  
- Our Impact on our Communities
  - \$1.3 million raised in levies, which is directly injected back into the districts.
  - The Hamilton BIAs represent about \$476.7 million in commercial/industrial assessments.
  - \$16.3 million in annual commercial/industrial taxes (municipal and education) are collected from our BIAs.
  - Our BIAs have contributed over 9,000 hours of volunteer hours back into our community.
  
- Support from the City of Hamilton for all BIAs
  - Commercial Market Assessment Studies
  - Parking Revenue Sharing
  - CIP Grants
  - Christmas Grants
  - Staff Support
  - Strategic Planning Support for the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee (BIAAC)

**(Green/Ferguson)**

That the presentation provided by the Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee, respecting the Committee's Activities, Accomplishments and the Importance of Small Businesses in the City of Hamilton, be received.

**CARRIED**

A full copy of the presentation is available on the City's website at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca) or through the Office of the City Clerk.

**(h) MOTIONS (Item 9)**

Councillor T. Jackson introduced the following Motion:

**(i) 2016 Easter Egg Hunts at City Parks (Item 9.1)**

WHEREAS, Easter egg hunts are popular community-building events that take place in various City of Hamilton parks;

WHEREAS, event organizers of such hunts are required to obtain approval through the Special Event Advisory Team and to secure liability insurance and a rental permit for the health and safety of the organizers, participants, the City and citizens at large;

WHEREAS, Easter egg event organizers are mostly community volunteers with access to minimal budgets; and,

WHEREAS, City staff is developing a policy for future years that will assist community event organizers to access City facilities affordably.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That all City facility rental fees for Easter egg hunts be waived for 2016.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 12.

**(i) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)**

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

**(Pearson/Green)**

That the following items be considered complete and removed from the General Issues Committee's Outstanding Business list:

1. Item “CCC” - Identified Tobogganing Locations on City Property for Winter 2015 / 2016 (Waterdown) (*Addressed as Item 5.2 - PW15086(a)*)
2. Item “XX” - Red Hill Valley Hydro One Corridor Forestry Maintenance (*Addressed as Item 5.3 - PED16030*)
3. Item “NN” - Business Improvement Areas - City Responsibilities (*Addressed as Item 5.5 - PED16046*)

**CARRIED**

**(Green/Collins)**

That the General Issues Committee move into Closed Session, respecting Item 12.1 – Personnel Matter – CityHousing Hamilton; and, Item 12.2 – Personnel Matter – Human Resources, pursuant to Section 8.1, Sub-section (b) of the City's Procedural By-law 14-300, and Section 239(2), Sub-section (b) of the *Ontario Municipal Act*, 2001, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City employees.

**CARRIED**

**(j) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 12)**

**(i) Personnel Matter – CityHousing Hamilton (Item 12.1)**

**(Collins/Pearson)**

That the Private and Confidential update respecting the Personnel Matter related to CityHousing Hamilton, be received.

**CARRIED**

**(ii) Personnel Matter – Human Resources Division (Item 12.2)**

**(Pearson/Collins)**

That the Private and Confidential update respecting the Personnel Matter related to the Human Resources Division, be received.

**CARRIED**

**(k) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)**

**(Pearson/Collins)**

That, there being no further business, the General Issues Committee, be adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

T. Whitehead, Deputy Mayor  
Chair, General Issues Committee

Stephanie Paparella  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk