



## **General Issues Committee**

### **MINUTES**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2011**

**Council Chambers**

**Hamilton City Hall**

**71 Main Street West**

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**Present:** Deputy Mayor J. Partridge (Chair)  
Mayor B. Bratina  
Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr,  
B. McHattie, L. Ferguson, S. Merulla, B. Morelli, T. Jackson,  
B. Johnson, R. Pasuta, M. Pearson, R. Powers,  
T. Whitehead

**Also Present:** C. Murray, City Manager  
R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate  
Services  
J. Mater, A/General Manager, Public Works  
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning & Economic  
Development  
J. A. Priel, General Manager, Community Services  
N. Everson, Director, Economic Development & Real Estate  
P. Barkwell, City Solicitor  
C. Biggs, Co-ordinator, Committee Services/Council/Budgets

### **THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 11-029 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Barton Village Business Improvement Area (B.I.A.) Revised Board of  
Management (PED10248(a)) (Ward 2) (Item 5.2)**

That the following individuals be appointed to the Barton Village B.I.A. Board of  
Management:

- Anthony Ly
- Anita Finnerty

**2. International Village Business Improvement Area (B.I.A.) Board of Management Resignation (PED10254(b)) (Ward 2) (Item 5.3)**

That Report PED10254(b) respecting the resignation of Paula DeAngelis from the International Village Business Improvement Area (B.I.A.) Board of Management, be received.

**3. Hamilton Downtown Property Improvement Grant Program – 68 George Street – HDPIGP 11/02 (PED11160) (Ward 2) (Item 5.4)**

- (a) That a grant in the estimated amount of \$813,923.60 under the Hamilton Downtown Property Improvement Grant Program (HDPIGP) for 7090153 Canada Inc., owner of the property at 68 George Street be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Program;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED11160, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**4. Hamilton Downtown Multi-Residential Property Investment Program – 68 George Street – HDMRPIP (PED11161) (Ward 2) (Item 5.5)**

- (a) That a conditional loan commitment totalling \$4,769,657 for 7090153 Canada Inc., the registered owner of the property at 68 George Street, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Hamilton Downtown Multi-Residential Property Investment Program;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute a loan agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to effect recommendation (a), above, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to approve and execute any loan amending agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Hamilton Downtown Multi-Residential Property Investment Program, as approved by City Council, are maintained.

**5. 2010 Climate Change Actions (PED11149) (City Wide) (Item 5.7)**

- (a) That Report PED11149 respecting 2010 Climate Change progress and actions be received;

- (b) That the Hamilton Climate Change Action Charter attached hereto as Appendix "A" be endorsed, and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the Charter on behalf of the City.

**6. Award of Contract (C12-01-11) for Professional Banking Services (FCS11084) (City Wide) (Item 5.8)**

That the contract for Professional Banking Services (C12-01-11) be awarded to the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) for a term of five years with an option to renew for an additional five year period.

**7. Public Delegations (Item 6)**

- (a) That the following presentations be received:
  - (i) Brian Lewis and Garry McKay, Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame, respecting the possibility of including the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame in the planning of the new Stadium as part of the Pan Am Games initiative (Item 6.2)
  - (ii) Richard Koroscil, President and CEO, John C. Munro/Hamilton International Airport, to provide 2010 Annual Report (Item 6.3)
  - (iii) Mr. Stuart Trew, Trade Campaigner, Council of Canadians, respecting the Canada-European Union Free Trade Negotiations as they will affect municipal government (Item 6.4)
- (b) That the following presentations with respect to the Velodrome, be received:
  - (i) Tom Kaszas respecting his views on the benefits that a permanent indoor veledrome would bring to the City (Added as Item 4.2)
  - (ii) George Eastwood who in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.3)
  - (iii) Kathy Eastwood who spoke in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.4)
  - (iv) Peter Lowry, on behalf of the National Cycling Centre Hamilton (NCCH) Board of Directors and parents of the athletes enrolled in the NCCH Program (Added as Item 4.5)
  - (v) Andrew Iler to speak to the issue of the Velodrome in respect to the budget and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.6)

- (vi) Mark Chamberlain, Trivaris, to speak to the issue of the Velodrome and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.7)
- (vii) Greg Mathieu, Canadian Cycling Association, to speak to the issue of the Hamilton Velodrome and make representations on behalf of the National Sport Governing body (Added as Item 4.8)
- (c) That the correspondence from Clara Hughes in support of a velodrome facility in the City of Hamilton, be received.

**8. Brian Lewis and Garry McKay, Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame, respecting the possibility of including the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame in the planning of the new Stadium as part of the Pan Am Games initiative (Item 6.2)**

That the request for a Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame to be included in the planning of the Pan Am Stadium be referred to the Pan Am Stadium Precinct Sub-Committee for report back to the General Issues Committee.

**9. International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan (CM10005(d)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(a))**

That Report CM10005(d) respecting International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan, be received.

**10. The “Gore” Building Improvement Grant Program (PED11167) (City Wide) (Item 7.2)**

- (a) That the Program Description and Terms for the “Gore” Building Improvement Grant Program attached hereto as Appendix “B”. be approved;
- (b) That staff be authorized to prepare and process the necessary amendments to the respective Community Improvement Plans and hold Public Meetings at Planning Committee as required under the Planning Act to implement the “Gore” Building Improvement Grant Program in the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area; and,
- (c) That funding required in 2012 for administering the “Gore” Building Improvement Grant Program be funded from the Main Street Reserve in the amount of \$400,000 and the 2012 Downtown Block in the amount of \$125,000 and that this funding be referred to the 2012 Capital Budget deliberations.

**11. Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program (PED11168) (Ward 2) (Item 7.3)**

- (a) That the Program Description and Terms for the Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program attached hereto as Appendix “C”, be approved;
- (b) That staff be authorized to prepare and process the necessary amendments to the respective Community Improvement Plans and hold Public Meetings at Planning Committee as required under the Planning Act to implement the Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program in the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area;
- (c) That funding required in 2012 for administering the Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program be funded from the Main Street Reserve in the amount of \$280,000 and the 2012 Downtown Block in the amount of \$120,000 and that this funding be referred to the 2012 Capital Budget deliberations.

**12. City of Hamilton “Include Me” Workforce Census Report (HUR11012) (City Wide) (Item 7.4)**

That Report HUR11012 respecting City of Hamilton “Include Me” Workforce Census Report, be received.

**13. Waterdown Aldershot East-West Transportation Corridor – Noise and Lighting Mitigation (PW08063(c)) (Ward 15) (Outstanding Business List) (Item 8.2)**

- (a) That the issues raised by Mr. Oliver, 215 Fellowes Crescent, Waterdown, regarding mitigation of noise and street lighting related to the proposed Parkside Drive reconstruction project, be addressed during the detailed design phase of the project;
- (b) That City staff continue to monitor the progress of the Ministry of the Environment’s (MOE) proposed new Environmental Noise Guidelines and ensures that the proposed City Noise Assessment Policy for Roadways and Highways is in-line, where feasible, with the MOE policy and that upon finalization of the Ministry of Environment’s Environmental Noise Guidelines, that the City of Hamilton’s Noise Assessment Policy for Roadways and Highways be finalized and submitted to Council for consideration;

- (c) That once the *Noise Assessment Policy for Roadways and Highways* is approved, it be utilized when dealing with consideration of approved noise mitigation measures;
- (d) That once the Policy for Sidewalk & Roadway Lighting previously considered by Committee and Council is approved it be utilized when dealing with methods of reducing light pollution design and mitigation measures.

**14. Tax and Rate Operating Budget Variance Report to August 31, 2011 (FCS11088) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)**

That FCS11088 "Tax and Rate Operating Budget Variance Report to August 31, 2011", be received.

**15. Creative Catalyst: Economic Development Initiative Capital Project 3620908900 (PED11173) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)**

That Report PED11173 respecting Creative Catalyst: Economic Development Initiative Capital Project 3620908900, be received.

**16. "Open for Business" Review (PED11176) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)**

- (a) That an "Open for Business" Sub-Committee, reporting to the General Issues Committee, be established to oversee the "Open for Business Review, as per the Senior Management Team (SMT) Workplan (Report CM11005);
- (b) That the Sub-Committee be comprised of six (6) members of Council, and that the appropriate City staff be made available as resources to the Sub-Committee; and,
- (c) That Councillors C. Collins, L. Ferguson, R. Pasuta, M. Pearson, R. Powers and T. Whitehead be appointed to serve on the Open for Business Sub-Committee;
- (d) That the Open for Business "Terms of Reference", included as Appendix "A" to Report PED11176, be referred to the "Open for Business" Sub-Committee for consideration and approval.

**17. Independent External Audit Review of HECFI Operations Phase 2 (CM11013(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.7)**

That Report CM11013(a) respecting Independent External Audit Review of HECFI Operations Phase 2, be received.

**18. Report 11-001 of the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core – September 15, 2011 (Item 8.8)**

**(a) Lighting Study Update**

- (i) That staff be directed to provide a detailed costing of lighting implementation in the Downtown area for the consideration of the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core;
- (ii) That the locations identified by the Task Force members during the August 8, 2011 Walkabout be forwarded to staff for consideration and inclusion in this report.

**(b) Treble Hall E-mail**

That staff be directed to report back to the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core with further details on the methadone clinic located on John Street, immediately north of from Treble Hall.

**(c) Buskering Update**

That Special Events staff be directed to consult with the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core respecting Buskering.

**(d) Supercrawl Letter**

That the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core be authorized to send a letter to the organizers of the Supercrawl commending them on holding an outstanding event.

**19. Hamilton Waterfront Priorities (Items 9.2(a) and (b))**

- (a) That staff be directed and authorized to begin discussions with the Hamilton Port Authority, with the objective of a formal agreement transferring the lands consisting of Piers 7 and 8, to the City of Hamilton immediately;
- (b) That staff report back to Council in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2011 with a recommended “framework” for these discussions;

- (c) That staff be directed and authorized to commence key studies that will accelerate the public and private sector development of Piers 5, 6, 7 and 8, including but not limited to issues of site servicing, geo-technical, soils, remediation, as well as development phasing, marketability, and valuation;
- (d) That staff be authorized to fund these studies from the "Waterfront Development Corporation" capital budget;
- (e) That staff Report back by the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2011 with a comprehensive 2012 workplan for the development of the waterfront precinct.

**20. Residential Matters Affecting Condominium Corporations (Item 11.1(a))**

That this matter be removed from the General Issues Committee Outstanding Business List and transferred to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee.

**21. Exchange of City Lands with Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) (PW11077/PED11177) (Wards 1 and 13) (Item 12.2)**

- (a) That Real Estate Section of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to negotiate the land exchange between RBG and the City of Hamilton and that the affected City-owned lands be declared surplus in accordance with By-law 04-299 for the lands shown in Appendix A of Report PW11077/PED11177;
- (b) That upon completion of recommendation (a), Real Estate Section of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to transfer parcel 3 and 4 to the Hamilton Conservation Authority at a nominal sum and that Council declare this future City-owned land, being Parcels 3 and 4, surplus in accordance with By-law 04-299;
- (c) That funding for legal, real estate, and other staff time, in the amount of \$10,000 - \$30,000 be allocated from Project # 4401155002 (Project Name Facilities Park Outdoor Implementation Plan);
- (d) That Report PW11077/PED11177 respecting the land exchange not be released as a public document as the information relates to a proposed acquisition or disposition of land for City purposes.



**22. Hamilton Waterfront Trust Financial Statements (New Business) (No Copy)**

That the issue of the Hamilton Waterfront Trust Financial Statements currently scheduled to be considered by the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee on October 19, 2011 be deleted from the agenda and referred to the appropriate General Issues Committee meeting, at which time representatives of the Hamilton Waterfront Trust are scheduled to appear to speak to a number of issues including ice rink operations and a deficit reduction plan.

**23. Government Relations Contact Team**

- (a) That Hamilton City Council is committed to improving our best practices in government relations;
- (b) That Council and the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee shall maximize utilization of staff and elected officials with proven competencies in government relations;
- (c) That Council shall meet annually in an in-camera Council workshop pursuant to Section 239(3.1) Ontario Municipal Act to educate, train and improve the knowledge of elected officials and senior management in government relations beset practices;
- (d) That Council shall annually debate and approve a list of municipal priorities for discussions with both senior levels of government;
- (e) That Council directs that all meetings, discussions or teleconferences with senior levels of government regarding items on the approved list of municipal priorities shall be conducted by a Government Relations Contact Team which shall be restricted to the Mayor, Chair of the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee and the City Manager;
- (f) That Council direct that all communications received by elected officials or city staff from any representative of a senior level of government regarding potential funding shall be copied to the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, members of the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee and the City Manager within 48 hours of receipt.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

Mayor Bratina spoke to the passing of Jimmy Lomax and of his dedication to and involvement in the community. On behalf of Council, the Mayor extended deepest sympathies and condolences to Mr. Lomax' family and friends at this sad time and advised that the flag at City Hall will be flying at half mast.

**Council – October 12, 2011**

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

The Clerk advised of the following changes:

**ADDED DELEGATION REQUESTS**

- (i) Delegation Request from Tom Kaszas to appear before the Committee to express his views on the benefits that a permanent indoor velodrome would bring to the City (Added as Item 4.2)
- (ii) Delegation Request from George Eastwood to appear before the Committee to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.3)
- (iii) Delegation Request from Kathy Eastwood to appear before the Committee to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.4)
- (iv) Peter Lowry, on behalf of the National Cycling Centre Hamilton (NCCH) Board of Directors and parents of the athletes enrolled in the NCCH Program (Added as Item 4.5)
- (v) Andrew Iler to speak to the issue of the Velodrome in respect to the budget and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.6)
- (vi) Mark Chamberlain, Trivaris, to speak to the issue of the Velodrome and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.7)
- (vii) Greg Mathieu, Canadian Cycling Association, to speak to the issue of the Hamilton Velodrome and make representations on behalf of the National Sport Governing body (Added as Item 4.8)

**ADDED NOTICE OF MOTION**

- (viii) Pan Am Games – Hamilton Velodrome (Added as Item 10.3)

On a motion, the agenda was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

None

**(c) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (Item 3.1)**

On a motion, the August 29 and September 13, 2011 Minutes of the special meetings of the General Issues Committee and the September 12, 2011 Minutes of the regular meeting of the General Issues Committee, were approved as presented.

**(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS**

On a motion, the delegation request from Jason Hammond, Janet MacLeod and Sharyl Spring, representing Hamilton CarShare, to speak in support of staff report on this issue, was approved. They will be invited to the appropriate meeting.

On a motion, the following delegation requests were approved and the rules of order were waived to allow these delegates to address the Committee at today's meeting:

- (i) Tom Kaszas to express his views on the benefits that a permanent indoor velodrome would bring to the City (Added as Item 4.2)
- (ii) George Eastwood to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.3)
- (iii) Kathy Eastwood to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.4)
- (iv) Peter Lowry, on behalf of the National Cycling Centre Hamilton (NCCH) Board of Directors and parents of the athletes enrolled in the NCCH Program (Added as Item 4.5)
- (v) Andrew Iler to speak to the issue of the Velodrome in respect to the budget and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.6)
- (vi) Mark Chamberlain, Trivaris, to speak to the issue of the Velodrome and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.7)
- (vii) Greg Mathieu, Canadian Cycling Association, to speak to the issue of the Hamilton Velodrome and make representations on behalf of the National Sport Governing body (Added as Item 4.8)

**(e) CONSENT AGENDA**

- (i) **Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCD SB) Surplus Land Located at 161 Meadowlands Boulevard, described as Part of Lot 51, Concession 3, Former Township of Ancaster, now City of Hamilton (PED11172) (Ward 12) (Item 5.6)**

On a motion, Report PED11172 respecting Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCD SB) Surplus Land Located at 161 Meadowlands Boulevard, described as Part of Lot 51, Concession 3, Former Township of Ancaster, now City of Hamilton was referred back to allow Parks staff to complete negotiations with the School Board before declaring lands surplus and report back at the earliest possible opportunity to the General Issues Committee.

- (ii) **Hamilton Downtown Property Improvement Grant Program – 68 George Street – HDPIGP 11/02 (PED11160) (Ward 2) (Item 5.4)**  
**Hamilton Downtown Multi-Residential Property Investment Program – 68 George Street – HDMRPIP (PED11161) (Ward 2) (Item 5.5)**

Councillor Duvall expressed concern that reports on the Canadian Business Corporation website indicate that the numbered company has been resolved. Staff investigated this matter and reported that the numbered company is a duly incorporated company, but would be dissolved if they did not file their federal corporate returns for 2009 and 2010. Staff has received confirmation that the required tax returns have been filed.

(f) **DELEGATIONS**

- (i) **Alicia Ali, McMaster Students' Union, to present results of the "Your City Survey" (No Copy) (Item 6.1)**

Ms. Ali was not in attendance.

- (ii) **Brian Lewis and Garry McKay, Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame, respecting the possibility of including the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame in the planning of the new Stadium as part of the Pan Am Games initiative (Item 6.2)**

Brian Lewis, Chair of the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame, appeared before the Committee to formally request that the City consider the inclusion of a Sports Hall of Fame in the Pan Am Stadium plans. Mr. Lewis noted that the Hall of Fame can be an asset to existing plans whether it is in a public restaurant, meeting room, welcome area or lounge; can add to what is being planned.

See Item 8 for the disposition of this issue.

- (iii) **Richard Koroscil, President and CEO, John C. Munro/Hamilton International Airport, to provide 2010 Annual Report (No Copy) (Item 6.3)**

Richard Koroscil, President and CEO of John C. Munro/Hamilton International Airport, appeared before the Committee to provide the 2010 Annual Report, with the assistance of a power point presentation, which addressed the following:

- 2010 Overview
- 2010 Destinations from "hi"
- Annual Landings (revenue generating)
- Passenger Traffic

- 2010 Cargo at “hi”
- Cargo Volume
- Infrastructure Projects
- Safety and Security
- Environment: water and waste
- Educational Initiatives
- Community Outreach and Social Giving
- Economic Benefits to the City of Hamilton
- A Significant Return to the City of Hamilton
- Airport Accountability
- City Audit of 2010 Rent Statement
- Publicly Available Documents
- 2010 Summary

The Committee was distributed with the power point presentation, a copy of which has been retained in the file for the public record. The presentation is also available for viewing on the City of Hamilton website.

**(iv) Mr. Stuart Trew, Trade Campaigner, Council of Canadians, respecting the Canada-European Union Free Trade Negotiations as they will affect municipal government (No Copy)**

Stuart Trew appeared before the Committee on behalf of the Council of Canadians and also as a Hamilton resident concerned about how the proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the European Union, would limit future economic and social policy options for the City and for the Province.

Following Mr. Trew’s presentation, Councillor McHattie indicated that he will not be moving forward with his Motion at this meeting (Item 9.1) but rather, would like to have further discussions with members of Council and staff prior to bringing it forward.

A copy of Mr. Trew’s comments was submitted to the City Clerk for the public record and will be attached as Appendix “D” to General Issues Committee Report 11-029.

**(v) Tom Kaszas to express his views on the benefits that a permanent indoor velodrome would bring to the City (Added as Item 4.2)**

Tom Kaszas appeared before the Committee to speak to the positive effects that cycling has had on his daughter and the physical and life skills that she has gained through her involvement in cycling. Mr. Kaszas stated that a permanent velodrome would provide an opportunity of pride to be shared with other children in the City, and would not be a wasted investment.

A copy of Mr. Kaszas' comments was submitted to the City Clerk for the public record and will be attached as Appendix "E" to General Issues Committee Report 11-029.

**(vi) George Eastwood to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.3)**

Mr. Eastwood appeared before the Committee to speak in support of a velodrome in Hamilton and the benefits that it would provide to the City from the view point of recreation and economics. He stated that a permanent velodrome will be a bold step in the ongoing rejuvenation and modernization of our City, and a sound investment that benefits the entire community.

A copy of Mr. Eastwood's comments was submitted to the City Clerk for the public record and will be attached as Appendix "F" to General Issues Committee Report 11-029.

**(vii) Kathy Eastwood to speak in support of the velodrome proposal (Added as Item 4.4)**

George Eastwood addressed the Committee in the absence of Kathy Eastwood, who was unable to attend.

Mr. Eastwood read from a submission prepared by Ms. Eastwood which expressed the transformative power of sport in the life of their teenage son, which has given her a new appreciation for the sport of cycling.

A copy of Ms. Eastwood's comments was submitted to the City Clerk for the public record and will be attached as Appendix "G" to General Issues Committee Report 11-029.

**(viii) Peter Lowry, on behalf of the National Cycling Centre Hamilton (NCCH) Board of Directors and parents of the athletes enrolled in the NCCH Program (Added as Item 4.5)**

Peter Lowry appeared before the Committee to express his support of a permanent velodrome in Hamilton. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Cycling Centre Hamilton (NCCH) and the parent of an athlete.

Mr. Lowry stated that the NCCH will benefit greatly, and he believes that the velodrome in Hamilton will be the only velodrome in the world which will be linked to a post-secondary institution.

**(ix) Andrew Iler to speak to the issue of the Velodrome in respect to the budget and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.6)**

Andrew Iler addressed the Committee and using power point, showed photographs of various velodromes in cities throughout the world, and related construction costs.

Mr. Iler also spoke to the benefits that a velodrome would provide to the community, including uses for school programs, summer cycling camps, outreach to all parts of the City, track skills. A velodrome would also benefit fitness and recreation, junior development, raceline and motorpacing and National Team training. Other programs and events would include martial arts, weights and fitness and volleyball.

In summary, the velodrome will be a well-used facility that can be used by all in the community.

**(x) Mark Chamberlain, Trivaris, to speak to the issue of the Velodrome and the Campaign Cabinet (Added as Item 4.7)**

Mark Chamberlain appeared before the Committee to speak to the issue of a "Hamilton Velodrome Fundraising Cabinet". With the assistance of a power point presentation, Mr. Chamberlain introduced the list of members who have signed on the Campaign Cabinet and provided a brief history of each individual.

The Campaign Cabinet included: Mark Chamberlain – Honourary Chair; Romeo Andretta, Steve Bauer, Patrick Bermingham, Curt Hartnett, Clara Hughes, Andrew Iler, Rob MacIsaac, Dennis Mills, Kristen Sears, Gord Singleton and Phil White.

A copy of Mr. Chamberlain's presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and is also available for viewing on the City of Hamilton website.

**(xi) Greg Mathieu, Canadian Cycling Association, to speak to the issue of the Hamilton Velodrome and make representations on behalf of the National Sport Governing body (Added as Item 4.8)**

Greg Mathieu appeared before the Committee to re-iterate why the Cycling Association and stakeholders are committed to Hamilton for a Pan Am velodrome.

**(g) PRESENTATIONS**

- (i) International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan (CM10005(d)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(a))**  
**International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan (CM10005(b)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(b))**

Chris Murray provided comments on direction provided by Committee at the previous meeting. In terms of additional funding from Mohawk College, Mr. Murray advised that the possibility is not entirely ruled out, no additional monies have been committed to date.

On a motion, Report CM10005(b) respecting International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan, was lifted from the table.

**International Event Opportunities – 2015 Pan Am Games Velodrome Business Plan (CM10005(b)) (City Wide)**

- (a) That Item 1 of Committee of the Whole Report 10-008, approved by Council on February 24, 2010, respecting the location of a Warm up track and Velodrome at the West Harbour site, be rescinded;
- (b) That staff be directed to cease the active expropriations of land at the West Harbour site, as was directed by Council on February 24, 2010 by way of Item 2, subsection (b) of Committee of the Whole Report 10-008;
- (c) That Council:
- (i) Confirms its participation in the Pan Am Velodrome project;
  - (ii) That Mohawk College be selected as the site for the construction of a permanent velodrome and be forwarded to Toronto 2015 and Infrastructure Ontario for inclusion in the RFP process;
  - (iii) Fund 44% of construction costs and 100% of land acquisition and site development costs financed as follows:
    - (1) \$5 million funded from the Hamilton Future Fund grant
    - (2) \$5 million funded from debenture financing and an estimated operating impact of \$480,000;
    - (3) \$2 million funded from Mohawk College



- (4) with the balance (currently estimated at about \$8 million to \$12.5 million) to be financed from fund raising, naming rights, other levels of government, etc but that if such alternative revenue sources are insufficient, Council accepts responsibility to fund the balance of its 44% share through City sources;
- (d) That the City of Hamilton's participation in the Pan Am Velodrome project be conditional on receiving an annual financial commitment from the Pan Am Legacy Fund of at least \$500,000 per year to be used to support ongoing operating, maintenance and capital rehabilitation costs;
- (e) That staff be directed to prepare any and all necessary agreements in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign and execute all such agreements.

On a motion, sub-section (c)(iii) was deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following in lieu thereof:

- (c) That Council:
- (i) Confirms its participation in the Pan Am Velodrome project;
  - (ii) That Mohawk College be selected as the site for the construction of a permanent velodrome and be forwarded to Toronto 2015 and Infrastructure Ontario for inclusion in the RFP process;
  - (iii) Reconfirm the commitment of the \$5 million grant funded from the Hamilton Future Fund;
  - (iv) \$2 million funded from Mohawk College.

The Amendment **CARRIED** on the following Standing Recorded vote:

Yeas: Bratina, Clark, Duvall, Farr, Ferguson, Jackson, McHattie,  
Morelli, Pasuta, Pearson, Whitehead  
Total Yeas: 11  
Nays: Collins, Johnson, Merulla, Partridge, Powers  
Total Nays: 5  
Absent: 0

The Main Motion, as amended, **CARRIED** on the following Standing Recorded vote:

Yeas: Bratina, Clark, Duvall, Farr, Ferguson, Jackson, McHattie,  
Morelli, Pasuta, Pearson, Whitehead  
Total Yeas: 11  
Nays: Collins, Johnson, Merulla, Partridge, Powers  
Total Nays: 5  
Absent: 0

See Motion 4.1 of the October 11, 2011 Council meeting for the disposition of this item.

**(ii) Hamilton Velodrome Fundraising Cabinet**

The following Motion was put forward:

That the Campaign Cabinet be supported in its efforts to fund raise for the Hamilton Velodrome.

The motion **CARRIED** on the following recorded vote:

Yeas: Bratina, Clark, Collins, Duvall, Farr, Ferguson, Jackson,  
Johnson, McHattie, Morelli, Partridge, Pasuta, Pearson,  
Powers, Whitehead  
Total Yeas: 15  
Nays: Merulla  
Total Nays: 1

See Motion 4.2 of the October 11, 2011 Council meeting for the disposition of this item.

**(ii) The “Gore” Building Improvement Grant Program (PED11167) (City Wide) (Item 7.2)  
Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program (PED11168) (Ward 2) (Item 7.3)**

In the interest of time, the Committee waived the staff presentation. See Items 10 and 11 for the disposition of these items.

**(iii) City of Hamilton “Include Me” Workforce Census Report (HUR11012) (City Wide) (Item 7.4)**

Helen Hale Tomasik provided a power point presentation on the City of Hamilton “Include Me” Workforce Census Report which included:

- Background of the Workforce Census – what it is and its purpose
- Workforce Census Methods
- Workforce Census Response Rates
- Key Workforce Census Results – Representation-at-a-Glance

- Key Workforce Census Results – Education, languages, high number of pending retirements; what attracted existing employees to work at the City; work-life balance
- Recommendations and Next Steps.

A copy of the power point presentation is available for viewing on the City of Hamilton website.

See Item 12 for the disposition of this item.

**(h) DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**(i) U. S. Steel – Sewer Use By-law 04-150 – Parameters and Compliance Agreement (Item 8.1)**

Mayor Bratina and Councillor Duvall advised the Committee that a tentative agreement has been reached between U.S. Steel and Steelworkers Union Local 1005. Councillor Duvall indicated that an official news release will be released shortly, with a ratification vote to be conducted as soon as possible. The Executive also asked Councillor Duvall to relay their thanks to Council for their support.

In light of the recent developments between U.S. Steel and Steel-workers Union Local 1005, the issue of the Compliance Agreement was deferred pending the outcome of the ratification vote.

**(ii) Waterdown Aldershot East-West Transportation Corridor – Noise and Lighting Mitigation (PW08063(c)) (Ward 15) (Outstanding Business List) (Item 8.2)**

Staff advised that Page 6 of the report, under “Implementation and Maintenance”, should read as follows:

- \$200 for a 1.8-2.4m wood noise fence
- \$450 to \$600 for a 1.8-2.4m concrete barrier.

On a motion, the “Waterdown Aldershot East-West Transportation Corridor” was identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

**(iii) “Open for Business” Review (PED11176) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)**

On a motion, sub-section (b) was amended by increasing the Council membership from four (4) to six (6).

The Amendment **CARRIED**.

On a motion, the following was added as sub-section (c) and the balance of the sections re-numbered accordingly:

- (c) That Councillors C. Collins, L. Ferguson, R. Pasuta, M. Pearson, R. Powers and T. Whitehead be appointed to serve on the “Open for Business” Sub-Committee.

The Main Motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

- (iv) **2008 – 2011 Strategic Plan Annual Report (2010) (CM11014) (City Wide) (Item 8.6)**

On a motion, and in the interest of time, Report CM11014 respecting the 2008-2011 Strategic Annual Plan was tabled to the General Issues Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2011 for discussion.

- (v) **Independent External Audit Review of HECFI Operations Phase 2 (CM11013(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.7)**

The Mayor expressed concern with respect to the divestiture of Hamilton Place and that in the Request for Expressions of Interest, it be kept apart and separate, and viewed as a broader community asset rather than a revenue generator.

- (vi) **Items Referred from Emergency & Community Services Committee:**

- (aa) Status and Next Steps – St. Mark’s Church and Auchmar Estate (CS11076) (Wards 2 and 8)

Joe-Anne Priel provided an update and reported that a report will be presented to the General Issues Committee on these matters.

On a motion, the verbal update respecting Status and Next Steps – St. Mark’s Church and Auchmar Estate, was received.

- (bb) Endorsement of a Sports Field Management Strategy (PW08006) (City Wide)

Joe-Anne Priel provided an update and reported that a report will be presented to the General Issues Committee on this matter.

On a motion, the verbal update respecting Endorsement of a Sports Field Management Strategy, be received.

**(i) MOTIONS**

- (i) Councillor McHattie tabled the following motion to the next appropriate General Issues Committee meeting:

**Canadian-European Community Free Trade Agreement – Impact on City of Hamilton (Item 9.1)**

WHEREAS the government of Canada and the European Union have been negotiating a trade agreement known as the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (the “CETA”); and

WHEREAS the European Union and European corporations are insisting on unobstructed access to procurement by sub-national governments, including municipalities, school boards, universities, hospitals and other provincial agencies, which could significantly reduce or eliminate the right to specify local priorities when public money is invested in goods, services or capital projects; and

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities have expressed growing concerns with trade agreements and their potential impacts on municipal programs and services and local autonomy; and

WHEREAS unobstructed access to Canadian municipal procurement by European corporations, combined with investment protections in CETA on government concessions related to transit, water, electricity and other social services delivered locally, may encourage privatization and reduce economic development options for local communities; and

WHEREAS the provincial and territorial governments have been actively involved in negotiating CETA with the European Union:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton request:
- (i) a briefing from the Ontario Government on the scope and content of trade negotiations with the European Union, including the details of its procurement offer to the EU;
  - (ii) the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to provide a sector-by-sector analysis of the potential impacts on municipal functions and powers of the procurement regime that the European Union is seeking;
  - (iii) the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to urge the Government of Canada not to provide the European Union with access to sub-national government procurement;

- (iv) that the Government of Ontario negotiate a clear, permanent exemption for local governments from CETA;
  - (v) City staff to review the available information on the impact CETA will have on the City of Hamilton, with special emphasis on procurement and the delivery of social services, and;
- (b) That this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for consideration and circulation to Ontario municipalities.

**(ii) Hamilton Waterfront Priorities (Items 9.2(a) and (b))**

The following is the preamble to the motion put forward by Councillor Collins:

Whereas Hamilton's waterfront and shoreline precincts are valuable geographic and environmental public assets that add to the quality of life for the City's residents;

And Whereas over the past several years, City Council has passed and endorsed several key policy initiatives to enhance and revitalize the waterfront precinct including; the West Harbour Recreation Master Plan, the "Setting Sail" secondary plan, Hamilton's Neighbourhood Development Strategy, the City of Hamilton Economic Development Strategy, as well as the pursuit of all-day GO train service to James St. North;

And Whereas the 2011 Senior Management Team Workplan clearly identified the goal of accelerating existing actions that revitalize the economic potential and assessment growth of the waterfront.

On a motion, sub-section (c) was amended to include Piers 5 and 6.

The Amendment **CARRIED**.

The Main Motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

See Item 19 for the disposition of this item.

**(iii) Review of Road Widening Policies**

On a motion, staff was directed to conduct a review of the City's current road widening policies and report back to the Planning Committee.

**(j) NOTICES OF MOTION**

In the absence of Councillor McHattie, the following Notices of Motion will be placed on the November 14, 2011 General Issues Committee agenda:

**Council – October 12, 2011**

**(i) Request to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) to Transfer Liquor License Process (Item 10.1)**

Whereas the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) “new liquor license” process includes a provision by which affected citizens (or City Councils by Council motion) can request a hearing to determine the impact of the license request, including negative impacts on local neighbourhoods;

And Whereas the AGCO “transfer of liquor license” process does not allow for public or City Council requests for a hearing;

And Whereas the transfer of a liquor license could substantially change the type of facility and the accompanying impact in a neighbourhood;

And Whereas the inability of citizens to intervene in a liquor license transfer process could lead to citizens challenging a new liquor license request due to the fear of a future change in facility operations.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) be requested to meet with the City of Hamilton to discuss the transfer of liquor license process and understand its potential impact on neighbourhoods, and seek changes to AGCO policies and processes.

**(ii) Prohibition on Feeding of Wildlife (Item 10.2)**

Whereas there are known negative effects when wild animals are attracted to neighbourhoods by citizens feeding these animals;

And Whereas in Hamilton, unsafe conditions have been created due to wildlife feeding on the Beach Strip with coyotes and deer in the Iroquois Heights Conservation Area;

And Whereas other municipalities have banned feeding of wildlife (i.e., Mississauga, Thunder Bay, Vancouver).

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

That staff be directed to report back on options to ban the feeding of wildlife in Hamilton.

**(iii) Pan Am Games – Hamilton Velodrome (Added Item 10.3)**

Whereas, the west Harbour lands were originally acquired by the City of Hamilton to facilitate Pan-Am Games’ facilities;

Whereas, there is a need to identify additional funds to support moving ahead to the tendering stage of the Pan-Am Games – Hamilton Velodrome project;

Whereas, through a national level campaign, the Mayor's Cabinet will be seeking to fundraise \$10M for the Hamilton Velodrome project;

Whereas, while this commitment of funding is required to move on to the tendering stage of the process, it may not be needed when the actual cost of the velodrome is known in February 2012 (i.e., given cost of Pan-Am Stadium project 30% over-stated; and recent velodrome construction cost examples from around the world in the \$25-35M range).

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That up to \$5M be allocated to the Pan-Am Games – Hamilton Velodrome from the sale of the west Harbour lands, with the remaining funds from sales of lands allocated to the Hamilton Future Fund.

**(iv) Pan Am Games Velodrome**

Councillor B. Morelli introduced the following Notice of Motion:

Whereas, the City of Hamilton is committed to the success of the 2015 Pan Am Games in Canada (the "Games");

Whereas, the City of Hamilton committed substantive funding for permanent Games facilities to be situated in Hamilton including, in particular, the venues for Track and Field and Cycling events;

Whereas, the scope of the Track and Field venue facility to be situated in Hamilton, was subsequently scaled down to that of a Soccer stadium in Ward 3 of the City (the "Stadium Precinct");

Whereas, the ability of the City to increase its existing funding commitment to the Velodrome is tempered and strained by other City and community needs;

Therefore it be resolved:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton maintain its existing funding commitment of \$5 million to the Games toward the establishment of a permanent Velodrome to be situated in the City of Hamilton; and



- (b) That in the event a decision is made to not situate a permanent Velodrome in Hamilton on the basis of the City's limited financial contribution capacity, that the City reallocate all or part of the \$5 million dollar Pan Am Velodrome commitment to the development of other community facilities and services in the Stadium Precinct that address the significant lack of seniors and recreational amenities in this code red area; and;
- (c) That staff prepare and present a plan to the General Issues Committee in 2012 that illustrates and explains where this investment will be spent.

On a motion, the Rules of Order were waived to for the introduction of a Motion respecting Pan Am Games Velodrome.

On a motion, the Motion respecting Pan Am Games Velodrome was withdrawn.

Councillor Morelli indicated that he would leave this as a Notice of Motion.

**(iv) Hamilton Waterfront Trust Financial Statements (New Business) (No Copy)**

Councillor B. Clark introduced the following Notice of Motion:

That the issue of the Hamilton Waterfront Trust Financial Statements currently scheduled to be considered by the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee on October 19, 2011 be deleted from the agenda and referred to the appropriate General Issues Committee meeting, at which time representatives of the Hamilton Waterfront Trust are scheduled to appear to speak to a number of issues including ice rink operations and a deficit reduction plan.

On a motion, the Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting Hamilton Waterfront Trust Financial Statements.

See Item 21 for the disposition of this item.

**(v) Government Relations Contact Team**

Councillor T. Whitehead introduced the following Notice of Motion:

- (a) That Hamilton City Council is committed to improving our best practices in government relations;

- (b) That Council and the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee shall maximize utilization of staff and elected officials with proven competencies in government relations;
- (c) That Council shall meet annually in an in-camera Council workshop pursuant to Section 239(3.1) Ontario Municipal Act to educate, train and improve the knowledge of elected officials and senior management in government relations beset practices;
- (d) That Council shall annually debate and approve a list of municipal priorities for discussions with both senior levels of government;
- (e) That Council directs that all meetings, discussions or teleconferences with senior levels of government regarding items on the approved list of municipal priorities shall be conducted by a Government Relations Contact Team which shall be restricted to the Mayor, Chair of the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee and the City Manager;
- (f) That Council direct that all communications received by elected officials or city staff from any representative of a senior level of government regarding potential funding shall be copied to the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, members of the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Committee and the City Manager within 48 hours of receipt.

On a motion, the Rules of Order were waived in order to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting "Government Relations Contact Team".

See Item 23 for the disposition of this item.

The Motion **CARRIED** on the following recorded vote:

Yeas: Clark, Collins, Duvall, Farr, Jackson, Johnson, Merulla,  
Partridge, Pasuta, Whitehead

Total Yeas: 10

Nays: Bratina, Pearson, Powers

Total Nays: 3

Absent: Ferguson, McHattie, Morelli

Total Absent: 3

**(k) OTHER BUSINESS/GENERAL INFORMATION (Item 11)****11.1 Outstanding Business List****(a) Outstanding Business List**

On a motion, the General Issues Committee Outstanding List was amended as follows:

(i) Item M: Audible Pedestrian Signals  
Due Date: September 12, 2011  
Revised Due Date: Q1 2012

(ii) Item P: Wind Turbines

That this matter be removed from the Outstanding Business List of the General Issues Committee as the issue was addressed at the September 28, 2011 meeting of Council.

On a motion, the following items be removed from the Outstanding Business List:

(iii) Item K: Resolution from Cavan Monaghan respecting Industrial Wind Turbines

(iv) Item L: Resolution from West Lincoln respecting Industrial Wind Turbines

(v) Item N: Resolution from North Perth respecting Industrial Wind Turbines

On a motion, the Outstanding Business List respecting Ward Boundary Review was lifted from the table and referred back to the Governance Review Sub-Committee.

**(l) PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

The General Issues Committee recessed at 12:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

On a motion, the General Issues Committee recessed at 2:25 p.m. in order to convene the special meeting of Council.

On a motion, Council convened and recessed at 2:25 p.m.

On a motion, the General Issues Committee reconvened at 2:25 p.m. to continue discussions with respect to the Pan Am Velodrome.

On a motion, the General Issues Committee recessed at 3:35 p.m. in order to convene the special meeting of Council.

On a motion, Council reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

**(m) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

**(i) Minutes of Closed Session Meeting (Item 12.1)**

On a motion, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of the General Issues Committee held on September 12, 2011 were approved. These Minutes will remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with the exemptions provided in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

**(ii) Exchange of City Lands with Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) (PW11077/ PED 11177) (Wards 1 and 13) (Item 12.1)**

The Committee did not require to move In Camera to discuss this matter. See Item 20 for the disposition of this item.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor J. Partridge  
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs, Co-ordinator  
Committee Services/Council/Budgets  
October 11, 2011

## **HAMILTON CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION CHARTER**

We .....the undersigned agree that:

- a) Scientific evidence shows climate change is happening now. There is consensus that greenhouse gas emissions caused by human activity are seriously affecting Earth's climate.
- b) Climate change is having increasingly negative impacts on all of Hamilton's residents, environments, and economy.
- c) We need to take responsibility and act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change impacts in ways that promote economic prosperity, health and environmental benefits for all.
- d) It is important for individuals and organizations to share ideas and best practices and coordinate efforts to accomplish these goals as effectively as possible.

We..... commit to:

- 1) Keep informed of new information on climate change and its impacts in order to understand risks and effects on us as individuals and organizations.
- 2) Establish a baseline measurement of our current contribution to climate change through our activities.
- 3) Set significant specific targets for reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, identifying where we will focus our efforts to achieve those targets.
- 4) Take personal responsibility for these climate change commitments, and, in the case of businesses or organizations, assign responsibility to a senior individual. Collaborate with other groups, individuals, organizations, and businesses to address causes and consequences of climate change.
- 5) Report annually to the community and celebrate successes in reducing emissions and/or creating resiliency in response to climate change impacts during Hamilton's Climate Change Action Month in October.
- 6) Engage, educate, and involve individuals, families, groups, businesses, organizations, and other entities to also commit to this Charter and work collectively to address climate change.

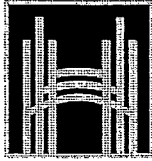
.....  
(Name & Signature)

.....  
(Organization)

***EXPLANATORY NOTES:***

Signing the Hamilton Climate Change Action Charter is a way to show commitment to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change. It represents a broad public statement that any Hamilton individual or organization can make. There are no pre-signing requirements, however signing the Charter indicates a commitment to take action.

1. **Keep informed:** Information about climate change is continually emerging. Signatories need to stay informed of the impacts of climate change to be aware of opportunities and risks.
2. **Establish a baseline:** Activities that cause greenhouse gas emissions include energy use, transportation, water use, and waste generation. Measuring our current carbon footprint provides a baseline against which to measure improvements. It also helps identify areas where we can create the greatest possible benefit, which makes it easier to set realistic plans and targets.
3. **Set targets:** The Charter enables signatories to set their own targets. Ambitious goals are encouraged.
4. **Take personal responsibility and collaborate:** By signing the Charter, individuals and organizations join a common effort to address climate change in Hamilton. Senior leadership encourages cultural change and commitment to action within an organization.
5. **Report and celebrate annually:** Signatories should show their progress in meeting their Charter commitments. October is Hamilton's Climate Change Action Month, providing an opportunity for signatories to showcase their achievements and learn from each other.
6. **Engage, educate, and involve:** Education about climate change and its impacts promotes public understanding, and encourages us to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and become more resilient.



Hamilton

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Urban Renewal Section  
71 Main Street West, 7th Floor  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5  
Phone: (905) 546-2755  
Fax: (905) 546-2693

## **THE "GORE" BUILDING IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Gore Building Improvement Grant Program was developed to support the maintenance, attractiveness, functionality and viability of the historic building stock that fronts on King Street East between James Street and Catharine Street, known as the "Gore". The program is intended to provide financial assistance to bring existing properties to present-day Property Standards and Sign By-law requirements and, to improve their accessibility.

The program supports an objective of the Downtown Secondary Plan: conserve and enhance the Gore as the primary landscaped open space and concentration of heritage buildings in Downtown Hamilton.

Applications under the Program will be accepted to the end of December 2014 (subject to the availability of funding). Improvements funded under the Program must be completed no later than August 1, 2015.

### **PROGRAM TERMS**

- Property owners/authorized tenants are eligible to apply for a grant under the program. One grant per property. A property to be defined by a property deed.
- Eligibility requirements for the program relating to the work to be funded will be specifically identified. Two (2) separate cost estimates of the work to be provided by a licensed contractor other than the owner. Owner may present an estimate but is required to have at least two prepared by contractors. The grant will be calculated based upon lowest cost estimate, and is not to address cost increases or over runs. In the case where the applicant is the owner of a contracting company and wishes to utilize the company to undertake the improvements, one (1) cost estimate will be required. A Building Inspector will review all estimates provided for the purpose of ensuring competitiveness.

- Applicants will be required to provide a business case that identifies how the improvements will improve the marketability of the property for prospective tenants and/or improve the business vitality and/or utilize formerly under-utilized upper floors.
- Grants will be paid on a matching basis up to a maximum of \$50,000 for eligible work under the Program.
- A building inspector will perform initial inspection relative to the proposed improvements, and subsequent final inspection to assure compliance with Property Standards.
- Approval of the grant is at the sole discretion of the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department and subject to the availability of funds.
- Proposed improvements to be completed within one year to be eligible for payment. A one year extension can be authorized by the Manager of Urban Renewal.
- Work completed must be consistent with estimates, and work proposed and identified within the application unless previously discussed and approved by the Urban Renewal Section.
- The Applicant shall provide to the City's Urban Renewal Section copies of paid invoices for all work undertaken on the property for which the grant is applicable. This documentation is to be provided prior to the final inspection.
- A City Building Inspector's final inspection report confirming all works have been carried out satisfactorily will be provided prior to release of any grant monies.
- At the sole discretion of the Manager of Urban Renewal; partial payments for works completed can be processed consistent with the payment process described above.
- At the sole discretion of the Manager of Urban Renewal, the grant cheque can be made jointly payable to the applicant and the contractor if such a request has been received from the applicant.
- The grant is not transferable upon sale of the property.
- The grant may also be received by an owner in conjunction with any other available City program in support of the redevelopment/development of the property with the exception of the Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program.
- An application fee of \$320 is payable upon submission of application. The fee will be authorized through a by-law passed by City Council. The rate of the fee may be changed from time to time as approved by City Council.
- Whether or not an Applicant satisfies the requirements of the Program, the City may reject any application received from an applicant where, in the opinion of Council, the commercial relationship between the City and the Applicant has been impaired by, but not limited to, the applicant being



involved in litigation with the City. Applicants are individuals; corporate entities and individuals behind the corporation (Officers/Directors/Shareholders).

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

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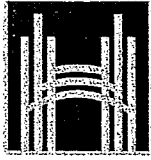
- Property owners and authorized tenants are eligible.
- Property taxes must be paid current.
- The improvements made to buildings shall be in accordance with Property Standards and in compliance with all applicable City by-laws, official plans, zoning regulations, design guidelines and site plan approvals.
- Improvements commenced prior to submitting an application are ineligible. Improvements commenced after submitting an application but prior to application approval do so at the applicant's risk.
- Properties must front on King Street between James Street and Catharine Street.
- Existing use must be in conformity with the applicable Zoning By-law regulations (including the Heritage Character Zone), and other relevant planning controls.

## **ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS**

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- Signage in conformity with the Sign By-law 06-243 as amended. (Note: the eligible grant amount will be increased to 75% of the cost of installing a sign that is in conformity with the Sign By-law and is replacing a legally non-conforming sign)
- Façade improvements
- Reinforcement of floors, walls, ceilings and foundations
- Required improvements to ventilation systems
- Construction or alteration of stairs, guards, handrails
- Roofing
- Installation or repair of central air-conditioning
- Installation or repair of furnace
- Installation or alteration of required window openings
- Installation or alteration of fire protection systems; fire separations; fire doors, fire shutters and other fire protection devices
- Improvements for barrier-free accessibility including elevators
- Other improvements related to health and safety issues deemed eligible at the sole discretion of the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development





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## **HAMILTON DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL FAÇADE PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Hamilton Downtown Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program is intended to provide financial assistance for commercial property owners/authorized tenants within the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area. The Program aims to improve upon the physical appearance of properties within the Downtown, achieve quality façade improvements and, encourage investment in the area. Spurring the preservation, revitalization and reinvestment of commercial properties within the Downtown will assist in creating a welcoming environment for people to live, work, play and learn.

Applications under the Program will be accepted to the end of December 2014 (subject to the availability of funding). Improvements funded under the Program must be completed no later than August 1, 2015.

### **PROGRAM TERMS**

- Commercial property owners/authorized tenants are eligible to apply for a grant under the Program once each calendar year.
- Commercial properties are to be identified by municipal address to identify multiple and separate commercial units with ground floor street frontages.
- Commercial uses must be in conformity with relevant policy documents of the City and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
- Performance measures are to be applied to the payment of grants.
- Eligibility requirements for the Program relating to the work to be funded will be specifically identified. Two (2) separate cost estimates of the work to be provided by a licensed contractor other than the owner. Owner may present an estimate but is required to have at least two prepared by contractors. The grant will be calculated based upon lowest cost estimate, and is not to address cost increases or over runs. In the case where the applicant is the owner of a contracting company and wishes to utilize the company to undertake the improvements, one (1) cost estimate will be required. A

- Building Inspector will review all estimates provided for the purpose of ensuring competitiveness.
- Maximum grant amount will be paid on a matching basis (50%-50%) to a maximum of \$10,000 per property for eligible work under the Program. As a further incentive for corner properties, the City will increase the maximum grant amount to \$12,500 on a similar matching basis for eligible work under the Program to recognize the importance of flankage facades.
- Restoration/conservation of heritage features on commercial properties designated under the Ontario Heritage Act are not eligible under this grant program however, improvements other than those on heritage features are eligible subject to the approval of a City heritage permit. Urban Renewal staff will work closely with Community Planning and Design staff on all applications received that are designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.
- A building inspector will perform initial inspection relative to the façade which is intended to be improved, and subsequent final inspection to assure compliance with the Ontario Building Code.
- Approval of the grant is at the sole discretion of the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department and subject to the availability of funds.
- Proposed improvements to be completed within one year to be eligible for payment. A one year extension can be authorized by the Manager of Urban Renewal.
- Work completed must be consistent with estimates, and work proposed and identified within the application unless previously discussed and approved by the Urban Renewal Section.
- The Applicant shall provide to the City's Urban Renewal Section copies of paid invoices for all work undertaken on the property for which the grant is applicable. This documentation is to be provided prior to the final inspection.
- A City Building Inspector's final inspection report confirming all works have been carried out satisfactorily will be provided prior to release of any grant monies.
- At the sole discretion of the Manager of Urban Renewal, partial payments for works completed can be processed consistent with the payment process described above.
- At the sole discretion of the Manager of Urban Renewal, the grant cheque can be made jointly payable to the applicant and the contractor if such a request has been received from the applicant.
- An application fee of \$200 is payable upon submission of application. The fee will be authorized through a by-law passed by City Council. The rate of the fee may be changed from time to time as approved by City Council.
- The grant may also be received by an owner in conjunction with any other available City program in support of the redevelopment/development of the

property with the exception of the Commercial Property Improvement Grant Program available within Business Improvement Areas.

- Whether or not an Applicant satisfies the requirements of the Program, the City may reject any application received from an applicant where, in the opinion of Council, the commercial relationship between the City and the Applicant has been impaired by, but not limited to, the applicant being involved in litigation with the City. Applicants are individuals; corporate entities and individuals behind the corporation (Officers/Directors/Shareholders).
- Improvements commenced prior to submitting an application are ineligible. Improvements commenced after submitting an application but prior to application approval do so at the applicant's risk.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

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- Property owners and authorized tenants are eligible.
- Property taxes must be paid current.
- The proposed to be pre-inspected by the City Building Inspector.
- Commercial properties must be located within the Downtown Hamilton Community Improvement Project Area.
- Existing use must be in conformity with the applicable Zoning By-law regulations, and other relevant planning controls.

### **ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS**

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- Replacement or repairing of storefronts only.
- Improvements and or upgrades to windows, doors, cornices and parapets.
- Addition of new lighting and upgrading of existing fixtures, on exterior of the façade.
- Awning replacements and/or additions.
- Brick repairs and/or pointing.
- Painting and façade treatments.
- Installation or improvement of signage.
- Architectural, engineering or design fees may be eligible up to \$750 as part of the total grant awarded for completed construction.

#### **In-Eligible:**

- Trees, shrubbery, perennials, annuals, soil, mulch, grass.
- Roofing (apart from mansard roofs above the eligible frontage).
- Sandblasting.
- Paving of parking lots.
- Outdoor furniture.

- Permanent landscape features such as flagstone and natural stones/rocks, statuary, irrigation, containers.
  - Fencing.
  - Front-yard decks/patios or side-yard decks/patios that abut a street.
-



**Presentation to Hamilton City Council, General Issues Committee  
Re: Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement**

**Stuart Trew  
The Council of Canadians**

October, 2011

Thank you Chair and councillors. I appreciate this opportunity to talk to you about the Canada-European Union trade negotiations and what the deal would mean for municipalities. It's an important time in the negotiations – with a ninth and possibly final full round of talks happening in Ottawa next week. The federal government would like to sign a deal by early in the new year.

I am here representing the Council of Canadians but also as a Hamilton resident concerned about how CETA – the proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the EU – would limit future economic and social policy options for the City and for the province. I share these concerns with a growing number of cities and towns across the country, many of which are asking their provincial governments to exclude municipalities from the scope of the agreement. I hope to convince you this morning to take the same position.

The Council of Canadians is one of the world's largest citizens' advocacy organizations with tens of thousands of members across the country. We receive no government or corporate money but are completely member-funded. Most of our advocacy, whether on trade, or environmental or health issues is carried out by volunteer chapters with strong roots in their communities.

I've been a researcher and campaigner with the Council for over five years specializing in trade agreements. CETA is unique among Canada's recent series of

agreements with developing countries in that it will have the greatest impact on governance here at home. Tariffs are on average very low on both sides of the Atlantic so CETA is about “behind the border” policies that one side or the other would like to see changed. The Canada-Europe Roundtable for Business goes further by claiming CETA is not about the EU market at all but about internal economic reforms in Canada.<sup>1</sup>

One of the EU’s major demands is that provincial governments, their agencies and municipalities should be bound by procurement rules which limit how these public entities spend public money. The objective for the EU and European firms is to pick up more government contracts in Canada for big ticket items – for example, transit and energy projects, major construction and other infrastructure projects and, if they are lucky, the provision of drinking water or sanitation services.

I believe a backgrounder on CETA’s procurement chapter from the Columbia Institute has been circulated to you so I won’t go into all the details.<sup>ii</sup> I’ll just try to describe what’s at stake for Hamilton.

CETA would forbid the City of Hamilton from applying offsets, or conditions designed to extract local development benefits, on tenders for goods, services and construction over certain thresholds. CETA would flat out ban “Buy Canadian” policies, which will deprive cities of a seldom used but effective job-creating tool. The City of Toronto buys subway cars from a plant in Sudbury because it creates enormous spinoff economic activity and jobs across the GTA.

The City of Hamilton may one day like to make a similar policy for its light rail vehicles. It wouldn’t be able to if the city were bound by CETA. The EU deal would also outlaw requirements for firms to source a portion of their inputs locally, or hire local workers.

The thresholds that Canada and the EU have tentatively agreed on are \$300,000 for goods and services, and \$8 million for construction. The Harper government, and now the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, stress that the bulk of municipal tenders fall below those values. But according to officials at the Ontario



Ministry of Economic Development, 80 per cent of the value of provincial procurement will be covered by the restrictions proposed by the EU.

The potential to maximize the social value of spending public money by using procurement for other social goals – namely employment or training goals, but also potentially sustainable or green development strategies, buy local food programs, etc – these would vanish as options on exactly those projects where they would count the most.

The justification for giving up these spending prerogatives is that it will make public spending by all levels of government more transparent and fair.

Proponents of CETA claim the benefit to cities like Hamilton will be greater choice of contractors at a lower price. These are worthy goals but the problem is exaggerated. Already European firms bid on and win Canadian contracts and vice versa. What the EU is seeking in CETA is a legal guarantee that if one of its firms puts in the lowest bid that firm will win the contract. Municipal decisions to the contrary could be challenged before trade tribunals with the authority to halt projects, hand out fines and potentially overturn contracts.

Hamilton's procurement practices are already fair and transparent. And there are more ways to measure taxpayer value than by the bottom line cost. In the United States, for example, many states and municipalities go with an in-state option on contracts even if it costs 10 per cent more than the lowest bidder, as long as the local company meets all the other technical requirements. It's not difficult to imagine a situation in Hamilton where the city might want all the steel in a local construction project be sourced from Ontario mills.

I am not advocating this way of spending public money all the time. I just offer it as an example of how procurement policy could apply local employment and manufacturing preferences in a completely transparent, up front way. If this made sense in Hamilton only occasionally, you would like to know you had the option to pursue it. CETA takes away that option.

Based on the perceived urgency of including municipalities in Canada's CETA commitments, you would think we must be a global outcast on procurement. In

fact, procurement commitments under the federal level are rare internationally, and many countries shirk them altogether at the WTO or in bilateral trade deals.

US cities, for example, are not part of the US government's commitments at the plurilateral WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. That deal has only 40 signatory countries, including Canada, but most of the others are in Europe.

Canada had until recently avoided including provincial agencies in its WTO commitments. It still does not include municipal governments.<sup>iii</sup> Other countries currently pursuing free trade deals with the EU are fighting off procurement and services demands from the EU because they simply can't see the benefits.

Nor can a growing number of Canadian municipalities which have asked their provincial governments to exclude municipalities (including the MUSH sector – hospitals, school boards and universities) from procurement commitments in the CETA agreement.

I am aware of the position of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the AMO, which is that CETA could be acceptable to municipalities as long as seven conditions are met, which are outlined in a recent AMO policy update. These include things like reasonable procurement thresholds, progressive enforcement, some recognition of the role of municipalise in dispute settlement, and consultation with municipalities. I have commented on the seven recommendations on the Council of Canadians website.<sup>iv</sup>

The Council of Canadians and many other organizations questioning the CETA negotiations feel this position concedes too much to the federal government. Having spoken to representatives from the European Union in Ottawa, I know that the negotiations will not collapse should the provinces decide not to include municipal procurement commitments.

For the federal government, municipalities are really just a pawn to extract limited market access gains into the EU where tariffs may be higher than average, for example on pork products or potatoes. The federal government continues to claim that CETA will add \$12 billion, or 0.77 per cent of GDP to the Canadian economy, phased in over time, based on numbers crunched by European economists prior to the financial meltdown.

Already that is small potatoes. But since those numbers came out in 2008, an official sustainability impact assessment of CETA done for the European Commission by a private firm and released this August, has predicted gains to Canada of between ¼ and ½ of that value. That drops the value of CETA to Canada to between \$3 and \$6 billion – not much at all and possibly still too high according to an independent assessment by CAW economist Jim Stanford, who predicts net job losses from CETA.<sup>v</sup> It is part of the reason North American auto firms are sceptical of the deal.

The same impact assessment for the EU Commission predicts one-sided gains for European construction and service firms from opening Canada's procurement market.

In other words, Hamilton loses a lot of policy flexibility on spending public money – flexibility it could use within reason to support local employment and sustainable development. In return, Canada gets to ship a few billion more in pork, potatoes, fish and other raw resources into Europe. That hardly seems worth the effort.

There are other issues for local decision makers to consider in the CETA negotiations. For example drug reforms demanded by the EU in the intellectual property chapter would increase the cost of public employee drug plans paid for by cities. Services commitments in areas such as transit, energy and drinking water will exert pressure on municipalities to treat private bidders for essential services the same as the public sector.

Hamilton has had first hand experience with private drinking water and I imagine it doesn't want to go back. Had CETA been in place at the time, it would have been difficult or else exceedingly expensive to bring water back in house because of the investment guarantees private firms are given in trade deals.

And for Ontario in particular, losing the right to support local industry or research and development, whether through subsidies, investment rules or creative procurement, would more than likely lead to job losses, putting more pressure on municipalities.

The AMO and FCM are doing their best to serve the interests of cities like Hamilton in these rapidly advancing trade talks. But municipalities would be best served by being totally excluded from the deal. The economic benefits of CETA's procurement chapter are outweighed by the social and economic policy losses. The CETA package itself is not sweet enough to make that sacrifice worthwhile. And the provinces could, I believe, safely avoid municipal commitments without the negotiations falling apart.

In conclusion, I strongly encourage you to join with municipalities across Canada, including nearby Brantford, by requesting that the provincial government exclude municipalities from its procurement commitments to the EU – and to seek a full briefing from the provincial government on the status of the CETA negotiations, and what the province hopes to achieve through them.

Thank you very much.

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<sup>i</sup> CERT presentation to a University of Ottawa conference on CETA, April 2011  
<http://www.sciencesociales.uottawa.ca/cepi-cips/eng/ceta.asp>

<sup>ii</sup> Municipal Procurement Implications of the Proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union, a legal opinion by Steven Shrybman for the Columbia Institute  
[http://www.civicgovernance.ca/files/uploads/FINAL-Shrybman\\_CETA\\_report.pdf](http://www.civicgovernance.ca/files/uploads/FINAL-Shrybman_CETA_report.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> Canada made municipal construction commitments to the United States in its 2010 bilateral procurement agreement, which is filed at the WTO. These commitments, for projects over \$8 million, are expected to expire later this month.

<sup>iv</sup> Ontario municipalities ill-served by cautious approach to CETA, Stuart Trew, October 6, 2011  
<http://canadians.org/blog/?p=10967>

<sup>v</sup> Out of Equilibrium: The Impact of EU-Canada Free Trade on the Real Economy, by Jim Stanford for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, October 2010 <http://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/out-equilibrium>

I am here to speak to you as a Resident and Citizen of the City of Hamilton and a Father.

I have heard many people say that after the Pan-Am games, the Velo-drome facility will be for the sporadic use of so called elites; a seldom used "White Elephant". I am here because I want to tell you that nothing is farther from the truth.

A little less than a year ago, the National Cycling Centre Hamilton ("NCCH"), visited my daughter Emma's school. As part of their gym class, the NCCH set up a compu-trainer race for the class, and held a 1km competitive race. Impressed with Emma's time, they invited her to try out for their team.

Over the winter, Emma and several other girls and boys of her 12 to 15 year age group, would ride on the stationary bicycles, building their endurance and cardiovascular fitness. From December, usually every second Saturday the group would ride on the indoor track in London. Emma didn't own a bike, she didn't own bike shoes, but armed with her bike helmet, \$10 (sometimes she didn't have to pay) and determination, she would use the bikes that were available at the Forest City Velo-drome to build her skills and endurance and learn to ride on the track. It was not always fair sailing, a crash on the track shook her confidence, but she persevered, and just like the cliché - got back on the bike and tried again. We would usually brown bag it for Lunch, but we bought our Supper and we usually filled our tanks with gas while we were there.

The worst day of Emma's cycling experience came, when she failed to meet the performance criteria for advancing to a more competitive squad, but her Coach, Rick Lee, offered her a second chance to try out when she felt ready - "When do you think I'll be ready?" she asked. Coach Rick answered, "How about tomorrow?"

So the heretofore hidden world of amateur competitive cycling opened up to Emma and our family: Who knew that there were competitive races for kids (and so very many more for adults), who knew that they were so well attended and so far flung in Ontario - who knew that there were 20 competitive teams within an hour of the City and 4 in the city itself? Who knew it could be so much fun? (Even for me as a spectator.)

Driving Emma to practice one day, she remarked to me: "You know Dad? I always, thought I'd be one of those kids who didn't really have a sport, you know - I'd play the games in Gym class, take swimming lessons, maybe play soccer in the park with my friends, but now I'm an Athlete and that's pretty cool."

I think that it's pretty cool too. It is an opportunity I want other children in our city to have and I think it is an opportunity for City Building that we should not pass up. We go to races, we spend money at races, and sometimes we also overnight. I want to see the cycling community spend that money here, in this City that I call home. If you build the facilities, the events will come - the riders are already here - we are not building this for Olympians, we are building this for kids like Emma. Building a permanent Velo-drome will not be a waste, but building a temporary facility would be, and would be for the sole use of elites.

Oh, and Emma? - less than one year after first sitting on the saddle of a road bike, Emma placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the overall Provincial Point Standings for her age group, and in the words of her coach "has demonstrated great team leadership qualities". Let's help other kids in Hamilton, also find that leader within.

Thank you,

Tom Kaszas, Hamilton



**Presentation to Hamilton GIC – Velodrome Meeting**  
**October 11, 2011**  
George Eastwood, Dundas; 905-627-9287

Good morning Mr. Mayor and Councillors. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of a permanent Velodrome in Hamilton.

I believe that a permanent Velodrome facility will be an excellent investment for the City of Hamilton, and for all of its citizens and taxpayers.

Cycling is a recreational activity with four outstanding benefits to our citizens;

1. Accessible
2. Affordable
3. Wholesome
4. Generates revenue.

The accessibility of cycling is self-evident. Bicycles are everywhere; on the sidewalks, in the parks, and increasingly on the rural roads and concessions around our city. A child's first bike may be purchased new from Canadian Tire or a speciality bike shop, or, it may be handed down from an older sibling or neighbour. Either way, kids gravitate towards bikes like they are drawn to swings and puppies – because it's fun.

And it's not just little kids who ride bikes. With each passing year it seems that we see more and more adolescent and adult riders on the roads. I myself have recently returned to cycling as a recreational sport – after 10 years. Cycling is readily accessible to all ages and both genders.

Cycling is also affordable. The cost of maintaining a bike for simple recreation is minimal. The air in tires is free, and as long as the weather is nice, you can ride almost anywhere with no admission fee.

Cycling is wholesome in various ways. It is an excellent form of exercise for the individual, developing long-term cardiovascular fitness without the inherent risk of injury that is coming to light in other sports.

It is also good for the community. Historically, Hamilton has invested generously in recreation and culture amenities. Because we know that giving young people positive recreational alternatives reduces the idle time they have to experiment with graffiti, gangs & drugs.

So how does cycling generate revenue? By attracting middle-aged people with disposable income. Here's a secret from someone who represented Hamilton as a cyclist in the 1974 Canusa Games, and has recently returned to recreational cycling – a well-tuned road bike is the ultimate sports car. As a rider, you become one with the wind. Doctors, lawyers and orthodontists who have well-established practices, and want a little "zing" in their life, are returning to cycling. And they are bringing cash to the track.

A permanent Velodrome in Hamilton will be a bold step forward in the ongoing rejuvenation and modernization of our city. It will also be a sound investment that benefits the entire community.

Thank you for your attention.

Hamilton Spectator – Letter to the Editor – Sept 20, 2011  
By George Eastwood, Dundas

## **Cycling is sport of city's future**

### **Hamilton's future**

Life in Hamilton is changing.

Fifty years ago we were Steel City, home of the Tiger-Cats. When local hero Angelo Mosca began levelling running backs on the gridiron in the bracing winds that blew in off the bay, it was a fitting diversion for the city that forged raw iron into rods, rolls and billets, and then beat that metal into washing machines and stoves.

Today, our biggest employer is Hamilton Health Sciences and our economic rejuvenation will be infused with the ideas that flow from the McMaster Innovation Park.

With a new economy comes an evolving demographic, one that eschews the crippling, concussion-fraught sports that will in time be remembered only as residues of the last century.

Today's recreational athletes choose activities that build total fitness, are accessible to families as well as individuals and teams, and which support active participation and injury-free enjoyment not for a few years, but for decades.

Moreover, a broad base of recreational athletes today provides the soundest support for tomorrow's pinnacle of elite athletic achievement.

Cycling is the sport of the future. Now is the time for the new city of Hamilton to embrace it.

*George Eastwood, Dundas*



**Presentation to Hamilton GIC – Velodrome Meeting  
October 11, 2011  
Kathy Eastwood, Dundas; 905-627-9287**

Hamilton Spectator – Letter to the Editor – Sept 21, 2011  
By Kathy Eastwood, Dundas

## **The transformative power of cycling**

### **Velodrome will help change lives, as it changed my son's**

One year ago, I would probably not have supported the building of a velodrome in Hamilton.

But, in the past 12 months, I have witnessed the transformative power of sport in the life of a teenage boy and I have gained a new appreciation for the sport of cycling.

Last fall, my son came home from school with a letter from the National Cycling Centre of Hamilton (NCCH) based at the Rotary Centre in Ancaster. NCCH had been doing time trials at his school with stationary bikes hooked up to computers. My son (who had virtually no cycling experience) had done well in the time trials and was invited to join NCCH.

He began indoor training three days a week at the centre and began cycling once a month at the Forest City Velodrome in London. Soon, training was six hours a week and, by the spring, I lost track of how often he was out training, rain or shine.

His commitment and dedication to the sport has been life-changing. Prior to cycling, like most boys his age, he spent a great deal of time playing games on the computer or the Xbox. Now, he wants to sell his Xbox to help pay for his cycling.

He contributes most of his wages from his part-time jobs to pay for his cycling. He needs to be disciplined and organized with his school work in order to have time for training.

He is learning to be part of a team, as cycling is not really an individual sport as I once thought. He is respectful to his coach and teammates.

He is very conscientious about what he eats and knows that ingesting even an energy drink could get him kicked off of the team.

I have also learned in the past year just how large the cycling community is right here in Hamilton and all around Ontario. Cycling races in Ontario attract riders from across Ontario and Quebec. National events would attract cyclists from across Canada and even from other countries.

When cyclists travel, they need to eat, they need accommodations and they often need to purchase parts for their bikes. When the NCCH team rides monthly at the velodrome in London, parents often go shopping to fill the time, buy a meal for their family afterwards and may need to fill up with gas.

A velodrome in Hamilton would attract cyclists from all over and they would spend their money here.

We are incredibly fortunate in Hamilton to have a program like NCCH whose mandate is to get our kids off the couch and onto bikes, building character as well as promoting fitness.

We have the natural topography treasured by cyclists for hill training and we have the opportunity to build a velodrome that will attract cyclists from all over the world and help to boost our local economy.

I support the building of the velodrome and hope that Hamilton's citizens and politicians have the vision and the will to make this happen.

*Kathy Eastwood lives in Dundas.*