



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES - GIC 25-009

9:30 a.m.

July 9, 2025

Council Chambers (Hybrid), City Hall, 2nd Floor
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Mayor A. Horwath
Deputy Mayor T. McMeekin (Chair)
Councillors J. Beattie (Virtually), C. Cassar, B. Clark, M. Francis, T. Hwang, T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch N. Nann (Virtually), E. Pauls, M. Spadafora, M. Tadeson, A. Wilson and M. Wilson.

Absent: Ward 8 Councillor – Vacant

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor T. McMeekin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no ceremonial activities.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Clark/Kroetsch)

That the agenda for the July 9, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(Clark/Pauls)

The minutes of the June 11, 2025 (Item 5.1) meeting of the General Issues Committee, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Delegations respecting Protecting Hamilton's Farmland (Item 9.1)

(i) (A. Wilson/M. Wilson)

That the Delegation from Mike Schreiner, MPP, Ontario Green Party (Item 6.1 (a)) and Bobbi Ann Brady, MPP, Haldimand-Norfolk (Item 6.1 (b)), be permitted to address the Committee for an additional 5 minutes.

CARRIED

(ii) The following delegates addressed the Committee respecting Protecting Hamilton's Farmland (Item 9.1):

6.1(a) Mike Schreiner, MPP, Ontario Green Party (In-Person)

6.1(b) Bobbi Ann Brady, MPP, Haldimand-Norfolk (In-Person)

6.1(c) Drew Spoelstra, Ontario Federation of Agriculture (In-Person)

(Tadeson/Cassar)

That the following delegations respecting Protecting Hamilton's Farmland (Item 9.1), be received:

6.1(a) Mike Schreiner, MPP, Ontario Green Party (In-Person)

6.1(b) Bobbi Ann Brady, MPP, Haldimand-Norfolk (In-Person)

6.1(c) Drew Spoelstra, Ontario Federation of Agriculture (In-Person)

CARRIED

6.2 Delegations respecting Report PED24163(c), 10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2) (Item 7.4)

(i) The following delegates addressed the Committee respecting Report PED24163(c), 10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2) (Item 7.4):

6.2(a) Stephen DeCordova, McMaster Students Union (In-Person)

6.2(b) Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network (In-Person)

(ii) (A. Wilson/Cassar)

That the following delegations respecting Report PED24163(c), 10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2) (Item 7.4), be received:

6.2(a) Stephen DeCordova, McMaster Students Union (In-Person)

6.2(b) Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network (In-Person)

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(i) (Kroetsch/Spadafora)

That the following Items for Information, be received:

7.1 Open for Business Sub-Committee Minutes OBSC 25-002 - June 3, 2025

7.2 Climate Change Advisory Committee Minutes:

(a) Climate Change Advisory Committee Minutes CCAC 25-004 - April 29, 2025

(b) Climate Change Advisory Committee CCAC 25-005 - May 27, 2025

7.3 PW25045

Digital Tools to Enhance Public Safety (Outstanding Business List)

7.6 Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities Minutes ACPD 25-006 - June 10, 2025

CARRIED

7.4 PED24163(c)

10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2)

Phil Caldwell, Manager, Commercial Districts and Small Business and Christophe Rivet, Cultural Spaces Consulting addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report PED24163(c), 10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2).

(Horwath/Pauls)

That Report PED24163(c), respecting the 10-Year Downtown Revitalization Strategy Project Update and Interim Consultant's Report (Ward 2), and the accompanying presentation, be received.

CARRIED

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

(Hwang/Tadeson)

That the General Issues Committee recess at 1:00 p.m. until 1:35 p.m.

CARRIED

The General Issues Committee reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

7.5 PED25163

Hamilton's Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 Annual Update (City Wide)

Jennifer Allen, Planner I, Sustainable Communities and Shauna Hasselman, Senior Program Coordinator, Parks addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report PED25163, Hamilton's Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 Annual Update (City Wide).

(Clark/A. Wilson)

That Report PED25163, respecting Hamilton's Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 Annual Update (City Wide), and the accompanying presentation, be received.

CARRIED

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 Amendments to the Outstanding Business List

(Francis/Cassar)

That the Amendments to the Outstanding Business List, be approved, as follows:

8.1(a) Items Considered Complete and Needing to be Removed:

Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide)
Added: 04/29/24 at Public Health Committee
Completed: 05/21/25 at GIC (Item 7.2)

8.1(b) Items Requiring a New Due Date:

Public Access to Hamilton Piers (PW24061) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item)
OBL Item: GIC-10/16/24-10.2(e)
Added: 10/16/24 at GIC
Original Due Date: 10/31/25
Proposed New Due Date: 01/31/26

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8	Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

**8.2 PED25148
Art Gallery of Hamilton (City Wide)**

(i) (Kroetsch/Cassar)

That Report PED25148, dated June 11, 2025, respecting Art Gallery of Hamilton (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendation be approved:

- (a) That staff BE DIRECTED to provide additional funding of up to \$1,500,000 to the Art Gallery of Hamilton, above the \$1,000,000 already budgeted through the City's Enrichment Fund, to be funded as follows: up to \$1,300,000 from the Tax Stabilization Reserve (Reserve #110046) and up to \$200,000 from the Municipal Accommodation Tax Reserve (Reserve #108072), contingent upon receipt and analysis of quarterly cash flow and financial statements from the gallery to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Corporate Services and General Manager, Planning and Economic Development;
- (b) That a funding increase of \$801,093 to Corporate Facilities and Energy Management's operating budget to provide services, to the Art Gallery of Hamilton, BE CONSIDERED as part of the 2026 Tax budget;
- (c) That a funding increase of \$1,725,556, adjusted annually for inflation, to flow through the Planning and Economic Department, Tourism and Culture Division, in quarterly transfers, to pay a portion of costs to support the care, preservation and exhibition of the Art Gallery of Hamilton's Art Collection, BE CONSIDERED as part of the 2026 Tax budget;
- (d) That a funding increase of \$2,365,900 to the Corporate Facilities Capital block for capital works related to the Art Gallery of Hamilton, BE CONSIDERED as part of the 2026 Tax budget;

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

- (e) That staff BE DIRECTED to prepare and execute a license agreement with the Art Gallery of Hamilton, incorporating the ongoing funding described in recommendations (b), (c), and (d) to come into effect January 1, 2026; and,
- (f) That Confidential Appendix “C” attached to Report PED25148 respecting the Art Gallery of Hamilton (Item 11.2), remain confidential.

(ii) **(Clark/Kroetsch)**

That Report PED25148, dated June 11, 2025, respecting Art Gallery of Hamilton (City Wide) **be amended** by adding an additional sub-section, as follows:

- (g) ***That staff be directed to prepare a report respecting the Art Gallery of Hamilton (City Wide) for the July 16, 2025 Council meeting with the recommendations in a form that clearly delineates the amount of \$1,725,556, the funding increase of \$801,093 and the Capital \$2,365.900 funding for the roof.***

Result: AMENDMENT, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(iii) **(Jackson/A. Wilson)**

That recommendation (e) be **amended**, as follows:

- (e) That, ***pending successful 2026 budget deliberations***, staff BE DIRECTED to prepare and execute a license agreement with the Art Gallery of Hamilton, incorporating the ongoing funding described in recommendations (b), (c), and (d) to come into effect January 1, 2026;

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Result: *AMENDMENT*, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 1, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 2 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 3 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 4 Yes
No	-	Ward 5 No
Yes	-	Ward 6 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 7 Yes
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Vacant
Yes	-	Ward 9 Yes
Absent	-	Ward 10 Absent
Yes	-	Ward 11 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 12 Yes
Yes	-	Ward 13 Yes
Absent	-	Ward 14 Absent
Yes	-	Ward 15 Yes

Result: *MAIN MOTION*, *AS AMENDED*, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 1, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
No	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(iii) (M. Wilson/Hwang)

That Items 8.2(a) and 8.2(b) as follows, be received:

8.2(a) FCS25042

**2024 Art Gallery of Hamilton Audited Financial Statements
(City Wide)**

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

8.2(b) Correspondence respecting Report PED25148, Art Gallery of Hamilton (Item 8.3):

- (i) Evelyn Myrie, President, Afro Canadian Caribbean Association (A.C.C.A.)**
- (ii) Dr. Sheila Harms, McMaster University**

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

8.3 Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Minutes BIAC 25-006 - June 17, 2025

(M. Wilson/Horwath)

That the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Minutes BIAC 25-006 - June 17, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

**8.4 Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Liaison Committee Minutes
PBCL 25-002 - June 26, 2025**

(Pauls/A. Wilson)

That the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Liaison Committee Minutes PBCL 25-002 - June 26, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

8.5 Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee Minutes LRTC 25-003 - June 26, 2025

(Nann/Kroetsch)

That the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee Minutes LRTC 25-003 - June 26, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

9. MOTIONS

Deputy Mayor McMeekin relinquished the Chair to Councillor Kroetsch in order to move the following motion:

9.1 Protecting Hamilton's Farmland

(McMeekin/Tadeson)

WHEREAS, Ontario Farmers produce the best tasting, most nutritious and safest to consume food in the world;

WHEREAS, in our confusing economic tariff challenged world, we need to acknowledge that food security and food sovereignty is a national security issue. (NOTE: Food Security is the ability of individuals to receive adequate nourishment while Food Sovereignty refers to the ability of a country to supply its own food needs);

WHEREAS, MPP's Bobbi Ann Brady and Mike Schreiner have jointly presented a Private Member Bill at the Ontario Legislature to protect Ontario farmlands through the establishment of an 'Ontario Food Belt.';

WHEREAS, Ontario is losing 130 hectares (319 acres) of farmland every day and once this land is gone it is gone forever;

WHEREAS, the 319 acres of agricultural land lost every single day could produce: 24 million apples, 1.2 million bottles of quality Ontario VQA wines or 37 million strawberries;

WHEREAS, the Bill would make farmlands within a designated Food belt permanently protected from development;

WHEREAS, the Bill could improve land-use planning, improve soil health and encourage all farmland to be used in the production of food;

WHEREAS, the Agri- Food industry represents a \$50 BILLION contribution to Ontario's Gross Domestic Product and employs almost 900,000 people;

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

WHEREAS, Hamilton citizens engaged in overwhelming numbers related to their opposition to urban boundary expansion with the particular focus on the saving of farmland;

WHEREAS, the failure to protect our farmlands will ultimately send ‘shock waves’ through the economy;

WHEREAS, the Bill is supported by the Ontario Farmland Trust, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Christian Farmers and the National Farmers Union;

WHEREAS, the Bill will encourage farmers to create succession plans and to reinvest in their farms;

WHEREAS, the legislation will help to prevent further land degradation by protecting farm and arable land for future Ontarian’s; and,

WHEREAS, the Bill would create a special task force of farmers, farm groups, agricultural experts, and land use planners to craft the Bill;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton applauds the efforts of MPP Bobbi Ann Brady and MPP Mike Schreiner to protect Ontario Foodland;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton gives it’s support to the Bill’s intent for the Province of Ontario, to create an agricultural working group to more fully outline the contours of an Ontario Food belt;
- (c) That the City of Hamilton request, through our representative at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), that AMO support this Bill; and,
- (d) That the City of Hamilton offer support and encouragement to the Ontario Farmland Trust, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Christian Farmers, and the National Union of Farmers in their efforts to support the creation of an Ontario Food belt.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Vacant	-	Ward 8	Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

Deputy Mayor McMeekin assumed the Chair.

9.2 Renaming of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force

(Kroetsch/M. Wilson)

WHEREAS, the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force was originally struck in 2003;

WHEREAS, a Task Force is meant to have a limited scope and is not meant to be in existence for an extended duration;

WHEREAS, the Task Force discussed this issue at its April 1, 2025 meeting, recognized the issue, and agreed there should be a governance change;

WHEREAS, the issues facing our downtown are interconnected and do not easily fit into categories of "cleanliness" and "security";

WHEREAS, there are currently vacancies on the Task Force due to an updated Terms of Reference to include more representatives from local small businesses; and,

WHEREAS, this matter could also be raised at the Governance Review Sub-Committee but that Sub-Committee will not meet until the fall and the Task Force would like to begin recruitment for vacancies under the new name to reach a broader audience of interested applicants.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force be renamed to the Downtown Sub-Committee; and,
- (b) That the Terms of Reference for the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force be updated to reflect this change.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

Yes - Mayor Andrea Horwath

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2	Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5	Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8	Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor Tadeson introduced the following Notice of Motion:

10.1 To Effect Grant Payment Under an Approved Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application for 3311 Homestead Drive, Mount Hope

WHEREAS, the Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application (the Program) is intended to provide tax increment-based Grants towards costs required to remediate historical environmental contamination on brownfield sites in support of their redevelopment/reuse generating new municipal property tax revenue through increased property assessments;

WHEREAS, an ERASE Redevelopment Grant Program application was approved by City Council on August 21, 2020 for a Grant amount not exceeding \$91,681, to 1804482 Ontario Limited, for eligible Program cost for the remediation of contaminated soils and an underground storage tank removal at the southern portion of 3311 Homestead Drive, Mount Hope (the Site) in order to facilitate the development of 164 condominium tenure townhomes;

WHEREAS, the Applicant has phased the Site into two phases, separated by Clear Valley Lane, thereby allowing the phases to be completed independently of one another, which resulted in 67 townhouse dwelling units in Phase 1 (southern portion of the Site) and 97 townhouse dwelling units in Phase 2 (northern portion of the Site);

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

WHEREAS the Program requires compliance with a number of terms and conditions, and more specifically has established requirements for the initiation or first-year payment of the Grant including that the Site must have been reassessed by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, a full calendar year of taxes must have been paid at the reassessed value and, for condominium tenure dwelling units, 75% of the dwelling units must have been assessed;

WHEREAS, the Owner has fully remediated the Site and successfully filed a Record of Site Condition with the Province as required under the Program but has not fully built out the Site as originally intended due to current market conditions;

WHEREAS, the 45 condominium (townhouse) units completed to-date in Phase 1 have been reassessed by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation which has resulted in a municipal tax increment (new tax revenue) for 2024 of \$190,484.02; and,

WHEREAS, the new municipal taxes generated from the Site are sufficient to fund the entirety of the Council approved ERASE Redevelopment Grant despite the Site not having been fully developed as planned.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That, notwithstanding the Program term requiring that 75% of all condominium units in a planned development be reassessed by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, that the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to advance the ERASE Redevelopment Grant provided all other terms and conditions of the ERASE Redevelopment Grant Program and the applicable ERASE Grant Agreement executed with the Applicant, are maintained.

Councillor Clark introduced the following Notice of Motion:

10.2 Health Impacts of Exposure to Elevated Total Reduced Sulphur Compounds (TRS) (Ward 9)

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Air Monitoring Report on GFL Environmental Inc. Lagoon reported that over ten hours on July 3, 2025 there were Total Reduced Sulphur Compounds (TRS) numbers exceeding the 1 hour Ontario criteria of 10 ppb, with numbers hitting 51.2ppb at 0:00am, 45ppb at 2:00am, 63.3 ppb at 3:00am, 28.1ppb at 4:00,am 112.9ppb at 5:00am, 177.6ppb at 6:00am, and 85.2ppb at 7:00am; and

WHEREAS, the 911 paramedic dispatch analysis for Ward 9 ambulance calls for respiratory distress: 2019 had 265 calls, 2020 had 247 calls, 2021 had 304 calls, 2022 had 438 calls, 2023 had 408 calls, 2024 had 384 calls;

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to review this data and report back to the General Issues Committee by the end of Q3 of 2025, on the impacts to public health of public exposure to these total reduced sulphur compound numbers exceeding the provincial 1 hour criteria of 10ppb; and
- (b) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee by the end of Q3 of 2025, on the paramedic dispatch analysis of Ward 9 with an increase in respiratory distress that correlates to the exposure of strong hydrogen sulfide odours.

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

- (i) Committee determined that discussion of Item 11.1 was not required in Closed Session; therefore, the matter was addressed in Open Session, as follows:

11.1 Closed Session Minutes – June 11, 2025

(Hwang/Cassar)

That the Closed Session minutes of the June 11, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be adopted and remain confidential.

CARRIED

- (ii) **(Jackson/Horwath)**

That Police Chief Frank Bergen, Deputy Chief Paul Hamilton, Deputy Chief Ryan Diodati, Duncan Robertson, Interim Director of Finance and Doris Ciardullo from Hamilton Police Service, be permitted to attend the Closed Session portion of the General Issues Committee Meeting respecting Report PED25157, Hamilton Police Services Central Headquarters (City Wide) (Item 11.4).

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Absent - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(iii) (A. Wilson/Pauls)

That Committee move into Closed Session for Items 11.3, 11.4, and 11.5 at 3:12 p.m. pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-Sections (c), (d), (e), (f), and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (c), (d), (e), (f), and (k) of the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for city or a local board purpose; labour relations or employee negotiations; litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the City or a local board; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

Absent - Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant - Ward 8 Councillor
Yes - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(iv) (Cassar/Pauls)

That the order of items to be dealt with in Closed Session be considered in the following order: 11.4, 11.3 and 11.5.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

Absent - Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8	Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 5:50 p.m.

A motion was approved in Closed Session to extend the curfew of the General Issues Committee meeting of July 9, 2025, up to 6:00 p.m.

**11.3 LS23027(d)
General Litigation Update (City Wide)**

(Hwang/Horwath)

That Report LS23027(d), respecting General Litigation Update (City Wide), BE
RECEIVED AND REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Absent	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

11.4 PED25157

Hamilton Police Service Central Headquarters (Ward 1)

(Jackson/Hwang)

- (a) That the directions provided to staff in closed session respecting Report PED25157, Hamilton Police Services Central Headquarters BE APPROVED AND REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL; and,
- (b) That Report PED25157, respecting the Hamilton Police Services Central Headquarters REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Vacant	-	Ward 8 Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Absent	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

11.5 Labour Disruption Update Hamilton Ontario Water Employees Association (HOWEA) - REVISED

(Pauls/Cassar)

That the Confidential Presentation respecting Labour Disruption Update Hamilton Ontario Water Employees Association (HOWEA) - REVISED, BE RECEIVED AND REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls

Please refer to the July 16, 2025 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.

Vacant	-	Ward 8	Councillor
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Absent	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Pilon
Manager, Legislative Services/
Deputy Clerk

Deputy Mayor Ted McMeekin
Chair, General Issues Committee