

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Members of City Council

FROM: David Adames, President and CEO

RE: Minutes of the Hamilton Chamber's LRT Task Force meetings

ATTN: Carolyn Biggs, City Clerk's Division

DATE: March 6, 2013

Attached, please find the minutes of the following meetings of the Hamilton Chamber's LRT Task Force. The minutes have been approved by the members of the LRT Task Force:

Wednesday November 28, 2012

Wednesday December 19, 2012

Wednesday January 23, 2013

- c. John Ennis, CAA South Central, Chair, LRT Task Force
Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

LRT Task Force
November 28, 2012 Meeting
Minutes

Attendees: John Ennis, Chair; Kwab Ako-Adjei; Michael Barton; Andrew Beinhaus; Councillor Jason Farr; Councillor Lloyd Ferguson; Geoffrey Green; Chris Higgins; Pavlos Kanaroglou; Councillor Brian McHattie; Linda Meerveld; Megan Platts; John Voortman. Staff: David Adames. Guests: Peter O'Hagan and Matt Patricelli

Absent with Regrets: Mayor Bob Bratina; Ian Dunlop; Ryan Moran; Rami Reda and Bruce Youngblud.

Background items:

1. Welcome and Introductions. David Adames welcomed task force members to the meeting and stated that Chair John Ennis was on his way but delayed. The new task force members were welcomed – Councillors Farr, Ferguson and McHattie.
2. Minutes from October 24, 2012 task force meeting were reviewed and approved by consensus.
3. Motion from Hamilton City Council respecting joining the Chamber's task force was discussed.
4. David Adames provided an overview of task force work to date and the meeting materials provided to each task force member in information binders.
5. David Adames provided an overview (via a hand-out) of work being undertaken by three other stakeholder groups in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) to provide context to the work of the Chamber's LRT task force: Ontario Chamber of Commerce; Toronto Board of Trade and CivicAction. The task force discussed opportunities to work together including hosting joint "town hall meetings" in 2013.

Discussion items:

6. Review draft Terms of Reference: the task force reviewed the existing terms of reference and recommended changes (revised terms of reference are attached).

7. Report from Government Relations sub-committee: the sub-committee held its first meeting via teleconference on November 20, 2012. Key items discussed included: terms of reference for the sub-committee; overview presentation to task force meeting on November 28 (Kwab Ako-Adjei to provide); developing short and long-term government relations plans; and to ask for delegation status to December 11 General Issues Committee of City Council. The meeting minutes will be distributed at the December 19, 2012 task force meeting. Kwab Ako-Adjei provided an overview of the purpose and objectives of a government relations plan. The task force discussed the importance of government relations generally and to be clear on what Hamilton's key message and positioning is (i.e. that LRT has always been about economic uplift for Hamilton and managing growth opportunities; about "future state" – around population growth, intensification; link with Places to Grow legislation; transit operating cost savings.
8. Funding Tools subcommittee: Task force members who have volunteered to work on this issue: Chris Higgins and Bruce Youngblud.
9. Public engagement strategy subcommittee: Task force members who have volunteered to serve on this issue: Ian Dunlop and Ryan Moran.
10. Land use development subcommittee: Task force agreed on forming a sub-committee on this issue. Task force members who volunteered to work on this include: Michael Barton; Chris Higgins; Brian McHattie and John Voortman.
11. Development of critical path: task force agreed to maintain a critical path. Two upcoming key milestones are the City staff report scheduled for a January or February 2013 General Issues Committee meeting and the release of the funding tools consultation paper by Metrolinx.
12. Other business and action items:
 - a. Send formal correspondence to Metrolinx to inform them of the Chamber's task force, terms of reference and to engage in on-going communications.
 - b. The task force discussed what other municipalities are doing for their public transit projects. The sub-committees will provide an overview of what other jurisdictions are doing and report back to the task force.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 19, 8:30am
Hamilton Chamber of Commerce office

LRT Task Force
December 19, 2012 Meeting
Minutes

Attendees: John Ennis, Chair; Andrew Bienhaus; Ian Dunlop; Geoffrey Green; Alan Griffiths; Chris Higgins; Councillor Brian McHattie; Councillor Lloyd Ferguson; Ryan Moran; Megan Platts; Rami Reda. Staff: David Adames.

Absent with Regrets: Kwab Ako-Adjei; Michael Barton; Councillor Jason Farr; Pavlos Kanaroglou; Michael Kirkopolous; Linda Meerveld and John Voortman.

1. Minutes of November 28, 2012 meeting were approved (moved by Councillor Lloyd Ferguson, seconded by Megan Platts).

Presentations:

2. Metrolinx Board member Richard Koroscil provided an update on Metrolinx's work on the Big Move and emphasized Hamilton's position in the second phase of projects and the need to ensure that Hamilton is well represented from a government relations perspective. R. Koroscil also mentioned the importance of the Investment Strategy that Metrolinx will be consulting on and how this may be a way for not only Hamilton but also other GTHA municipalities to seek funding for their respective public transit investments. He also stressed the need to push for federal government funding for public transit. R. Koroscil also indicated the need for Hamilton to outline clearly what its "ask" is for the project. Key next steps include working on government relations, including reaching out to other municipalities in the GTHA and to continue the technical work (which the City's transportation staff is doing).

Comments and Questions asked included: current expectations of municipal funding contributions; how Hamilton has been positioned to-date for future funding of its LRT project; how on-going operating costs (including cost savings) can and should be considered; tying LRT into GO service; phased development options; opportunities for transit-orientated development; short and long-term planning considerations – importance of having options during stages.

3. McMaster Institute for Transportation Logistics Chris Higgins provided a presentation on work that MITL has undertaken relative to Hamilton's LRT initiative.

Comments and Questions included: examining the demand side of LRT development; phased development; linking in GO Train Service; economic development opportunities in short term versus long-term that would support phased development approach.

Discussion items:

4. Revised terms of reference were accepted by the task force (copy attached).
5. Report from government relations task force – minutes of the November 20, 2012 and December 14, 2012 government relations sub-committee meetings, including its terms of reference, were presented and accepted (copy attached). J. Ennis, K. Ako-Adjei, M. Kirkopolous and D. Adames will be meeting to draft government relations plan.
6. Other business: J. Ennis and D. Adames to develop critical path in Q1, 2013.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday January 23, 2013, 8:30am
Hamilton Chamber office

LRT Task Force
January 23, 2013 Meeting
Minutes

Attendees: John Ennis, Chair; Kwab Ako-Adjei; Andrew Bienhaus; Councillor Jason Farr; Geoff Green; Alan Griffiths; Chris Higgins; Pavlos Kanaroglou Councillor Brian McHattie; Councillor Lloyd Ferguson; Ryan Moran; Megan Platts;; Linda Meerveld; John Voortman. Staff: David Adames.

Absent with Regrets: Michael Barton; Ian Dunlop; Rami Reda; and Michael Kirkopolous.

1. Minutes of December 19, 2012 meeting were approved (moved by Megan Platts and seconded by Geoff Green)

Discussion:

2. The government relations sub-committee reported to the task force and presented a draft government relations plan. The task force provided input and suggestions for revisions. Action: David Adames to update the draft plan and present back at the February 27, 2013 task force meeting.
3. The task force reviewed the dates and purpose of the upcoming Metrolinx consultation sessions (February 12 and 16) and discussed the March 7 session that the McMaster Institute for Transportation and Logistics is hosting. Task force members will be making every attempt to attend and participate at the sessions.
4. Information items shared included
 - a. a target date of February 25, 2013 for the next City staff report concerning LRT;
 - b. suggestion that a representative from the City's Finance department be invited to participate in the funding tools sub-committee.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday February 27, 2013, 8:30am
Hamilton Chamber office