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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 6, 2022

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 in Meeting Room 1B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:32 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy*, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
G. Taylor, Pickering
F. Puterbough, Member at Large
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter*, Ajax

***denotes members of the Committee participating electronically**

Absent: B. Howsam, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby

Staff

Present: A. De Vos, Program Specialist, Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Jibb, Manager, Agricultural & Rural Economic Development, Department of Planning and Economic Development
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by K. Kemp,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting
held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Jeremy Dunn, Commercial Vice President, Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority – Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority Overview

Jeremy Dunn, Commercial Vice President, Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority,
provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Hamilton-Oshawa Port
Authority Overview.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority is one of 17 Port Authorities in Canada
- Managing Working Waterfronts on the Canadian Great Lakes
- Regional Economic Impact
- We deploy our port assets to support strategic users
- Major projects
- A growing, integrated port network
- Transformation of the Port of Hamilton
- Diversification and innovation driving cargo growth
- Cargo Diversification
- More Overseas Cargo
- Congestion Hotspots
- A stronger marine presence in the GTHA
- Supply Chain Cost Breakdown
- HOPA Ports is an Enthusiastic Partner
- A Sustainable Port of Oshawa
- Infrastructure Reinvestment
- Sixteen Agri-Good Companies Call HOPA Home
- \$200 million+ in Agri-Food Investment in 10 years
- Grain Cargo – Hamilton and Oshawa
- Oshawa Cargo
- Agricultural Partners
 - Parrish & Heimbecker
 - G3 Canada Ltd.
 - Sylvite
- Supportive Environment for Your Business

- Development Space Available
- The Right Mode at the Right Time – Marine, Rail, Road
- Transportation Partners
- Infrastructure Reinvestment
- New 10,000 MT Grain Silo and Truck Unloading Infrastructure
- Congestion Hotspots
- Niagara's Strategic Assets
- Future Development Opportunities – Port Colborne

J. Dunn stated that the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority moves approximately 10 million tons of cargo per year, is the seventh largest port authority in Canada, and their goal is to develop multimodal spaces in Hamilton, Oshawa and Niagara. He advised that 80% of their revenues come from land leases and 20% comes from fees generated from shipping and product moving in and out of the port.

J. Dunn stated that some recent investments include a new flower mill, new grain export terminals, a new sugar refinery, partnering in energy and cogeneration, and bulk and liquid export expansion. He also stated that in June of 2019 the Federal Government made the determination to amalgamate the Hamilton and Oshawa port authorities and purchased an additional 13 acres of private land on the Welland Canal to add an element to the trade business.

J. Dunn advised there is approximately 110 acres of development space left in Oshawa and very little space in Hamilton. He also advised that the vision for the Port of Oshawa is to invest \$20-\$25 million over the next 3 years. He stated that the contribution agreement as part of the federal grant program, National Trade Corridor Fund, is in its final stages of approval and will be starting on the infrastructure program in early 2023.

J. Dunn responded to questions with regards to how to expedite moving the project along; and the commercial arrangement between Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority, QSL (operator of the port), and customers.

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

S. Jibb provided the following update:

- Working on an on-farm diversified uses toolkit with the City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County, Peterborough and Kawarthas Economic Development, and York Region to provide businesses with a general toolkit on what would be needed if they considered diversifying their farm business.
- The Region's new Economic Development and Tourism Strategy was presented to the Planning & Economic Development Committee on December 6, 2022 and will be presented to Regional Council on December 21, 2022.

A. De Vos provided the following update:

- Working on a food processing business retention and expansion project to build stronger relationships with food processors that exist in the Region and build food processing capacity in Durham Region, and will be launching in the first quarter of 2023.
- The Best Practices for On-Farm Diversified Uses Report by Wayne Caldwell, Pamela Duesling and Emily Sousa was released in November 2022 and will be provided to local contacts in planning and economic development.

B) Agricultural 101 Training

S. Jibb advised they are looking at providing Regional Council and Area Municipal Councils with Agricultural 101 Training. She advised they have the content outline developed and are working to tweak the content and build a PowerPoint presentation to be delivered. She suggested that each local representative from DAAC provide the presentation to their local councils.

C) Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022

M. Scott advised that Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 received Royal Assent on November 28, 2022. He also advised that there is now the ability for a third party appeal on official plan amendments and zoning by-law amendments. He stated that there are significant changes for the land use planning system in Ontario.

M. Scott advised there are three sites in Durham Region that are proposed to be changed covering a total of 4,500 acres of land. The most significant parcel of land impacted is in Pickering in the Duffins Rouge Agriculture Preserve, as well as a site in Ajax on the South side of Kingston Road East, North of Highway 401 and West of Lakeridge Road, and a site in Clarington at Nash Road and Hancock Road.

M. Scott advised that under the proposed changes Durham Region will no longer have planning authority in the Planning Act. He stated that there are two pieces of planning legislation, the Provincial Policy Statement and Places to Grow Act, that are proposed to be amended.

Discussion ensued with regards to the changes being implemented under Bill 23.

D) Bill 39, Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022

M. Scott advised that the Province is appointing facilitators to assess the services delivered by Regional governments and will be repealing the Duffins Rouge Agriculture Preserve Act as part of Bill 39.

E) Bill 46, Less Red Tape, Stronger Ontario Act, 2022

M. Scott advised that there are changes from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs with the introduction of the Less Red Tape, Stronger Ontario Act which, if passed, would include the Grow Ontario Strategy, modernizing the Veterinarians Act and allowing custom feeding among feeder cattle co-op members, enhancing animal health preparedness under the Animal Health Act, and modernizing the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario Act.

6. Information Items

A) DAAC Membership Process

M. Scott advised that applications have been sent to all local municipalities for applicant selection with the exception of the Township of Brock. He also advised that representatives recommended by the local municipalities will then require approval from Regional Council.

B) Envision Durham – Growth Management Study, Phase 2: Draft Settlement Area Boundary Expansions and Area Municipal Growth Allocations

A copy of Report #2022-INFO-91 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – Envision Durham – Growth Management Study, Phase 2: Draft Settlement Area Boundary Expansions and Area Municipal Growth Allocations was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received.

M. Scott advised the Growth Management Study is open for draft comments and he can have the Planner provide a presentation to the Committee if requested.

7. Other Business

Keith Kennedy advised he will be retiring from the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Z. Cohoon advised that Gerri-Lynn O'Connor and Councillor Highet will be retiring from the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 starting at 7:30 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by N. Guthrie,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee

K. Smith, Committee Clerk