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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### 1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Chapman, Chair  
Councillor Pickles\*, Vice-Chair, attended for part of the meeting  
Councillor Collier\*  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Neal\* attended for part of the meeting  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Wotten  
Regional Chair Henry  
**\* denotes Councillors participating electronically**

#### Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development  
D. Culp, Project Planner, Strategic Planning  
H. Finlay, Acting Manager - Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development  
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism  
C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies  
S. Hajsaleh, Planning Analyst, Planning Division  
L. Huinink, Director, Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development  
S. Jibb, Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
E. Kennedy, Program Specialist (Film), Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development  
G. Macfarlane, Rural Program Specialist, Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
G. Muller, Director of Planning  
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning  
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
D. Ruby, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development and Investment  
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development  
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation

R. Woon, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services  
M. Barta, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,  
(42) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development  
Committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, be adopted.  
CARRIED

**4. Statutory Public Meetings**

- 4.1 Application to Amend the Durham Official Plan, submitted by Michael Smith Planning Consultants Development Coordinators Ltd., on behalf of Gowanlea Ltd., to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties, in the Township of Brock, File: OPA 2023-003 (2023-P-13)
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The Chair advised that this portion of the Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting constitutes the Statutory Public Information meeting under the Planning Act for a proposed amendment to the Durham Regional Official Plan. He also advised that notice of the public meeting was advertised in the applicable newspaper and mailed to landowners and residents within 120 metres of the subject property. He noted that it is important that anyone who may have an interest in this matter make a submission prior to Regional Council making a decision.

A) Presentation

Sara Hajsaleh, Planning Analyst, Planning Division, provided a presentation outlining the details of Report #2023-P-13 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development. She advised that an application has been submitted by Michael Smith Planning Consultants Development Coordinators Ltd., on behalf of Gowanlea Ltd., to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties, in the Township of Brock. The subject site is municipally known as 1705 Concession Road 7 and is located at Part of Lots 17 & 18, Concession 7 in the Township of Brock. She provided an overview of the application and land use policy considerations. She also advised that to date there have been no concerns regarding the proposal.

S. Hajsaleh responded to questions regarding the size of the lot being rendered surplus; whether the property is being rezoned; and whether the accessory building and livestock barn will be removed from the property.

The Chair asked if there were any persons in attendance who wished to make a submission or ask any questions.

B) Delegations

1. Gord Mahoney, Michael Smith Planning Consultants, on behalf of Gowanlea Ltd.
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Gord Mahoney, Michael Smith Planning Consultants, appeared on behalf of Gowanlea Ltd. He advised that the zoning by-law has been submitted and gone to public meeting to prohibit residential use, protect the woodland, and provided an overview of the size and uses on the residential property.

C) Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

D) Report

Moved by Councillor Wotten, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,

(43) A) That Report #2023-P-13 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information; and

B) That all submissions received be referred to the Planning Division for consideration.

CARRIED

**5. Presentations**

- 5.1 Glen Macfarlane, Rural Program Specialist, re: North Durham Online Business Toolkits (2023-INFO-27) [Item 8.1 a)]
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Glen Macfarlane, Rural Program Specialist, provided a presentation regarding the North Durham Online Business Toolkits.

G. Macfarlane advised that the North Durham Online Business Toolkit was developed for each north Durham municipality to fulfill the need for a one-stop-shop for relevant, Township-specific and up-to-date business resources.

G. Macfarlane provided a live tutorial of the business toolkit for the Township of Brock. He advised that the toolkits are kept up to date and information is added as needed. He further advised that members of Council will receive promotional post-cards to distribute at grand openings, meetings with business communities, and offices/facilities where target audiences may visit.

G. Macfarlane responded to questions with regards to how the websites are kept up to date; and whether realtors are included on the websites.

5.2 Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, and Danielle Culp, Project Planner, re: Freight and Goods Movement Forum (2023-P-14) [Item 7.2 a)]

Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, and Danielle Culp, Project Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Freight and Goods Movement Forum.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham Region in Context
  - Durham is Growing
  - Jobs are on the Rise
  - Freight Activity and Key Opportunities in Durham
- Purpose of the Forum
- Alignment with Regional Plans and Goals
- Forum Snapshot
- Trends and Recommended Actions
- Key Takeaways
- Next Steps

Staff responded to questions with regards to education and training programs offered for jobs in this field; frequency of downtime and charging electric trucks; description of disruptive technology; whether truck only lanes will improve efficiency; details of the Request for Proposal; how participants were chosen for the forum; opportunities to hire more drivers; current state of research and development for autonomous vehicles in Durham Region; and concern for infrastructure with the weight of electric vehicles.

5.3 Jacquie Severs, Manager, Marketing & Cluster Development, re: Film Durham Event – How to do Business with the Film and Television Industry (2023-EDT-6) [Item 8.2 a)]

Jacquie Severs, Manager, Marketing & Cluster Development, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Film Durham Event – How to do Business with the Film and Television Industry.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Film and Television Industry
- Success through Partnership
- Event Overview
- Panel Discussion and Q&A
- Attendees and Local Business Opportunities

- Guide to Filming in Durham

Staff responded to questions with regards to feedback received from participants; eligibility for Durham businesses to obtain film industry tax credits; and marketing initiatives to promote film and television in Durham Region.

## 6. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

## 7. Planning

### 7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

### 7.2 Reports

#### A) Freight and Goods Movement Forum (2023-P-14)

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Report #2023-P-14 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,  
(44) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Report #2023-P-14 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2023-P-14 be provided to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Durham Region's area municipalities.

CARRIED

## 8. Economic Development

### 8.1 Correspondence

#### A) Information Report #2023-INFO-27 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, re: North Durham Online Business Toolkits

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Moved by Councillor Wotten, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,

(45) That Information Report #2023-INFO-27 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, re: North Durham Online Business Toolkits, be received for information

CARRIED

8.2 Reports

A) Film Durham Event – How to do Business with the Film and Television Industry (2023-EDT-6)

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Report #2023-EDT-6 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,  
(46) That Report #2023-EDT-6 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

9. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

9.1 Durham Active Transportation Committee

A) Resolution regarding June Bike Month

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,  
(47) That we recommend to Council:

Whereas June is Bike Month;

And whereas Durham Regional Planning Staff have organized numerous bike friendly activities annually for over a decade to educate residents about cycling safety, promote the benefits of cycling, and encourage residents to bike more by participating in Bike Month throughout the month of June;

And whereas the Durham Active Transportation Committee fully supports the Region's planned Bike Month activities;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Durham Active Transportation Committee request Regional Council's support of the planned Regional Bike Month activities and proclaim the month of June as Bike Month in the Region of Durham.

CARRIED

10. **Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. **Other Business**

11.1 Final Draft of the Regional Official Plan

Councillor Wotten inquired about the pending approval of the final draft of the Regional Official Plan given changes to upper-tier planning being proposed through Bill 23, and with the commenting periods for Bill 97 and the new proposed

Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) not being completed; and the impact of Bill 23, Bill 97 and the new PPS on the Official Plan once it has been adopted. Councillor Neal inquired about the possibility of moving the date of the Special Council meeting for the adoption of the final draft Regional Official Plan; and the involvement required from local municipalities for the final draft Regional Official Plan.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**13. Adjournment**

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,  
(48) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM

Respectfully submitted,

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B. Chapman, Chair

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K. Smith, Committee Clerk