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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:32 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Brenner*
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook*
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Garrod*
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy*, left the meeting at 10:15 AM
Councillor Lee*
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal*
Councillor Nicholson*
Councillor Pickles*
Councillor Roy
Councillor Schummer*
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada*
Regional Chair Henry

*** denotes staff participating electronically**

All members of Committee were present with the exception of Councillors Barton, Collier, and Foster.

Councillor Foster was absent due to municipal business.

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair*, B. Goodwin, B. Bridgeman, S. Ciani, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, S. Dessureault, H. Finlay, C. Goodchild, B. Holmes, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, M. Laschuk, C. Leitch, L. McIntosh, G. Pereira, A. Pezzetti, N. Pincombe, N. Taylor, and V. Walker
***denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

4. Presentations

- 4.1 Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Chris Leitch, Principal Planner, and Gerardo Paez, Lead, Landscape Architecture, SvN Architects + Planners, re: Durham Meadoway Visioning Study – Project Outcome and Next Steps (2024-COW-11) [Item 7.1]
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Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning and Chris Leitch, Principal Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Report 2024-COW-11: Durham Meadoway Visioning Study – Project Outcome and Next Steps.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Project Overview
 - Purpose of Visioning Study
 - Vision Statement
 - Guiding Principles
 - A Connected Durham Meadoway
- Recommended Approach
 - Three Stage Process
 - Benefits of a Three Stage Process Approach
 - Road Map to Advance the Durham Meadoway
- The Vision – Examples of Trail Projects
 - Toronto
 - Hamilton
 - York Region
 - Simcoe County
- Durham Meadoway – The Linear Park
 - Opportunities
 - Toolkit
 - Typologies
 - Nature Spaces

- Garden and Community
- Road Crossings
- Route Selection Considerations
- Route Evaluation Overview
- Hydro One Corridor Considerations

G. Pereira, C. Leitch and G. Paez responded to questions with regards to the municipality's involvement in the funding of the initial cost of the environmental assessment and construction of the Durham Meadoway trail project; who will be responsible for maintaining the property surrounding the trail; the status of the discussions with Hydro One regarding what they will permit under their corridor and the potential associated costs; if funding will be sought from the Provincial and Federal governments for stage two of the Durham Meadoway trail project; what the estimated timelines are for each stage of the project leading up to implementation; the measures that will be implemented to ensure the project maintains coherence and continuity; the steps that will be taken to collaborate with the involved municipalities to ensure that the necessary funding is secured; why the project does not extend into the Municipality of Clarington and the possibility for this extension in the future; whether the maintenance for the trail will be similar to the maintenance of the Scarborough Meadoway trail; the number of Region of Durham residents within a 10-minute cycling distance to the trail; the possibility for future connectivity to the Waterfront trail in the City of Oshawa; whether there is a plan to address the existing on-road facility gap between Highway 412 and Taunton Road; phasing being structured to prevent individuals being stranded in isolated locations along the trail; the opportunity for trail connection to each municipality of the Region of Durham; whether promotion of the economic development and tourism benefits is being considered; where the emergency routes of access are located throughout the trail; the portion of the trail that follows the 30 kilometer Hydro corridor alignment and the minimum clearance distance from the Hydro towers; whether the trail will extend to Harmony Road in the City of Oshawa; and the potential for creating gathering spots along the trail, accessible by cycling, where events could be hosted.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Reports

7.1 Durham Meadoway Visioning Study – Project Outcome and Next Steps (2024-COW-11)

Report #2024-COW-11 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance and R. Jagannathan, Acting Commissioner of Works, was received.

Discussion ensued with regards to the decision-making process for the framework of the cost-sharing between the Region of Durham and the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Town of Whitby and City of Oshawa for the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment study for the Durham Meadoway trail; and the possibility of including developments such as the Durham Meadoway project into the Development Charge By-law.

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,
(14) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Regional Council endorse the Durham Meadoway Visioning Study as the framework and strategy to implement the active transportation corridor and linear park, forming Stage 1 of the project;
- B) That Regional Council authorize the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Region and the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Town of Whitby and City of Oshawa, outlining a framework for the Region to cost-share 20 per cent (estimated at \$240,000) and the affected area municipalities cost-sharing 80 per cent of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment study for the Durham Meadoway trail, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Regional funding through the Region's 2025 Business Planning and Budgets process; and
- C) That a copy of Report #2024-COW-11 of the Commissioners of Planning and Economic Development, Finance and Works, and Council resolution be sent to the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Town of Whitby, City of Oshawa, Durham OneNet Inc., Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, Parks Canada, the City of Toronto, Infrastructure Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED
VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Ashe
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb

No

Councillor Schummer

Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

Members Absent: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Collier
Councillor Foster
Councillor Leahy

Declarations of Interest: None

8. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(15) That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 AM

Respectfully submitted,

John Henry, Regional Chair

Sarah Dessureault, Committee Clerk