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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 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 the meeting at 9:31 AM
Councillor Collier*
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Neal*
Councillor Wotten*, attended the meeting at 9:53 AM
Regional Chair Henry
* **denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Barton attended the meeting at 10:16 AM
Councillor McDougall* attended the meeting at 10:00 AM
Councillor Schummer* attended the meeting at 9:33 AM
* **denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Absent: Councillor Shahid

Staff

Present: B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
M. Broderick*, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development and Investment
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
H. Finlay*, Manager, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism
C. Goodchild, Director of Planning
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
E. Kennedy, Creative Industries Program Specialist, Economic Development
C. Leitch, Principal Planner, Transportation Planning
A. Luqman, Senior Planner, Policy & Special Studies
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

L. Talling, Acting Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
N. Taylor*, Commissioner of Finance
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
R. Woon, Senior Solicitor, Chief Administrative Office – Legal Services

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Chair Henry,
(31) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Chris Leitch, Principal Planner, and Aneesah Luqman, Senior Planner, Region of Durham, and Melanie Hare, Partner, Urban Strategies Inc., re: 2024 Durham Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy (#2024-P-10) [Item 7.2 A]
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Greg Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Chris Leitch, Principal Planner, and Aneesah Luqman, Senior Planner, Region of Durham, and Melanie Hare, Partner, Urban Strategies Inc., provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2024 Durham Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Objectives of the TOD Strategy
- TOD Places
- Responding to Places
- Example: Mixed Use Hubs
- TOD Guidelines – 6 Components
 - Mobility
 - Public Realm
 - Land Use
 - Built Form
 - Parking Management & Design
 - Transit Station Design

- Example: Public Realm
- Implementation: Working Together to Deliver TOD
- Role, Awareness and Relevance of TOD Strategy
- Partners in Advancing TOD
- Structures for Effective Collaboration
- Monitoring and Managing
- Value of the TOD Strategy

B. Bridgeman provided additional remarks regarding the interrelated connection between land use planning and transportation planning that both fall within the responsibility of the Planning Division.

5.2 Eileen Kennedy, Economic Development Specialist (Creative Industries Specialist) re: Film and Television Sector Development, 2012 to 2022, and Future Plans (#2024-EDT-8) [Item 8.2 A)]

Eileen Kennedy, Economic Development Specialist (Creative Industries Specialist), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Film and Television Sector Development, 2012 to 2022, and Future Plans.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham Region Film Commission
 - Creation and Building Capacity
 - Action Plan
- Sector Development
- Infrastructure Investment
- Film Durham Promotions
- Film Tourism
 - Durham Region International Film Festival
 - Fannibal Fest Bus Tours
- Production Activity
 - Strong Growth
 - Type of Projects
- Future Plans

E. Kennedy responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether the Region's success within the film industry has steadily increased, and what external factors influence those successes; whether consideration has been given to providing local businesses with information regarding Ontario tax credits as it relates to the film industry that would increase their interest and involvement in the film industry; whether the Pickering Casino & Resort has become a preferred location for filming; and whether it is anticipated that the planned racetrack at the Pickering Casino & Resort will attract further opportunities for filming.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

7. Planning

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

7.2 Reports

A) 2024 Durham Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy (2024-P-10)

Report #2024-P-10 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Collier, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(32) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the 2024 Durham Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy be endorsed as a toolbox of common reference points in the process of planning and designing TOD Places in Durham Region; and
- B) That the guidelines within the 2024 Durham TOD Strategy that have implications on designing and constructing Regional infrastructure be considered as part of future annual business plans and budget processes for those capital projects.

CARRIED

8. Economic Development

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

8.2 Reports

A) Film and Television Sector Development, 2012 to 2022, and Future Plans (2024-EDT-8)

Report #2024-EDT-8 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Chair Henry,
(33) That Report #2024-EDT-8 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

10. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. Other Business

11.1 Envision Durham: Regional Official Plan – Draft Decision Received from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)

B. Bridgeman stated that on May 6, 2024, he received a draft decision from Laurie Miller, Regional Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) with respect to the Region's submission of its Official Plan in May 2023. The draft decision includes 77 proposed modifications, which B. Bridgeman advised are currently in the process of being assessed by Regional planning staff.

B. Bridgeman further stated that there are two significant modifications contained in the draft decision that relate to the province's intention not to approve (1) the northeast Pickering lands due to a Minister's Zoning Order dating back to 1972 that does not permit development of the lands to allow for the potential future development of an airport; and (2) the 100-acre block of industrial land in Uxbridge due to its location within the Oak Ridges Moraine lands.

B. Bridgeman advised that the MMAH staff letter requests comments back by June 5, 2024.

Discussion ensued with respect to the importance of the inclusion of the northeast Pickering lands and Uxbridge industrial lands to permit future growth in the Region; and the relevance of the Minister's Zoning Order in the present-day.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether the draft decision addresses municipal and Region approved conversion requests included in the Official Plan; the anticipated timeframe for the Regional Official Plan to be approved and in effect; whether there are any other known lands in Ontario that have been locked from development for a similar timeframe as the northeast Pickering lands; and whether any updates are available with respect to the Durham Forest lands that the province wishes to receive ownership of from the Region.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Chair Henry,
(34) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk