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## **Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**September 20, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, September 20, 2019 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:01 PM.

Present: D. Hoornweg, Citizen Member, Chair  
Regional Chair Henry  
E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee  
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member  
Councillor Highet, Planning & Economic Development Committee  
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee attended the meeting at 1:27 PM  
C. Mee, Citizen Member  
K. Senyk, Citizen Member  
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member

Absent: Councillor Chapman, Health and Social Services Committee  
B. Cochrane, Citizen Member  
T. Hall, Citizen Member  
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member  
J. Koke, Citizen Member  
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member  
R. Plaza, Citizen Member  
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair

Also present: Councillor Dies

#### **Staff**

Present: S. Austin, Director of Corporate Policy and Strategic Initiatives  
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development  
C. Drimmie, Manager of Corporate Initiatives, CAO's Office  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
K. Kilbourne, Senior Planner, Planning and Economic Development Department  
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department  
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO  
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
R. Walton, Director of Legislative Services, Regional Clerk

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by K. Shadwick,  
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on  
Climate Change meeting held on May 17, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

**3. Presentations**

- A) Kristy Kilbourne and Aneesah Luqman, Durham Region Planning and Economic Development, re: Overview of Municipal Comprehensive Review and Discussion Papers: Climate Change and Sustainability and Environment and Greenlands System
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A. Luqman provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an overview of the Climate Change & Sustainability Discussion Paper. Highlights from her presentation included:

- Envision Durham
  - Agriculture & Rural System
  - Climate Change & Sustainability
  - Growth Management
  - Environment & Greenlands System
  - Transportation System
  - Housing
- Provincial Planning Policy Context
- Regional Initiatives
- Provincial Plans Conformity
  - Required Policies
  - Additional Considerations
- Trends
- Policy Considerations
  - Built form
  - Transportation
  - Energy
  - Natural Environment
- Policy Considerations
  - Adaptation
  - Mitigation

K. Kilbourne provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an overview of the Environment and Greenlands System Discussion Paper. Highlights from her presentation included:

- Durham's Environment
- Durham's Greenlands System
- Trends and Influencing Factors
- Policy Considerations
- Mapping Considerations
- Consultation and Engagement

K. Kilbourne advised that comments on the Discussion Paper are requested by December 2, 2019.

#### **4. Items for Action**

There were no items for action to be discussed.

#### **5. Items for Information**

##### **A) Introduction of Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability**

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I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding his climate and sustainability field background and experience. He also went through his plan for the implementation of Durham Region's climate change plans, including the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan (DCCAP) and the Durham Community Energy Plan (DCEP).

Highlights from the presentation included:

- From Planning to Implementation
- Suggested Guiding Principles for Implementation
- Durham's Low Carbon Pathway
- Two-Pronged Implementation Focus
  - Deep Retrofit Program (existing buildings)
  - "Green" Standard (new development)
- Deep Retrofit Program
  - Key Considerations
  - Implementation Pathway
- "Green" Standard for New Development
  - Key Considerations
  - Implementation Pathway
- Questions/Discussion

I. McVey responded to questions from the Committee regarding linking action that is supportive to Durham Region's long-term directions; improving affordability for residents by reducing costs, and addressing current/future risks; enhancing local economies; improving public health; creating resilient communities and infrastructure; and funding that has been allocated to implementation programs.

Moved by Councillor Crawford, Seconded by Councillor Leahy,  
That the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order to allow a  
representative from the Fridays for Futures Whitby group to speak  
as a delegate regarding the current Climate Change crisis.  
CARRIED on a 2/3rds vote

Two representatives from the Fridays For Future (FFF) Whitby group (a mother and daughter) appeared before the Committee to express their concerns regarding climate change and to ensure that any government funds that are received, are being used correctly. They noted the Region's award-winning Climate Change Plans that contain a number of recommendations on climate change adaptation and mitigation and expressed concerns that only two of the initiatives have been implemented so far. They asked what the Region's priorities are in order to implement the other initiatives in Durham's climate plans.

The two representatives responded to questions from the Committee.

It was the consensus of the Committee to allow further representatives from the group to ask questions of staff. The questions included:

- How can multiple activist groups get involved?
- How do we reconcile the climate emergency with the construction of another airport?
- Is there any awareness or discussion of the proposal from workers in the City of Oshawa to have the General Motors (GM) facility changed to an electric vehicle production facility?
- How do we stop building houses that use gas and fossil fuels to heat homes?
- What is Durham's most important issue, and will the budget reflect that?
- If the new federal government is not supportive of Durham's more ambitious plans, what do you plan to do to deal with that?
- What is happening with the funding received from the now cancelled Cap and Trade program?

In response to a question, S. Austin encouraged those in attendance to provide their input through the Municipal Comprehensive Review as well as through the Strategic Planning process. She stated that Durham Region has several award-winning plans and staff are currently working towards implementation. She also stated that economic development and moving forward with local job creation is a priority for Regional Council.

S. Austin advised that Durham staff are working closely with the Mayor of Oshawa in terms of economic development potential for the General Motors (GM) lands.

In response to a question, E. Baxter-Trahair advised that climate change is a priority for Durham Region, among many other initiatives such as affordable

housing and increasing the transit network. She also advised that the challenge is to balance all Regional priorities including climate change and move them all forward.

**6. Other Business**

A) "Improved Transportation: Moving Together!" Workshop

Chair Hoornweg stated that on October 16, 2019 there is a workshop being held at 2000 Simcoe Street North in the City of Oshawa, titled "Improved Transportation: Moving Together!". He noted that topics to be discussed include: Healthy, Inclusive Cities; Electrification and Automation; The Role of Ridesharing; and the Big Picture. He invited everyone in attendance to register for the workshop.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, October 18, 2019 starting at 1:00 PM in Room LL-C, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**8. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by Councillor Highet,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM.

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D. Hoornweg, Chair, Durham Region  
Roundtable on Climate Change

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S. Penak, Committee Clerk