

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:31 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: Councillor Ryan, Chair  
Councillor Joe Neal, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Bath-Hadden  
Councillor Highet  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry  
**\* all members of Committee, except Regional Chair Henry, participated electronically**

Also  
Present: Councillor Wotten

Staff  
Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development  
H. Finlay, Senior Planner  
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism  
C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies  
V. Hendry, Project Planner  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
S. Jibb, Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
S. Jones, Manager, Data, Mapping and Graphics  
G. Muller, Director of Planning  
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning  
B. Pickard, Manager, Tourism  
J. Presta, Director of Environmental Services, Works Department  
L. Riviere-Doersam, Principal Planner  
K. Ryan, Senior Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services  
S. Salomone, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development and Investment

J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development  
C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation  
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
(41) That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

- Regular Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on July 7, 2020; and
- Closed Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on July 7, 2020.

CARRIED

**4. Statutory Public Meetings**

There were no statutory public meetings.

**5. Delegations**

**5.1 Claire Malcolmson, Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition, re: Environmental and Corporate Developmental Effects that are taking place in the Lake Simcoe watershed**

---

Claire Malcolmson, participating electronically, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Lake Simcoe: Threats and Opportunities 2020.

Ms. Malcolmson advised that the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition was formed in 2003 and has 26 member groups, including SOS Beaverton. She also advised that one of their accomplishments was advocating for and championing the campaign for the Lake Simcoe Protection Act and Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. She further advised that they have provided comments on the Region's Environment and Greenlands System Discussion Paper and hope to work with local community groups on the Durham Regional Official Plan review.

Ms. Malcolmson stated that the Province will start the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan review in the fall of 2020. She advised that she is requesting the Planning & Economic Development Committee to endorse their Model Council Resolution and refer it to Regional Council or to consider it as the Region prepares its comments to the Province on the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan review.

Ms. Malcolmson displayed a map of the Lake Simcoe Watershed and she stated that one of the things the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition is prioritizing is the importance of protecting our water quality and our natural heritage. She advised that tourism and recreation bring in an estimated \$420 million each year for the local economy. She also stated that the value of the ecosystem goods and services provided by the Lake Simcoe watershed are worth more than \$975 million per year.

Ms. Malcolmson provided a breakdown of Lake Simcoe phosphorus sources and a figure of phosphorus loads to Lake Simcoe. She explained that there is a phosphorus load target of 44 tonnes per year and she stated that phosphorus levels peaked at 131 tonnes in 2017. She added that the phosphorus reduction targets of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan are not being achieved.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Highet,  
(42) That Ms. Malcolmson be granted a one time 2-minute extension in order to finish her delegation.

CARRIED

Ms. Malcolmson outlined some of the areas that were strengthened under the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. She stated that a review of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan will take place in the fall. She explained that the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition has developed some priorities and she encouraged Committee members to review the priorities.

Ms. Malcolmson stated that the Minister's 10-Year Report on Lake Simcoe seemed biased to the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition and claims to meet reporting requirements of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, but it does not. She also stated that members of the Lake Simcoe Science Committee are not happy with the Minister's report, and feel that progress against targets and indicators was not done in a systematic way that allows them to evaluate if we are achieving the targets of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.

Ms. Malcolmson concluded by outlining the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition Model Council Resolution.

Ms. Malcolmson responded to questions of the Committee.

- 5.2 Hugh Stewart, Clark Consulting Services, re: Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan submitted by Darmar Farms Inc., File: OPA 2020-001, and Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan submitted by D.S. & B. Farms Inc., File: OPA 2020-002 (2020-P-16 and 2020-P-17)

Hugh Stewart, participating electronically, appeared before the Committee with respect to applications to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan submitted by Darmar Farms Inc. and D.S. & B. Farms Inc. Mr. Stewart advised that he was the

applicants' agent and was present to answer any questions on Reports #2020-P-16 and 2020-P-17 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development.

Mr. Stewart responded to a question of the Committee.

## **6. Presentations**

There were no presentations to be heard.

## **7. Planning**

### **7.1 Correspondence**

There were no communications to consider.

### **7.2 Reports**

- A) Application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Darmar Farms Inc. to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus to a farming operation as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, in the Township of Brock, File: OPA 2020-001 [\(2020-P-16\)](#)
- 

Report #2020-P-16 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Highet,  
(43) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Amendment #180 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus to a farming operation as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, be adopted as contained in Attachment #3 to Report #2020-P-16 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development; and
- B) That "Notice of Adoption" be sent to the applicant, the applicant's agent, the Township of Brock, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all other persons or public bodies who requested notification of this decision.

CARRIED

- B) Application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by D.S. & B. Farms Inc. to permit a severance of a dwelling rendered surplus to a farming operation as a result of a consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, in the Township of Brock, File: OPA 2020-002 [\(2020-P-17\)](#)
- 

Report #2020-P-17 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Highet, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,  
(44) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Amendment #179 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, be adopted as contained in Attachment #3 to Report #2020-P-17 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development; and
- B) That “Notice of Adoption” be sent to the applicant, the applicant’s agent, the Township of Brock, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and all other persons or public bodies who requested notification of this decision.

CARRIED

- C) Proposed Amendment to the Durham Regional Official Plan for lands in the Municipality of Clarington, File: OPA 2020-003 (2020-P-18)

Report #2020-P-18 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

B. Bridgeman responded to questions with respect to the background of Official Plan Amendment #107 to the Municipality of Clarington Official Plan; and whether this request was part of the Region’s Municipal Comprehensive Review process.

Moved by Councillor Joe Neal, Seconded by Councillor Highet,  
(45) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Amendment #181 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, to permit a site-specific policy exception to permit urban residential and related uses for lands in the southwest quadrant of Bloor Street and Courtice Road, be adopted as contained in Attachment #3 to Report #2020-P-18 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development; and
- B) That “Notice of Adoption” be sent to the Municipality of Clarington, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all other persons or public bodies who requested notification of this decision.

CARRIED

- D) Review of the Region of Durham’s Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol (2020-P-19)

Report #2020-P-19 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

B. Bridgeman responded to questions with respect to whether fill operations are required to comply with the Region’s Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol;

and whether a Phase Two Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) is required for importing fill.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,  
(46) That Report #2020-P-19 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

## **8. Economic Development**

### **8.1 Correspondence**

There were no communications to consider.

### **8.2 Reports**

There were no Economic Development reports to consider.

## **9. Advisory Committee Resolutions**

### **9.1 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee**

#### **A) Bruce Sargent, Farm Boy Productions – Virtual Farm Tour Video Discussion**

Moved by Councillor Highet, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,  
(47) That the following resolution from the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee be received for information:

That the DAAC Farm Tour scheduled for September 17, 2020 be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that a Virtual Farm Tour be held in its place.

CARRIED

#### **B) Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) Program**

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
(48) That the following resolution from the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee be received for information:

That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee supports the Region of Durham's application to the Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) program for the establishment of a Regional Broadband Network and that a letter of support as provided in Attachment #2 to the August 18, 2020 DAAC agenda be forwarded to Planning and Economic Development staff as part of the submission to the Ministry of Infrastructure regarding the Region of Durham application to the ICON Program; and

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee be so advised.

CARRIED

**10. Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

**11. Other Business**

**11.1 Economic Development and Tourism Division Initiatives**

S. Gill provided an overview of the initiatives the Economic Development and Tourism Division has been working on over the summer.

He advised that COVID response activities include a comprehensive online portal with resources for Durham businesses, which features over 135 local businesses in various directories for personal protective equipment (PPE), Ecommerce services, and local food suppliers.

He also advised that Digital Main Street is now live in Durham and the service is being delivered by the Clarington Board of Trade, Downtown Whitby Business Improvement Area, and Business Advisory Centre Durham. More details are available from the Regional website at [investdurham.ca/digitalservices](https://investdurham.ca/digitalservices).

He further advised that the Downtowns of Durham project with the Business Improvement Areas has been a success and includes over 850 small business profiles. He added that phase 2 improvements are underway and include content marketing and adding a downtown area in the City of Pickering.

He also advised that work is underway on the Durham Marketplace platform, which will be open to businesses in Durham Region to list their products in a central, Durham only, online marketplace. He noted that the Whitby Business Improvement Area is leading this project.

He further advised that the Region's COVID response advertising campaign is ongoing and promotes the Digital Main Street program, re-skilling programs at Durham's post-secondary institutions, and small business and tourism industries through social media channels.

S. Gill also advised that there are upcoming investment attraction campaigns and the first is centrally focussed on the EN3 sectors (Energy, Engineering and Environmental). He noted that the second campaign will highlight Durham's history of innovation.

He further advised that the Tourism division has produced a series of eight videos showcasing some incredible stories from restaurants throughout the crisis. He noted that staff has also produced a "Durham Region is Our Home" video, and are planning to launch a series of 10 agriculture videos shortly in support of local food and agri-tourism.

He also advised that staff have prioritized the action items in the Local Food BR+E project and is making great progress in advancing them. He added that a report with an update is expected at the October Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting.

S. Gill concluded by advising that in August 2020, it was announced that the Township of Uxbridge will receive up to \$100,000 from the Province to develop a downtown revitalization plan. He stated that Regional Economic Development submitted the Rural Economic Development Fund (RED) grant application and will be participating on the steering committee for the project.

S. Gill responded to a question with respect to the Digital Main Street program. He advised that information on the Digital Main Street program and COVID response initiatives are available on the Regional website at [investdurham.ca/covidresponse](https://investdurham.ca/covidresponse).

#### 11.2 The Troubadour Series

Councillor Kerr advised that musicians are playing outdoors outside downtown patios in the City of Oshawa on Friday and Saturday nights for the next six weeks. He stated that the Troubadour Series is being sponsored by the Downtown Oshawa BIA and the plan is to continue the series next year for the whole outdoor patio season. He offered to provide additional details to S. Gill to see if the Economic Development and Tourism division can assist with promoting and marketing for the 2021 season.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

#### **12. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
(49) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM



Respectfully submitted,

---

D. Ryan, Chair

---

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk