

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 15, 2020

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 15, 2020 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:00 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Ajax
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: R. Dickinson, Brock
K. Murray, Member at Large
B. Shipp, Member at Large

Staff

Present: A. Caruso, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
M. White, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That the agenda for the October 16, 2020 DEAC meeting, as
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
September 17, 2020, be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Regional Cycling Plan Update, Anthony Caruso, Senior Planner

A. Caruso, Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Regional Cycling Plan Update (RCPU).

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Background
- 2020 RCPU Phasing
- Project Goals
- Consultation and Engagement
- Revisiting the Primary Cycling Network
 - 2012 Primary Cycling Network (PCN)
 - Primary Cycling Network Progress
 - Local Cycling Network Adoptions
 - Guidelines and Standards
 - Updating and Creating Alignment
 - PCN Consideration 1: Cyclist Types
 - PCN Consideration 2: User Demand
 - PCN Consideration 3: User Conflicts
- RCPU Foundations
 - RCPU Foundations Overview
 - Stakeholder Interviews: SWOT
- Phase 1: First Online Survey Summary
 - MetroQuest Engagement Tool
 - Purpose and Approach
 - Online Survey #1
 - Activity 1 Results
 - Activity 1 Comment Overview
 - Activity 2 Results
- Phase 2: Summer Engagement Activities
 - Summer Public Engagement Activities
 - Second Online Survey – Summary
 - Summer Survey Results – Overview
 - Bicycle Parking Survey
 - Maintenance Survey Results
 - Signage and Wayfinding Survey Results
 - Education & Encouragement Survey Results

- Phase 2: Primary Cycling Network Update & Confirmation
 - Primary Cycling Network Update & Confirmation
 - Sample Analysis
 - Identify and Confirm Facilities
 - Draft Primary Cycling Network
- Phase 2: Regional Cycling Strategies
 - Approach & Considerations
 - Bicycle Parking: Draft Approaches
 - Signage & Wayfinding: Draft Approaches
 - Education & Encouragement: Draft Approaches
 - Maintenance: Draft Approaches
- Conclusion and Next Steps

A. Caruso responded to questions from the Committee regarding the need for strategies that are rural focused and that could help with the design of Northern Durham; whether the cycling surveys include off-road cycling or just on-road cycling; whether there are plans to increase infrastructure on bicycle paths (ie. washrooms), or a more integrated signage plan throughout the Region; whether there is a potential market in Durham for renting bicycles; the importance of increasing driver awareness around cycling; and whether there are any allocations in the roads capital budget to support infrastructure.

A. Caruso advised that he would email A. Luqman the article he referenced during his presentation titled, "Proof: Bike Paths are good for the local economy" so it could be forwarded to Committee members.

6. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Update from Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee

J. Cuthbertson provided an update from the Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee. He advised that there is now a final consolidated draft that is available for the Committee to review. A. Luqman will be making final updates to streamline the text, and has requested the subcommittee to begin identifying graphics to include in the guide.

In response to a question from Committee regarding adding the LEAF tree planting program to the guide, A. Luqman advised that it has been included in the guide under the section of what the local municipalities are doing.

B) Terms of Reference Update, re: Student and Youth Members

Detailed discussion ensued regarding student and youth membership on the Committee; whether the educational requirement under Appendix 1, Section 2 of the Terms of Reference should be more specific for applicants; and whether adding a provisional member to fill a student vacancy temporarily would be appropriate.

Moved by M. Thompson, seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That we recommend to the Planning & Economic Development
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to
Regional Council:

That the proposed 2020 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC)
Terms of Reference be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

- Under Section 4.4 replace “2-year term” with “3-year term”; and
- Under Appendix 1, B) 2) Education, insert the words “accepted into, or” and “in a”, so the sentence now reads “Members must be accepted into, or enrolled full-time in a College or University program and express an interest in environmental matters”.

CARRIED

7. For Information

A) Commissioner’s Report # 2020-INFO-84 – COVID-19 Travel Behaviour Survey Summary

A copy of Report #2020-INFO-84 of the Commissioner of Planning &
Economic Development was received as Attachment #3 to the agenda.

B) Discussion paper (Government of Canada) – A proposed integrated management approach to plastic products

A copy of the discussion paper (Government of Canada) regarding a
proposed integrated management approach to plastic products was received
as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the lack of strategies used in Canada
to keep Canada’s waste in Canada; how to address a cultural issue of
throwing waste out of a vehicle window; and how Canada decides what to
accept into the country and whether that is missing from the discussion
paper.

A suggestion was made from the Committee that in order to facilitate
transition, ease, and speed with respect to an integrated approach to plastic
products, the Region should consider a plastics single point of contact or
web portal that would provide advice and direction to businesses and
individuals who are looking to make the change from single use plastics to
something that is reusable, compostable etc., and that success stories be
included in the appropriate regional communications.

Due to the interest from the Committee in a formal response on the
discussion paper, A. Luqman advised that should would reach out to the
appropriate staff to see if the Region is looking to comment on this paper and
if it has already drafted a Regional response.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That Information Items 7A) and 7B) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Meeting (WPCP)

S. Clearwater advised that she attended the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) meeting on September 23, 2020. She advised that there were two excellent, detailed presentations. She suggested that the two presenters be sent an invitation to present at a future DEAC meeting. A. Luqman requested S. Clearwater to forward her the details.

B) Business Arising from the Minutes – September 17, 2020

In response to a question A. Luqman advised that she did send the Committee Ashley Yearwood's presentation but can re-send it. She also advised that the process of putting the ad together for filling a Committee vacancy has been started.

A. Luqman also advised that she emailed J. Cuthbertson the report that showed what direction the Region would be headed, with or without the incinerator, and that she could share it with those who are interested.

C) Proposed Excess Soil Related Regulatory Amendments

G. Carpentier advised that he would forward the proposed excess soil related regulatory amendments to the Committee for them to review, and that the deadline for responses is November 20, 2020.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2020 starting at 7:00 PM through Microsoft Teams.

10. Adjournment

Moved by D. Stathopoulos, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk