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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, November 5, 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
Councillor Collier*
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Neal*, attended the meeting at 9:36 AM
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Wotten*
Regional Chair Henry
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Carter*
Councillor Crawford attended the meeting at 9:38 AM
*** denotes visiting Councillors participating electronically**

Staff

Present: M. Broderick, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development & Investment
A. Caruso*, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning
A. de Vos, Economic Development Specialist
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development & Tourism
C. Goodchild, Director of Planning
A. Harras*, Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk
B. Holmes*, General Manager, Transit
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
J. Kelly, Manager, Policy & Special Studies
L. Lavery, Director, Rapid Transit & Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing & Tourism
T. Shaver, Manager, Small Business Enterprise Centre, Economic Development & Tourism
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

L. Talling, Acting Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture & 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
***denotes Staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,
(61) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(62) That the agenda be altered to consider Item 6.1 Delegation of Chris Rickett, Executive Director, Stakeholder Relations and Social Impact, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), and Johan van't Hof, Member of the Board of Directors, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), re: Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT (#2024-EDT-14) [Item 8.2 a)], next.
CARRIED

6. Delegations

6.1 Chris Rickett, Executive Director, Stakeholder Relations and Social Impact, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), and Johan van't Hof, Member of the Board of Directors, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), re: Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT (#2024-EDT-14) [Item 8.2 a)]

Doug Allingham, Board Chair, GTAA, Johan van't Hof, Member of the Board of Directors, GTAA, Karen Mazurkewich, Vice-President, Stakeholder Relations & Communications, GTAA, and Steven Thomas, Associate Director, Government Relations, GTAA, all appearing in-person, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2023 Finished Strong
- Growth in Total Revenues, Capital Investment Moving Upward
- Airport Performance is Better than Ever
- Putting the Joy Back in Airport Travel – Making Toronto Pearson the Chosen Place to Fly and Work
- Importance of a Major Airport
- Toronto Pearson: Canada’s Economic Runway
- Toronto Pearson: A National Economic Engine that also Delivers Value to its Neighbours
- An Urgent Need to Invest
- Pearson LIFT: Advancing Programs Toward Construction Start
- Investment that Supports Our Community and Future Generations
- 2025 Board Key Strategic Risks

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(63) That the rules of procedure be suspended to allow the Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT delegation to be extended by five minutes.

CARRIED ON A 2/3rds VOTE

D. Allingham, J. van’t Hof, and K. Mazurkewich responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the security and cyber security measures being taken at Pearson Airport; what technical advancements are being considered and/or implemented to prevent cyber security attacks; whether consideration has been given to implementing methods of digital security found at other international airports, and whether that would impact the time it takes to move travellers through security and customs; whether further expansion of the Airport is possible once capacity levels are reached, or whether other solutions are being considered; and what adjustments/improvements are being made at Pearson to offset the deterioration of facilities caused from high traffic volumes experienced daily.

5. Presentations

5.1 Allison de Vos, Economic Development Specialist, re: Apple Value Chain Video Series and Educational Campaign (#2024-EDT-15) [Item 8.2 b)]

Allison de Vos, Economic Development Specialist, presented before the Committee with regards to the Apple Value Chain Video Series and Educational Campaign.

A. de Vos stated that the Apple Value Chain Video Series and Educational Campaign follows the journey of an apple from farm to plate and was developed to raise awareness of the success of apple businesses in Durham Region.

A. de Vos provided an overview of the following promotional videos that were created to highlight each of the different steps in the journey of an apple from farm to plate:

- Farming and Apple Picking video, filmed at Wilmot Orchards and Algoma Orchards
- Apple Aggregation, Packing and Sorting video, filmed at Algoma Orchards
- Apple Warehousing, Distribution and Logistics video, filmed at Gordon Food Service
- Apple Retail video, filmed at Fisher's Independent Grocer
- Apple Bakery and Value-Added Apple Products video, was filmed at Tyrone Mills

A. de Vos stated that the videos were produced in partnership with Durham Farm Connections and the marketing campaign was delivered by the Region's Communications and Engagement team. She advised that the campaign was shared through the Region's social media channels and e-newsletters and was also circulated to school boards and teachers to be used as an educational resource.

A summary video of the apple value chain and the first video in the apple value chain video series was played for the Committee.

A. de Vos responded to questions from the Committee regarding the methods used by farmers in picking and handling apples to prevent damage and bruising; whether planting the rows of apple trees closer together allows them to grow taller and yield more fruit; and whether the promotional videos are available online.

6. Delegations

- 6.1 Chris Rickett, Executive Director, Stakeholder Relations and Social Impact, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), and Johan van't Hof, Member of the Board of Directors, GTAA (In-Person Attendance), re: Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT (#2024-EDT-14) [Item 8.2 a]

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. [See Item 6.1 on pages 2 and 3 of these minutes]

7. Planning

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

7.2 Reports

A) Bill 23 Proclamation Update: Upper-Tier Planning Responsibilities (2024-P-16)

Report #2024-P-16 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

C. Goodchild responded to questions from the Committee regarding clarification of the Region's authority to approve subdivisions, condominiums, and part-lot control exemption by-laws for the area municipalities, and how that will change following proclamation of Bill 23; whether there is an expected date for proclamation to occur; and whether the Region maintained planning responsibilities and approvals for the northern area municipalities due to the availability of planning resources and staff at the Region.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(64) That Report #2024-P-16 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Economic Development

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

8.2 Reports

A) GTAA 2024 Annual Update and Pearson LIFT (2024-EDT-14)

Report #2024-EDT-14 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(65) That Report #2024-EDT-14 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Apple Value Chain Video Series and Educational Campaign (2024-EDT-15)

Report #2024-EDT-15 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(66) That Report #2024-EDT-15 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

There was no other business to be considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(67) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk