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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

COMMUNITY GROWTH & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

A regular meeting of the Community Growth & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 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 Kerr
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Regional Chair Henry

Absent: Councillor Collier

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
M. Broderick, Manager, Business Development & Investment, Economic Development
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development & Tourism
C. Goodchild, Director of Community Growth
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
J. Kelly, Manager, Integrated Growth Management & Policy
E. Kennedy, Economic Development Specialist
C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning
L. Lavery, Director, Rapid Transit & Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
A. Luqman, Acting Manager, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
J. Severs, Manager, Marketing & Tourism, Economic Development
T. Shaver, Manager, Small Business Enterprise Centre, Economic Development & Tourism
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
L. Talling, Acting Manager, Agriculture & Rural Affairs, Economic Development
L. Trombino, Manager, Development Advisory Services
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 Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(24) That the minutes of the regular Community Growth & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development and Tourism, Durham Region, and Larissa Fenn, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs, Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority, re: Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority General Update (Report #2025-EDT-8) [Item 8.2 a.]
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Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development and Tourism, Durham Region, and Larissa Fenn, Vice-President, Corporate Affairs, Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority General Update.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Who We Are
 - Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA) is one of 17 Port Authorities in Canada
 - Canada Port Authority
 - Managing Working Waterfronts on the Canadian Great Lakes
 - A Growing, Integrated Port Network
- HOPA Ports
 - Cargo Highlights
- Dredging Oshawa Harbour
- Farewell & Harbour Roads
- Economic Development Partnership
 - Hannover Messe
- Economic Development Partners – Key Sectors
 - Agri-Food
 - Manufacturing
 - Film
 - Construction Materials

- Energy
- Transportation/Logistics
- Integrated Network
- Moving Goods in Southern Ontario
- Carbon & Congestion
- Innovation
 - Using Data to Optimize Modal Choice
- Friends of Second Marsh
 - Phragmites Removal
- Community Partnerships
- Port of Oshawa
 - Looking Ahead

L. Fenn responded to questions from the Committee with regards to half load shipments and whether the sedimentation being experienced along the harbour has an impact on load capacities; the anticipated timeframe for extending the east wharf; whether such an extension would increase port capacity to permit an additional cargo ship; whether federal or provincial environmental assessments would be completed as part of the extension study process; how the film industry contributes as a key sector to the Oshawa port; whether the port is seasonally operated; and whether the “just-in-time” freight service offered by HOPA may be impacted by future shipment strategies.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

7. Community Growth

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

7.2 Reports

A) Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Township of Scugog Membership Appointment for 2025-2026 ([2025-CG-6](#))

Report #2025-CG-6 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Wotten, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(25) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Jay Jutzi be appointed to the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) as its Township of Scugog representative;

- B) That Mr. Jutzi be advised of their appointment to the DATC; and
- C) That a copy of Report #2025-CG-6 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development be forwarded to the Township of Scugog and the Durham Active Transportation Committee.

CARRIED

8. Economic Development

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

8.2 Reports

A) Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority General Update ([2025-EDT-8](#))

Report #2025-EDT-8 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Woo,

- (26) That Report #2025-EDT-8 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) 2024/2025 Out of Office Tourism Marketing Campaign ([2025-EDT-9](#))

Report #2025-EDT-9 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, was received.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the federal and provincial tourism-related grant programs that the Region and area municipalities qualify for; how the Region can ensure it secures its maximum grant funding opportunities; how grant funding is utilized by the Region and whether such funding is distributed to the lower-tier municipalities; how the Region can boost outside attraction to the Region; and how the Region supports tourism events at the lower-tier municipalities and contributes to increasing public interest of such events.

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,

- (27) That Report #2025-EDT-9 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

C) Durham Region Music Industry Analysis and Forum (2025-EDT-10)

Report #2025-EDT-10 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Woo,
(28) That we recommend to Council,

That due to the strong potential economic and social benefits of a vibrant music industry, the Nordicity Music Industry Analysis report (Attachment #1 to Report #2025-EDT-10 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development) be endorsed, and that staff be directed to consider opportunities to advance the Key Priority Areas of that Report through the 2026 Business Plans and Budget process.

CARRIED

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

9.1 Durham Active Transportation Committee

A) Resolution regarding June Bike Month

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(29) That we recommend to Council:

Whereas June is Bike Month;

And whereas Durham Regional Community Growth staff have organized numerous bike friendly activities annually for over a decade to educate residents about cycling safety, promote the benefits of cycling, and encourage residents to bike more by participating in Bike Month throughout the month of June;

And whereas the Durham Active Transportation Committee fully supports the Region of Durham's planned Bike Month activities.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Durham Active Transportation Committee request Regional Council's support of the planned Regional Bike Month activities and proclaim the month of June as Bike Month in the Region of Durham.

CARRIED

9.2 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee

A) Resolution regarding Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Rural Clean Water Program

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,
(30) That we recommend to Council:

That Council be advised of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee's (DAAC) support of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's Rural Clean Water Program, and support of the Region's Community Growth and Economic Development Department exploring the program further.

CARRIED

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 Community Growth & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,
(31) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk