

Downtown Whitby Development Steering Committee Minutes
March 18, 2021 – 8:00 AM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Kimberly Copetti, Chair
Jennifer Jenkins
Karey Anne Large, Downtown Whitby Business Improvement Area Representative
Rick McDonnell, Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee Representative
Meg Morane, Olde Whitby Neighbourhood Association Representative
Matt Parish
Paul Rolland, Vice-Chair
Chris van der Vliet

Also Present: Regional Councillor Leahy, Mayor's Designate
Councillor Drumm, Centre Ward
Rhonda Jessup, Chief Executive Officer, Whitby Public Library
Gerrit Van Heuvelen, Operations Technician
Maria McDonnell, Senior Manager, Community Advancements
Christy Chrus, Staff Liaison, Manager, Creative Communities
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Yvonne Chornobay
Lara Perroni
Natalie Prychitko, Whitby Chamber of Commerce Representative
Paul Scott

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - January 21, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Paul Rolland

That the Downtown Whitby Development Steering Committee minutes of January 21, 2021 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 David Hopper, Consultant Project Manager, Parsons Corporation
Re: Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit Project

David Hopper provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the purpose of the BRT to support growth across Durham Region;
- improving transit capacity, service reliability, and attracting transit-oriented development as the number of residents in Durham Region increases;
- the benefits of the BRT such as improving connectivity, mobility, active transportation facilities, accessibility at intersections, and the public realm;
- establishing a north side Dundas Street pedestrian mall within Whitby's downtown area;
- the traffic analysis for transit and a pedestrian mall;
- an analysis of expected increases in transit ridership between 2021 to 2041;
- a proposed parking lot expansion and off street parking to mitigate the removal of on-street parking on Dundas Street;
- developing an action plan to support businesses such as signage and wayfinding, and an ambassador program;
- implementing a curbside management plan for waste removal, deliveries, and pedestrian activities;
- creating a traffic management and control plan; and,
- the next steps such as preparing for detailed designs, hosting additional stakeholder meetings, and hosting a fourth round of public consultation followed by a 30-day public review period.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- how concerns regarding traffic diversion onto side streets would be mitigated;
- whether ridership projections were based on population growth, consumer behaviour, or a combination of both;

- what steps have been taken to assess changes in travel pattern behaviours due to COVID-19;
- how many public sessions have been held;
- whether other municipalities use a mix traffic design on the BRT route or whether they maintain a designated bus lane;
- when the pilot project would be launched; and,
- the construction timeframe for the project through the downtown.

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 There was no general business and reports.

6. Correspondence

6.1 There was no correspondence.

7. Council Update

7.1 There was no Council update.

8. Other Business

8.1 There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 Thursday, April 15, 2021 - 8:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Jennifer Jenkins

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Downtown Whitby Development Steering Committee on April 15, 2021.