

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**PEDC 10-2020
Wednesday, December 9, 2020
Council Chamber / Video Conference
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee Members Present in the Council Chamber: Huson (Committee Chair)

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Darte (Committee Vice-Chair), Easton, Fertich, Foster, Greenwood, Heit, Junkin, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Ugulini, Zalepa

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Witteveen

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: D. Giles, Acting Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, L. Glynn, Technology Support Analyst, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development

Staff Present via Video Conference: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, I. Banach, Acting Director, Community & Long Range Planning, P. Busnello, Manager, Development Planning, K. Costantini, Planning Analyst, K. Desharnais, Strategic Marketing Manager, M. Evelyn, Legislative Coordinator, T. Harrison, Treasurer/Commissioner, Corporate Services, D. Heyworth, Official Plan Policy Consultant, A. Korchok, Communications Consultant, V. Kuhns, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, P. Lambert, Director, Infrastructure Planning & Development Engineering, K. McCauley, Acting Manager, Long Range Planning, S. Norman, Senior Planner, A. Tikky, Planner, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Huson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Committee Chair Huson introduced George Spezza, Director, Economic Development, and welcomed him to Niagara Region on behalf of the Planning and Economic Development Committee.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 **Supporting and Enhancing Buy Local Campaigns in Niagara**

Katie Desharnais, Strategic Marketing Manager, provided a presentation respecting Supporting and Enhancing Buy Local Campaigns in Niagara. Topics of the presentation included:

- Three-tiered Approach
- Amplify, Support and Develop
- Next Steps

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information respecting taxation and Niagara Region's efforts to assist the local area municipalities with policies to support specific property owners, such as within the hospitality industry, with the economic recovery. Councillor Sendzik.

4. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **PDS 36-2020**

Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee Refinements

Moved by Councillor Fertich

Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report PDS 36-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee Refinements, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the reporting structure for the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee **BE TRANSFERRED** from Planning and Economic Development Committee to Public Works Committee; and
2. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to Public Works Committee.

The following friendly **amendment** was accepted by the Committee Chair, and the mover and seconder of the motion:

3. ***That the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee BE REQUESTED to make the completion of the Circle Route in north St. Catharines (Port Weller) a priority in their 2021 work plan.***

Moved by Councillor Easton
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to include the following clause:

4. ***That the Economic Development Division PROCEED to create tourism enhancement elements of the Greater Niagara Circle Route and provide a report to the Planning and Economic Development Committee.***

The following friendly **amendment** to the amendment was accepted by the Committee Chair, and the mover and seconder of the motion:

4. That the Economic Development Division **PROCEED** to create tourism enhancement elements of the Greater Niagara Circle Route and provide a report to the Planning and Economic Development Committee ***in consultation with the Public Works Committee.***

The Committee Chair called the vote on the amendment to the motion and declared it,

Carried

The Committee Chair called the vote on the motion, as amended. Clauses 1 and 2 were considered separately as follows:

That Report PDS 36-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee Refinements, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the reporting structure for the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee **BE TRANSFERRED** from Planning and Economic Development Committee to Public Works Committee; and
2. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to Public Works Committee.

Carried

Clauses 3 and 4 of the motion were considered separately as follows:

3. That the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee **BE REQUESTED** to make the completion of the Circle Route in north St. Catharines (Port Weller) a priority in their 2021 work plan; and
4. That the Economic Development Division **PROCEED** to create tourism enhancement elements of the Greater Niagara Circle Route and provide a report to the Planning and Economic Development Committee in consultation with the Public Works Committee.

Carried

5.2 PDS 39-2020

Town of Lincoln Waterfront Investment Program Extension Request

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Report PDS 39-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Town of Lincoln Waterfront Investment Program Extension Request, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Town of Lincoln's request for an extension of the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre project which was allocated funding through the Region's 2018 Waterfront Investment Program **BE APPROVED** by Regional Council; and
2. That a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED** to the Town of Lincoln.

Carried

5.3 ED 18 -2020

This item was removed from the agenda.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1 ED 17-2020

COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Economic Development

Moved by Councillor Ugolini

Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That Correspondence Item ED 17-2020, being a memorandum from V. Kuhns, Acting Director, Economic Development, dated December 9, 2020, respecting COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Economic Development, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.2 PDS-C 28-2020

COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Planning and Development Services

Moved by Councillor Heit
Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That Correspondence Item PDS-C 28-2020, being a memorandum from D. Giles, Acting Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, dated December 9, 2020, respecting COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Planning and Development, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.3 PDS 33-2020

Ecological Land Classification Mapping Project

Karen Costantini, Planning Analyst, provided information respecting Ecological Land Classification Mapping Project. Topics of the presentation included:

- Overview
- Ecological Land Classification Protocol & Mapping
- Field Verification Program
- Preliminary Data
- Future Use

Moved by Councillor Easton
Seconded by Councillor Zalepa

That Report PDS 33-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Ecological Land Classification Mapping Project, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Area Municipalities, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) and the Greenbelt Foundation.

Carried

6.4 PDS 35-2020

Niagara Official Plan - Consultation Update

David Heyworth, Official Plan Policy Consultant, provided information respecting Niagara Official Plan - Consultation Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Layers of Consultation
- Consultation Findings
- Virtual Public Information Centres
- Surveys
- Planning Advisory Committee
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Indigenous Consultation
- Decision Making Bodies
- Managing Growth - Challenge & Opportunity

Moved by Councillor Bylsma

Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PDS 35-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Niagara Official Plan – Consultation Update, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA).

Carried

6.5 PDS 38-2020

Growth Management Survey Results

Alexandria Tikky, Planner, Long-Range Planning, provided information respecting Growth Management Survey Results. Topics of the presentation included:

- Growth Management Survey Background and Format
- Respondent Demographics
- Theme 1 - Balanced level of interest between topic areas
- Theme 2 - Public alignment with Region's key objectives and priorities
- Theme 3 - Opinions shift when asked about growth at a neighbourhood level
- Next Steps for the Growth Management Program

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Fertich

That Report PDS 38-2020, dated December 9, 2020, respecting Growth Management Survey Results, **BE RECEIVED** and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Municipal Planning Directors.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information respecting the number of respondents to the Growth Management Survey from each local area municipality. Councillor Redekop.

Provide information respecting collaboration with the local area municipalities to increase participation and public engagement. Councillor Redekop.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Bill 229

Committee members discussed the impact of Bill 229, *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act*, on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) and the effects on the Region and its local area municipalities.

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide a report respecting Bill 229 and the impacts on planning, approvals, and policy concerning protection of land. Councillor Redekop.

7.2 Queenston Quarry

Councillor Greenwood requested information respecting proposed development at the Queenston Quarry, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Doug Giles, Acting Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, advised that no development plans have been submitted to Niagara Region.

7.3 Port Colborne Aquifer

Councillor Butters requested staff provide a report at the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting being held on February 17, 2021 respecting changes to Niagara Region's planning documents in order to protect the Port Colborne Aquifer, as identified in Schedule B3 of the City of Port Colborne's Official Plan.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Councillor Huson
Committee Chair

Matthew Trennum
Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk