

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

**PEDC 2-2019
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Council Chamber
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Darte (Committee Vice-Chair), Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Heit, Huson (Committee Chair), Junkin, Redekop, Sendzik, Ugulini

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Greenwood, Rigby, Villella, Zalepa

Staff: E. Acs, Senior Planner, D. Giles, Director, Community & Long Range Planning, J. Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Enterprise Resource Management Services, D. Heyworth, Official Plan Policy Consultant, P. Lambert, Associate Director, Infrastructure Planning & Development Engineering, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals, R. Mostacci, Commissioner, Planning & Development Services, S. Norman, Senior Planner, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Robinson, Director, GO Implementation Office, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, V. Kuhns, Director, Economic Development, J. Whittard, Manager, Environmental Planning

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Huson called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

Rino Mostacci, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, introduced Julia van der Laan de Vries as a new Urban Designer in Planning and Development Services.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 PDS 1-2019

Matching Regional Incentive Funding Request for Lundy's Lane CIP

Moved by Councillor Diodati

Seconded by Councillor Campion

That consideration of Report PDS 1-2019, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Matching Regional Incentive Funding Request for Lundy's Lane CIP, **BE DEFERRED** to the second quarter of 2019, following the approval of the 2019 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Carried

There being no objection, Correspondence Item PDS-C 5-2019 (Agenda Item 6.7) was considered prior to Report ED 1-2019 (Agenda Item 6.1).

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.7 PDS-C 5-2019

Ramada Beacon Hotel Specialty Crop Designation

Moved by Councillor Easton

Seconded by Councillor Foster

1. That Correspondence Item PDS-C 5-2019, being a memorandum from E. Acs, Manager of Community Planning, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Ramada Beacon Hotel Specialty Crop Designation, **BE RECEIVED**;
2. That Regional Council **ENDORSE** the letter titled Request to Remove Specialty Crop Designation, Greenbelt Plan, 2017: 2777 & 2793 Beacon Boulevard, Town of Lincoln, Region of Niagara (Appendix 1 of PDS-C 5-2019) to the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to request that the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing also remove all lands east of Jordan Harbour from the speciality crop designation in order to fully implement the scope and intent of the Prudhommes Secondary Plan; and
4. That memo PDS-C 5-2019 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Town of Lincoln, the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Ramada Beacon Hotel via MacNaughton Hermesen Britton Clarkson Planning Limited.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 ED 1-2019

Economic Development Overview

Valerie Kuhns, Acting Director, Economic Development, Tim Reynolds, Economic Development Manager, Trade Investments, Farzana Crocco, Manager, Economic Development Strategic Marketing, Ken Scholtens, Manager, Business Development, Kelly Provost, Economic Development Officer, Blake Landry, Manager, Economic Research and Analysis, and Jayesh Menon, Foreign Trade Zone Coordinator, provided information respecting Economic Development Overview. Topics of the presentation included:

- Role of Niagara Economic Development
- Team Organization
- Partnerships and Reporting Structure
- Team Niagara MOU
- Trade and Investment
- Strategic Marketing and Initiatives
- Business Development and Expedited Services
- Economic Development Officer
- Economic Research and Analysis
- Foreign Trade Zone

Moved by Councillor Diodati
Seconded by Councillor Darte

That Report ED 1-2019, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Economic Development Overview, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information respecting the metrics pertaining to Economic Development's current projects. Councillor Foster.

6.2 PDS 2-2019

Environmental Planning Function Overview

Jennifer Whittard, Manager, Environmental Planning, provided information respecting Environmental Planning Function Overview. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background and Policy Framework
- Natural Heritage System
- Provincial Policy Framework
- Environmental Protection and Conservation Areas
- Water Resources System
- Review Jurisdictions
- Planning Review Process
- Region and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Roles and Responsibilities
- Environmental Impact Study
- Woodland By-law (30-2008)

Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor Heit

1. That Report PDS 2-2019, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Environmental Planning Function Overview, **BE RECEIVED**; and
2. That a copy of Report PDS 2-2019 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA), and the Niagara Home Builders Association.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide additional information respecting the relevant legislation governing the environmental features and considerations in Niagara, as outlined in the Environmental Planning Overview presentation, and the delineation of responsibilities between Niagara Region and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. Councillor Sendzik.

6.3 PDS 10-2019

Update on Natural Environment Work Program – New Regional Official Plan

Sean Norman, Senior Planner, provided information respecting Update on Natural Environment Work Program – New Regional Official Plan. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Drivers for Natural Environment Work
- Scope for Natural Environment Work Program
- Project Overview - Natural Environment
- Key Issues to be Addressed
- Progress to Date

Moved by Councillor Ugolini
Seconded by Councillor Butters

1. That Report PDS 10-2019, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Update on Natural Environment Work Program – New Regional Official Plan, **BE RECEIVED**; and
2. That Report PDS 10-2019 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Area Municipalities and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA).

Carried

6.4 PDS 3-2019

Development Applications Monitoring Report - 2018 Year End

Lindsay Earl, Senior Development Planner, provided information respecting Development Applications Monitoring Report - 2018 Year End. Topics of the presentation included:

- Total Applications
- Preconsultation Meetings
- Regional Review Fees Collected (2013-2018)
- Application Review Timeline Targets (2013-2018)

Moved by Councillor Butters
Seconded by Councillor Heit

1. That Report PDS 3-2019, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Development Applications Monitoring Report - 2018 Year End, **BE RECEIVED**; and
2. That a copy of Report PDS 3-2019 **BE CIRCULATED** to Local Area Municipalities, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, Niagara Home Builders Association, Niagara Industrial Association, local Chambers of Commerce and School Boards.

Carried

6.5 PDS-C 3-2019

Update on the Status of GO Service to Grimsby

Matt Robinson, Director, GO Implementation Office, provided information respecting An Overview of Niagara's GO Rail Expansion. Topics of the presentation included:

- The Catalyst - Environmental Study Report
- Key Niagara GO Milestones
- Proactive Efforts
- Enabling Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
- Grimsby, St. Catharines, and Niagara Falls GO Station
- Niagara Falls Bridge Street Reconstruction Environmental Assessment (EA)
- St. Paul Street West Canadian National Railway (CNR) Bridge Reconstruction EA
- Casablanca Boulevard Reconstruction
- Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Easton
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That the following consent items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

PDS-C 3-2019

Update on the Status of GO Service to Grimsby

PDS-C 4-2019

Niagara Falls GO Station Functional Design

Carried

6.8 PDS-C 7-2019

Niagara Region's draft comments: Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan (ERO 013-4504, 013-4505, 013-4506, 013-4507)

Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor Champion

That Correspondence Item PDS-C 7-2019, being a memorandum from I. Banach, Manager, Long Range Planning, dated February 20, 2019, respecting Niagara Region's draft comments: Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan (ERO 013-4504, 013-4505, 013-4506, 013-4507), **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 Niagara Businesses and Stakeholder Meeting

Councillor Darté provided information respecting Regional Talent Innovation Networks (RETAIN) and suggested a meeting with Niagara's businesses and stakeholders be planned for September 2019 to discuss the various issues affecting Niagara's labour pool, such as labour shortages and the deficit of skilled trade workers. Councillor Darté requested staff provide more information respecting this initiative at the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting being held on March 20, 2019.

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

There were no closed session items.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Councillor Huson
Committee Chair

Jonathan Gilston
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk