



MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

www.mississauga.ca

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2009 - 10:01 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1

PRESENT: Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (Chair)
Councillor Carmen Corbasson, Ward 1
Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 6
Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (Vice-Chair)
Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member
Sophia Chalaidopoulos, Citizen Member
Peter Orphanos, Citizen Member
Darius Chia, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA)
John Lohuis, Director, Recreation and Parks (Environmental Management)
Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager, Environmental Management
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Coordinator
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant
Mary Bracken, Environmental Planner, Policy Planning Division
Roberto Zuech, Legal Counsel, Office of the City Solicitor
Karin Ann Brent, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

ABSENT: Dr. Brad Bass, Geography Dept., University of Toronto in Mississauga
Simone Hacikyan, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA)

GUESTS: Lincoln Kan, Manager of Environmental Services, Transportation and
Infrastructure Planning Division, Transportation and Works Department
Ruth Marland, Team Leader, Long Term Planning, Planning and Development,
Business Services, Community Services Department
Andy Wickens, Manager of Parks, Recreation and Parks, Community Services
Heather Harding, Project Coordinator with Environmental Defence

CALL TO ORDER – 10:01am

INTRODUCTIONS - Nil

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Vice-Chair Michael DeWit)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(s)

- November 3, 2009

Adopted as Presented (Councillor Carmen Corbasson)
MG.31

DEPUTATION A - Mississauga Water Quality Control Strategy

Lincoln Kan, Manager of Environmental Services, Transportation and Infrastructure Planning Division, Transportation and Works Department gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the City of Mississauga's storm water management and proposed measures such as ditches and planting vegetation in ditches and swales. Mr. Kan noted that certain municipal by-laws will require amendment to allow some of the suggested controls to be implemented.

In response to the question by Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopolous questioned whether retention ponds will result in standing water that could support mosquito larvae, Mr. Kan explained that retention ponds are generally designed to drain out in twenty-four to forty-eight hours and therefore this should not likely be a resultant problem. In response to a further question by Mrs. Chalaidopolous about whether the Credit Valley conservation authority would participate with the suggested controls, Mr. Kan advised that the City is contemplating the implementation of a downspout disconnection program. Mrs. Chalaidopolous questioned the cost to homeowners to which Mr. Kan advised that a kit for downspout disconnection can be purchased for twenty to thirty dollars. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos opined that the Credit River Anglers Association would likely support a downspout disconnect program, noting that he has diverted the downspout runoff from his home's root out into a pond that provides water to his gardens. Subsequently, Mr. Orphanos moved receipt of the subject deputation for information.

Received for Information (Citizen Member Peter Orphanos)
Recommendation EAC-0039-2009
EC.03

DEPUTATION B - Draft Future Directions Master Plan for Parks and Natural Areas

Ruth Marland, Team Leader, Long Term Planning, Planning and Development, Business Services, Community Services Department gave a PowerPoint presentation presenting the draft master plan for the provision of parks and natural areas in Mississauga. Mrs. Marland advised that the Manager of Parks Andy Wickens was present with her, to answer any questions of the committee.

Citizen Member Peter Orphanos initiated discussion about a potential future population of one million as a result of development intensification, opining that this supports the need to protect and retain the natural areas and parks in Mississauga, suggesting that the Credit River valley should be made part of the provincial greenbelt. Chairman Councillor George Carlson opined that there should be minimalism of mechanical components in parks, and suggested that public attitude is slowly changing to value vacant land for parks and natural areas with a city. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos suggested that the City should acquire the lands along the Credit River to allow for protection of the natural areas, and also suggested that the Culham Trail be developed northbound to the Town of Orangeville. Councillor Carolyn Parrish moved receipt of the subject deputation for information.

Received for Information (Councillor Carolyn Parrish)
Recommendation EAC-0039-2009
CD.21 (CD.10)

DEPUTATION C - Proposed Environmental Sustainability Master Plan

Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager of Environmental Management, Recreation and Parks Division of the Community Services Department gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed formulation of a master plan for the provision of environmental sustainability.

Vice-Chair Michael DeWit questioned how the proposed plan will be communicated to the public for cooperation with its strategies. Mr. Nicolucci explained that the subject plan is scoped for city-owned facilities and therefore it does not give direction to private property requirements. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos opined that the environment is a base need for all maintenance and development and suggested that Council be requested to allocate funding for sustainability studies.

Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopolous moved receipt of the subject deputation for information.

Received for Information (Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopolous)
Recommendation EAC-0039-2009
CD.21 (CD.11) (EC.19)

DEPUTATION D - Growing the Greenbelt

Heather Harding, Project Coordinator with Environmental Defence gave a verbal presentation regarding the Ontario Greenbelt, including a suggestion that this committee request Mississauga City Council to pass a Resolution that requests the Region of Peel to apply to the province for an expansion of the Greenbelt to include publicly-owned lands within the Credit Valley River within the City of Mississauga.

Ms. Harding explained that the greenbelt provides a 30m buffer along waterways and that there is a need to connect northerly to the provincially designated greenbelt lands and create green linkages between the urban centres and rural areas. Ms. Harding concluded her deputation with note that February 2010 will be the 5th anniversary of the Greater Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt.

Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopolous questioned whether the tree canopy in the greenbelt has increased, and also whether an increase in tree canopy along the Credit River valley northerly from Mississauga could be achieved. Chairman Councillor George Carlson explained that Mississauga is not a registered partner of the organization known as Environmental Defence, and opined that even though no immediate action for acquisitions would be required, it would be beneficial for this committee to align its efforts with those of Environmental Defence. Ms. Harding noted that her deputation and requested motion is about connecting the existing city-owned green space with that in the municipalities north of Mississauga. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos opined that the subject Greenbelt Plan appears to be permissive, and while showing the intent and continuation of leadership, is not binding or restrictive. Environmental Planner Mary Bracken noted that the Green Belt is permanently protected, and also that Mississauga has the Credit River and Etobicoke Creek through which to gain connectivity, questioning whether these are targeted for specific reasoning. Ms. Harding confirmed that their campaign seeks to bring publicly-owned lands into the Green Belt for linkage and connectivity. Responding to Ms. Bracken's further question about the criteria set in the year 2008, Ms. Harding advised that the Region of Peel's development plans will fit with the Greenbelt Plan. Chairman Councillor George Carlson suggested that this issue be referred to staff for a report back to the committee. Director of Recreation and Parks John Lohuis noted that there are several components to consider and questioned whether the Etobicoke Creek will be part of the scope. Vice-Chair Michael DeWit noted the need to look at the impacts of taking the requested actions.

Subsequently, Councillor Carmen Corbasson moved that this matter be referred to staff for review and a report back to the Environmental Advisory Committee regarding the potential consequences of participating with the request for expansion of the Ontario Greenbelt through publicly-owned lands in Mississauga located along the Credit River valley and other natural systems.

Referred to Staff for Report Back (Councillor Carmen Corbasson)

Recommendation EAC-0040-2009

EC.11.GRE

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Business Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
 1. Idling Control By-law – Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Comments

Memorandum dated November 23, 2009 from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Coordinator, Environmental Management Section, Community Services Department, regarding a recommendation issued by Mississauga's Public Vehicle Advisory Committee on November 10, 2009.

GC-0759-2009 [adopted by Council 25 Nov 2009]

1. That the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee recommends that the City's Idling Control By-law 0194-2009 be amended to include taxicabs under the definition of "Transit Vehicle" and that Environmental Management Division staff be directed to bring a Corporate Report to General Committee in a timely manner, to give affect thereto.
2. That correspondence dated July 27, 2009 from Peter Pellier with respect to the City's Idling Control By-law 0194-2009, be received.
(PVAC-0010-2009)

During discussion, responding to a question by Citizen Member Hassaan Basit, Ms. McLeod clarified that the request of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee relates to concerns of the taxi industry regard to maintaining a comfortable temperature in taxicabs for both drivers and passengers. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos suggested that further discussion with the taxi industry representatives and licensing staff might identify circumstances that would warrant exemption from the subject by-law regulations. Chairman Councillor George Carlson noted that taxicabs often curtail engine idling for fuel saving, and suggested that a standard for taxi operations would be appropriate. Councillor Carolyn Parrish noted that the City of Ottawa does not exempt its taxi industry from its idling control by-law, and suggested that taxicab drivers could use their discretion about idling and operating heating and air conditioning equipment in their vehicles. Councillor Carmen Corbasson noted that for the purpose of enforcing the by-law, clearly set temperature levels related to exemption are required, and advised that she would support considering taxis as public transit vehicles to allow for temperature exemptions from the Idling Control By-law. Citizen Member Peter Orphanos expressed concern for people who may disregard the subject by-law regulations, and questioned the City of Toronto's anti-idling regulations for temperature levels and idling time perimeters. Ms. McLeod advised that the regulations relate to temperature levels which cause the health department to issue extreme heat or cold alerts to the community. Councillor Carolyn Parrish questioned the control of idling at car washes and drive thru service lanes, to which Ms. McLeod explained that these situations are not specified in Mississauga's Idling Control By-law. Discussion concluded with request that staff also review the feasibility of requiring the installation of idling control signage by businesses that operate driver through service lanes in the report directed in Recommendation PVAC-0010-2009.

Received for Information / Directives (Councillor Carmen Corbasson)

Recommendation EAC-0039-2009

BL.08.IDL

2. New Business

1. Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 24 (ROPA 24) Places to Prosper Proposing Changes Related to Growth Management, Employment Lands, and Greenbelt Policies

Memorandum dated November 20, 2009 from Emily Irvine, Planner, Policy Planning Division of the Planning and Building Department providing information about the Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 24 (ROPA 24).

The Corporate Report dated October 27, 2009 that presented this matter to Mississauga's Planning and Development Committee on November 16, 2009 can be viewed on the City's web site with that agenda:

http://www5.mississauga.ca/agendas/planning/2009/11_16_09/Item03ROPA24PlacesToProsper.pdf

Vice-Chair Michael DeWit questioned whether the Green Belt relates to the subject ROPA 24 Official Plan amendment. Environmental Planner Mary Bracken explained that if Mississauga participates with the Green Belt Plan, it will relate via the proposed policies.

Citizen Member Peter Orphanos moved receipt of the subject Memorandum for information.

Received for Information (Citizen Member Peter Orphanos)
Recommendation EAC-0039-2009
LA.09.PEEL (CD.21.PEEL)

2. Smoking Prohibition Near City Facilities and Playgrounds

Corporate Report dated November 19, 2009 from the City Solicitor providing information in response to a request for information from Chairman Councillor George Carlson, about smoking prohibitions near outdoor playgrounds and municipally owned-buildings and facilities.

Councillor Carmen Corbasson moved that this matter be referred to the Region of Peel Health unit for consideration on a region-wide perspective, and that the Region be advised that Mississauga's Environmental Advisory Committee supports restricting smoking activity at a distance of eight or nine metres from a building.

Referred to Peel Health (Councillor Carmen Corbasson)
Recommendation EAC-0041-2009
BL.08.SMO

(2.) 3. List of LEED Buildings in Mississauga

Memorandum dated November 12, 2009 from Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager of Environmental Management Section of the Community Services Department, providing lists of buildings in Mississauga that are certified or registered in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.

Received for Information

Recommendation EAC-0039-2009

EC.16.LEED (PO.08 / CD.21)

3. Information Items

1. Copy of the email from the Region of Peel extending an invitation to its Climate Change Workshop scheduled for 8:30am on Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

Received for Information

MG.31.Information Items

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Holcim (Canada) Inc. Request for Volunteer Citizen Representative

Chairman Councillor George Carlson referenced the referral of Holcim Canada Inc.'s request for a citizen representative for its community advisory panel for the Mississauga plant to the Ward Councillor, and advised that the position is still vacant and that anyone interested can contact Holcim's Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator directly.

PR.01 (MG.11)

NEXT MEETING DATE(s)

- January 12, 2010

ADJOURNMENT – 11:42am

REPORT 8-2009

TO: COUNCIL

The Mississauga Environmental Advisory Committee presents its eighth report of 2009, and recommends:

EAC-0039-2009

That it be acknowledged, the Environmental Advisory Committee received information at its meeting on November 30, 2009 and offered comments recorded in the minutes of that meeting, on the following matters:

1. A PowerPoint presentation regarding Mississauga's Water Quality Control Strategy by Lincoln Kan, Manager of Environmental Services, Transportation and Infrastructure Planning Division, Transportation and Works Department.
2. A PowerPoint presentation regarding the draft Future Directions Master Plan for Parks and Natural Areas by Ruth Marland, Team Leader, Long Term Planning, Planning and Development, Business Services, Community Services Department.
3. A PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed Environmental Sustainability Master Plan by Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager, Environmental Management, Community Services Department.
4. A Memorandum dated November 23, 2009 from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Coordinator, Environmental Management Section, Community Services Department providing notice that staff has been directed (PVAC-0010-2009) to review and report back in response to a request from the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee to amend the Idling Control By-law 0194-2009 to include taxicabs in the definition of 'transit vehicles'.
5. A Memorandum dated November 20, 2009 from Emily Irvine, Planner in the Policy Planning Division of the Planning and Building Department, providing information about the Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 24 (ROPA 24) titled "Places to Prosper Proposing Changes Related to Growth Management, Employment Lands, and Greenbelt Policies" along with a copy of the related Corporate Report dated October 27, 2009 to the Planning and Development Committee (PDC-0096-2009).
6. A Memorandum dated November 12, 2009 from Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager of Environmental Management Section of the Community Services Department, providing lists of buildings in Mississauga that are certified or registered in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.

EAC-0040-2009

That the deputation regarding Growing the Greenbelt presented by Heather Harding, Project Coordinator with Environmental Defence, to the Environmental Advisory Committee at its meeting on November 30, 2009, be referred to staff for review and a report back to the Environmental Advisory Committee regarding the potential consequences of participating with the request for expansion of the Ontario Greenbelt through publicly-owned lands in Mississauga located along the Credit River valley and other natural systems.

EC.11.GRE

(EAC-0040-2009)

EAC-0041-2009

That the Corporate Report dated November 19, 2009 from the City Solicitor, in response to a request for information from Chairman Councillor George Carlson, about smoking prohibitions near outdoor playgrounds and municipally-owned-buildings and facilities, be received and the matter referred to the Region of Peel Health Unit for its consideration of implementing a region-wide prohibition of smoking in proximity to outdoor playgrounds and municipally-owned buildings and facilities.

BL.08

(EAC-0041-2009)