

MINUTES



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014 – 9:00 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1

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MEMBERS

Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1 (Left at 10:21 am)
Councillor Frank Dale, Ward 4
Brad Bass, Citizen Member
Lea Ann Mallett, Citizen Member
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member
Amy Zi-Xuan Liou, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance

AGENCY LIAISONS PRESENT:

Stephanie Crocker, EcoSource

ABSENT:

Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (VICE-CHAIR)
André Plante, Office for Sustainability, Sheridan College
Carl Rodgers, Citizen Member
Val Otori, Citizen Member
Lucia Salvati, University of Toronto Mississauga
Steven Jia, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance

STAFF PRESENT:

Brenda Osborne, Director, Environment Division
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist, Environment Division

CONTACT PERSON: Mumtaz Alikhan, Legislative Coordinator
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Mumtaz.Alikhan@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDER - 9:02 a.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order. Brenda Osborne, Director, Environment Division, introduced, Diana Suzuki, the new Environmental Outreach Coordinator.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as presented.

Approved (Councillor Dale)

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - NilPRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

A. Presentation on Chloride Concentrations Observed Last Winter by Amanjot Singh, Water Quality Engineer, Credit Valley Conservation Authority

Mr. Amanjot Singh, Water Quality Engineer, Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVC), gave a PowerPoint Presentation on chloride concentrations from road salt observed last winter in Mississauga. The sampling focuses on creeks in Mississauga and the impact on the quality of local water courses. The levels of chloride in the Main Credit, Sheridan and Cooksville Creeks over January and February 2014 were significantly in excess of the established levels. He spoke of municipal challenges such as slips and falls and the detrimental impact on the environment. Mr. Singh noted that the City of Mississauga's initiative to replace sand-salt mixture with treated salt has resulted in significant reduction in chloride loading. He noted that more action was needed such as education, insurance or making snow tires mandatory, timing and monitoring of salt applications and collaboration with Region of Waterloo's *Smart About Salt* Program.

In response to questions regarding population growth and extrapolation of its impact, as well as salt testing in Lake Ontario, Mr. Singh responded that the CVC will be collecting more information on population growth, and that salt testing in Lake Ontario will require a joint effort with the Province and the Federal Government.

The Chair thanked Mr. Amanjot Singh for his informative presentation.

Recommendation

EAC-0012-2014

That the PowerPoint Presentation on May 6, 2014 entitled *Chloride Concentrations Observed Last Winter* by Mr. Amanjot Singh, Water Quality Engineer, Credit Valley Conservation Authority, be received.

Received (Councillor J. Tovey)

B. Stormwater Financing Initiative by Jeremy Blair, Storm Drainage Programming Engineer, Transportation and Works Department

Jeremy Blair, Storm Drainage Programming Engineer, Transportation and Works Department, spoke to the increasing pressure on the City's stormwater infrastructure and the need for an effective funding method to keep it in good working order. He gave an overview of the Stormwater Program including the introduction of the Stormwater Charge and its calculation, exemptions, credits for non-residential properties, incentives for home owners and grants for places of worship, the billing system and the implementation timeline of 2014 to 2016. The Stormwater Charge is a user fee authorized under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, and the intent is that it will be assessed to all properties except those exempted. Billing will appear as a line item on the Peel Water Utility Bill.

In response to the Committee's question regarding the use of the funds from the Stormwater Charge, Mr. Blair advised that the funds will be used for capital programs aimed at reducing the risk of flooding such as dredging ponds, maintaining creeks and water courses from debris and erosion, as well as introducing low impact development of roads and reconstruction projects. He noted that staff will take the comments with respect to lack of industry knowledge and options in the marketplace for permeable surfaces, grading of residential areas to prevent water collection, and rebates to homeowners by developers of new housing, under consideration.

The Chair thanked Mr. Blair for his informative presentation.

Recommendation

EAC-0013-2014

That the PowerPoint Presentation to the Environmental Advisory Committee on May 6, 2014 entitled *Stormwater Charge Implementation Project* by Mr. Jeremy Blair, Storm Drainage Programming Engineer, Transportation and Works Department, be received.

Received (Councillor F. Dale)

C. Future Directions 2014 Plan for Parks and Forestry by Eric Lucic, Team Leader – Parks Assets, Parks and Forestry Division

Eric Lucic, Team Leader – Parks Assets, Parks and Forestry Division, spoke to the 2014 Future Directions Master Plan Update for the Parks and Forestry Division. The Future Directions Plan is reviewed every 5 years with the previous one completed in 2009. Mr. Lucic reviewed the key findings related to parkland provision and the downtown growth area and intensification, service delivery and capital projects and the key recommendations. The next steps for finalizing the 2014 Future Directions Master Plan will be public information sessions to be held in April and May 2014, developing prioritization plans, with the final report to Council in June 2014.

In response to the Committee's questions, Mr. Lucic advised that in addition to community gardening, the recommendations include expansion of woodlots around sports fields which

will not require maintenance. The recommendations also include a look at the Transit system as the demand for waterfront parks will increase the need for public access.

The Chair thanked Mr. Lucic for an informative presentation.

Recommendation

EAC-0014-2014

That the PowerPoint Presentation to the Environmental Advisory Committee on May 6, 2014 with respect to the 2014 Future Directions Master Plan Update for Parks and Forestry by Mr. Eric Lucic, Team Leader – Parks Assets, Parks and Forestry Division, be received.

Received (Dr. B. Bass)

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on April 1, 2014

Approved (A. Zi-Xuan Liou)

2. Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign – Phase 3

Andrea J. McLeod, noted that the theme for Phase 3 of the Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign is *Give your Car a Break* which invites Peel residents to give their cars a break to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve health and save money. The Campaign will run from June to October 2014. Ms. McLeod noted that based on evaluations of Phases 1 and 2, changes have been made to improve the Campaign with respect to monthly themed actions, a monthly Greenback Contest which will run on a social media platform, and the Greenest Resident Award which will recognize individuals who have participated in the most actions. In addition to promotion on the Let Your Green Show website, increased use of social media will help track participation with greater ease.

The Committee raised the following issues/concerns:

- Change from the previous Greenest Ward Award to Greenest Resident Award will affect participation;
- Value of face to face interaction encouraging people to ride or walk to events such as Canada Day;

Ms. McLeod advised that she will take the Committee's comments and concerns under advisement.

Recommendation

EAC-0015-2014

That the Memorandum dated April 22, 2014 from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist, entitled *Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign – Phase 3*, be received.

Received (Councillor J. Tovey)

3. Update on Environmental Community Appreciation Evening

Ms. Andrea J. McLeod noted that the Environmental Community Appreciation Evening will be held on June 4, 2014. It is an invitation only event to recognize and thank volunteers, community groups, schools and businesses involved in actions that support and advance environmental and forestry initiatives.

Recommendation

EAC-0016-2014

That the Memorandum dated April 28, 2014 from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist, entitled *Update on Environmental Community Appreciation Evening*, be received.

Received (L. Mallett)

4. Upcoming Agenda Items

Councillor Tovey noted that at a recent meeting he attended with the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence Cities Initiative and the Ministry of Environment in Ottawa, his suggestion to put forward a request to Parliament for soap companies to remove micro-plastics from their products, was well received by Mr. Tom Mulcair, Leader of the NDP, and the Ministry.

Dr. Bass spoke of inviting the Toronto Science Fair student who has developed a low cost green wall bio-filter that removes 100% of plastic micro-beads from soaps when Dr. Sherri Mason, Professor of Chemistry, SUNY Fredonia, New York, is invited to address the Committee.

Dr. Bass felt that the Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law discussion should be brought forward. Ms. Osborne advised that this is part of the Natural Heritage & Urban Forest Strategy and she will seek an update as to its status.

Recommendation

EAC-0017-2014

That the chart from Brenda Osborne, Director, Environment Division with respect to pending and upcoming agenda items dated May 6, 2014, be received.

Received (Councillor F. Dale)

INFORMATION ITEMS

- (a) **Growing the Greenbelt – Referred by Council to Environment Division on April 2, 2014**

Recommendation

EAC-0018-2014

That the Resolution No. 116/13 dated December 13, 2013, from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, with respect to Growing the Greenbelt in Mississauga, referred to the Environmental Division by Council on April 2, 2014, be received for information.

Received (M. Ricker)

- (b) Councillor Carlson thanked Ms. Stephanie Crocker, Executive Director, EcoSource, for the invitation to EcoSource's Open House at their new address.
- (c) Ms. Amy Zi-Xuan Liou, updated the Committee with respect to her attendance at the 2014 Provincial EAC Symposium held on May 3, 2014. She found it both inspirational and a great opportunity for youth to make a difference.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 9 a.m., **Committee Room 'A'**

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT – 10:44 a.m. (Councillor F. Dale)