

MINUTES



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2013 – 9:00 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

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

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MEMBERS

Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (CHAIR)
Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (VICE-CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1 (Left at 10:21am)
Councillor Frank Dale, Ward 4
Dr. Brad Bass, Citizen Member
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member
Carl Rodgers, Citizen Member
Lucia Salvati, University of Toronto Mississauga
Steven Jia, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Amy Zi-Xuan Liou, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Val Ohori, Citizen Member (Left at 10:32am)

AGENCY LIAISONS PRESENT:

Stephanie Crocker, EcoSource

ABSENT:

Lea Ann Mallett, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Brenda Osborne, Director, Environment Division
Mary Bracken, Environment Specialist
Andrea J. MacLeod, Environment Specialist
Julius Lindsay, Community Energy Specialist
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant
Olav Sibille, Planner, Long Term Planning, and Project Lead,
Natural Heritage & Urban Forest Strategy

CONTACT PERSON: Mumtaz Alikhan, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk, Telephone: 905-615-3200, ext. 5425; Fax 905-615-4181

Mumtaz.Alikhan@mississauga.ca

NOTE: The Committee changed the order of the Agenda during the meeting. These Minutes reflect the order of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – 9:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (Councillor F. Dale)

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

A. **Item 2(a)** Natural Heritage and Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS) and Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP)

Mr. Olav Sibille, Planner and Project Lead, Natural Heritage & Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS), advised that this is the final report presented today, for the Environmental Advisory Committee endorsement prior to presenting to the General Committee on February 5, 2014 and to Council on February 12, 2014. He introduced Mr. Mirek Sharp, North South Environmental and Lead Consultant, NH&UFS, and Ms. Margot Ursic, Beacon Environmental and Lead Consultant.

Mr. Mirek Sharp, North South Environmental and Lead Consultant, NH&UFS, spoke to the key changes made to the NH&UFS after staff and stakeholder feedback which included mapping, policy direction and reduced the number strategies from 30 to 26 under four topic areas.

Ms. Margot Ursic, spoke to the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP), which is the technical and support document to the overall NH&UFS Strategy. Ms. Ursic reviewed the 26 strategies under four topic areas namely, Planning; Protection and Management; Engagement and Partnerships; and Tracking, as well as the actions and implementation of the NH&UFS and UFMP.

The Committee commented on the following:

- Naturalization of lawns, roof tops and wall space make ideal sites to natural heritage systems at lower cost than land acquisitions;
- Policies to encourage naturalization of green space;
- Green canopy targets

Ms. Aviva Patel from the Credit Valley Conservation advised that the Region of Peel, with the municipalities, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority and the Toronto and Regional Conservation Authority, is leading a project to look at priority planting and plantable spaces in municipalities. The project is scheduled to commence in 2014.

Ms. Michelle Walmsley, resident, addressed the Committee with respect to the Carolinian forest which spans from Toronto to Windsor. The Forest is a vibrant and fragile eco-system extremely rich in a diverse range of plant and animal species, a number of which are rare. It is under threat and requires protection.

Received (B. Bass)

Ms. Sue Shanly, Chair, MIRANET Environment Sub-Committee, distributed comments from MIRANET addressing the concern that the green canopy target is insufficient and a minimum of twenty percent (20%) should be aggressively pursued. MIRANET also supports the proposed expansion of the Greenbelt Plan into the City.

Received (B. Bass)

Ms. Jessica McEachren, Woodlands and Natural Area Supervisor, Parks and Forestry Division, clarified that the twelve percent (12%) target applies to the Natural Heritage increase and that the fifteen to twenty percent (15% to 20%) target applies to the green canopy coverage.

The Committee dealt with Item 2(b) at this time.

B. Item 2(b) Feasibility Analysis for Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt into Mississauga

Mr. Olav Sibille, Planner and Project Lead, Natural Heritage & Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS), noted that the Feasibility Analysis, as directed by Council in 2010, is complete. The Report recommends that staff conduct preliminary work to pursue application to the Region for designation of suitable lands to the Greenbelt. He introduced Paul Lowes, Principal, Sorensen Gravely Lowes Planning Associates Inc.

Mr. Lowes provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the Feasibility Analysis for the Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt. He addressed the limitations and the advantages of the Greenbelt expansion and advised that clarification was received from the Province on issues related to recreational properties, extent of designation, types of publicly owned lands, as well as provincial resources for implementation and public communication. The Report recommends that it is feasible to expand the boundaries of the Greenbelt Plan under the Urban River Valley policies, and that a Resolution would be required from both City and Regional Councils for the expansion.

The Committee thanked Mr. Lowes and recommended that this matter be reported directly to Council as soon as possible and that staff co-ordinate with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority with respect to mapping costs and timing on the Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan Area into Mississauga.

The Committee suggested that as the Greenbelt Plan requires amendment each time additional lands become publicly owned, that a five year process be implemented to re-examine changes to Provincial policies

The Committee dealt with Item 2 at this time.

2. Natural Heritage & Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS) and Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP), and Feasibility Analysis for Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan Area into Mississauga

Recommendation

EAC-0049-2013

1. That the PowerPoint Presentation dated December 10, 2013 with respect to the Natural Heritage and Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS) and Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) by Mr. Olav Sibille, Planner and Project Lead, NH&UFS, Mr. Mirek Sharp, North South Environmental and Lead Consultant, NH&UFS, and Ms. Margot Ursic, Beacon Environmental and Lead Consultant, Urban Forest Management Plan, be received;
2. That the PowerPoint Presentation dated December 10, 2013 entitled “Feasibility Analysis for Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan Area into Mississauga” by Mr. Olav Sibille, Planner and Project Lead, NH&UFS, and Mr. Paul Lowes, Principal, Sorensen Gravely Lowes Planning Associates Inc., be received;
3. That the report dated November 28, 2013 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled “Natural Heritage and Urban Forest Strategy (NH&UFS), Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP), and Feasibility Analysis for Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan Area into Mississauga”, be endorsed;
4. That staff begin preliminary work required to pursue application to the Region of Peel for the designation of Urban River Valley (URV) lands along the Credit River and Etobicoke Creek including preparing an estimate of related costs, and report back to Council early in 2014; and
5. That staff co-ordinate with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority with respect to mapping costs and timing on the Expansion of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan Area into Mississauga.

Approved (Councillor J. Tovey)

The Chair thanked Mr. Sibille, Mr. Sharp, Ms. Ursic and Mr. Lowes for their efforts on the projects.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councillor Dale noted that he was absent on other municipal business on November 5, 2013. The Minutes of the meeting held November 5, 2013 were approved as amended.

Approved (M. Ricker)

3. Gasoline Pump Warning Labels

Recommendation

EAC-0050-2013

That the Recommendation in the report dated November 15, 2013 entitled “Gasoline Pump Warning Labels”, from the Commissioner of Community Services that the City of Mississauga not pass a by-law that requires gasoline retailers to place climate change warning labels on the handles of gasoline pump nozzles, be approved.

Approved (M. DeWit)

4. Bottled in City Facilities

Mary Bracken, Environment Specialist, Environment Division, advised that staff conducted a municipal scan of practices. There are 15 water filling stations in the City and new ones will be installed as City facilities get retrofitted. She noted that all Libraries, Community Centres as well as the Civic Centre are part of the Blue W Program.

Recommendation

EAC-0051-2013

That the following Recommendations in the report dated November 22, 2013 entitled “Bottled Water in City Facilities” from the Commissioner of Community Services, be approved:

1. That the City of Mississauga continue with its existing practices to increase access to tap water in City facilities and at events on City property; support the Region of Peel’s tap water promotion campaign; participate in the Blue W Program; and encourage staff to use reusable beverage containers, and;
2. That the City of Mississauga not pursue a ban on single-use bottled water in City facilities at this time.

Approved (V. Ohori)

5. Banning of Plastic Shopping Bags

Mary Bracken, Environment Specialist, Environment Division, reviewed the decision made by the Region of Peel.

Recommendation

EAC-0052-2013

That the Report dated October 8, 2013 from the Region of Peel to its Waste Management Committee entitled "Region of Peel's Response to the Potential Ban of Plastic Shopping Bags in Mississauga" be received, and that the Environmental Advisory Committee supports the Region of Peel's Waste Management Committee Recommendation WM-18-2013 dated November 7, 2013 citing "*That the Region of Peel not support a ban of plastic shopping bags at this time*" which was subsequently approved on November 28, 2013 by the Council of the Regional Municipality of Peel Resolution 2013-1079.

Approved (Councillor F. Dale)

6. Let Your Green Show Update

Andrea J. McLeod, Environment Specialist, Environment Division, provided a verbal update on the work underway for the planned third phase of the campaign and details will be provided to the Committee once finalized.

7. Upcoming Agenda Items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) Role

Ms. Osborne advised that this Chart and the Outstanding Issues Chart will be combined for ease of use in 2014.

Chart from Environment staff with respect to upcoming agenda items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) role.

Recommendation

EAC-0053-2013

That the chart from Environment staff with respect to upcoming agenda items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EA) role, be received.

Received (M. Ricker)

8. Status of Outstanding Issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

Chart dated December 10, 2013 from Mumtaz Alikhan, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Recommendation

EAC-0054-2013

That the chart dated December 10, 2013 from Mumtaz Alikhan, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee, be received.

Received (C. Rodgers)

INFORMATION ITEMS

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 9 a.m., **in Committee Room ‘A’**,
2nd Floor, City Hall

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT – 10:39 a.m. (Councillor F. Dale)