



SUBJECT: Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown Concept Discussion

TO: Community Planning, Regulation & Mobility Cttee.

FROM: Community Planning Department

Report Number: PB-89-19

Wards Affected: All

File Numbers: 505-08-16

Date to Committee: December 5, 2019

Date to Council: December 16, 2019

Recommendation:

Receive and file community planning department report PB-89-19 regarding Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown Concept discussion.

PURPOSE:

To facilitate further discussion of the proposed land use concepts presented in the document titled "Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown: Themes, Principles and Land Use Concepts" found in Appendix A to this report.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
 - Improve integrated city mobility
 - Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
 - Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
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Background and Discussion:

In early 2019 Council directed staff to re-examine the policies of the Official Plan related to the Downtown. In Phase 1 of the project engagement focused on identifying what is important to the community about Downtown. The work of Phase 1 confirmed the vision for the Downtown and provided guidance to help inform the development of, and evaluation of two alternative land use and built form concepts, or the “concepts”. In Phase 2 of the project engagement has been focused on two alternative concepts for discussion as presented in the document titled “Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown: Themes, Principles and Land Use Concepts” found in Appendix A to this report.

The purpose of the discussion on December 5th is to:

- Provide a project overview including the work plan, scope, givens (Major Transit Station Area, Urban Growth Centre, and Mobility Hub), and process;
- Provide the consultant the opportunity to present the report titled “Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown: Themes, Principles and Land Use Concepts” (Appendix A);
- Share the preliminary analysis of the feedback received to date;
- Share direction, based on what staff have heard to date, regarding the development of a preliminary preferred concept plan; and,
- Provide an opportunity for further discussion and input from the public, stakeholders and Council on the concepts.

Strategy/process

No decisions are being made as a result of this discussion. This is an opportunity to hear from Council and a further opportunity to hear from the public and stakeholders related to the land use concepts presented in Appendix A, released in late October.

Options Considered

The process has been designed to provide an opportunity to share what project staff has heard through the engagement period and to provide an opportunity for Council questions prior to delivering the preliminary preferred concept plan in January.

Financial Matters:

Funding of \$600,000 from the Policy initiatives reserve fund was approved as part of the 2019 budget for Official Plan related initiatives to cover a number of related studies, including the scoped re-examination of the adopted OP.

Total Financial Impact

See above.

Source of Funding

See above.

Other Resource Impacts

Not applicable

Climate Implications

Not applicable, no decisions being made.

Enterprise Risk:

Not applicable, no decisions being made.

Engagement Matters:

An engagement plan was developed to support the project. The full engagement plan can be accessed on the Get Involved Burlington page for the project.

Engagement on the land use concepts was held between October 23 and November 19. A wide range of approaches were used to invite engagement and discussion on the land use concepts including:

- 4 action labs;
 - 1 walking tour;
 - Online survey;
 - In classroom engagement opportunities with high school students; and,
 - In person drop in sessions.
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Conclusion:

Taking a closer look at the downtown provides an opportunity to refine the land use policy framework in the downtown to guide development to 2031. This discussion gives a further opportunity to reflect on the proposed concepts released for engagement in October to support the preparation of a preliminary preferred concept plan in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Enns

Project Manager – Official Plan

905-335-7600 ext. 7787

Appendices:

- A. Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown: Themes, Principles and Land Use Concepts

Notifications:

Dan Tovey, Manager of Policy, Region of Halton

OP Mailing List (email)

Project Mailing List (email)

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Council. Final approval is by the City Manager.