



Burlington Sustainable Development Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: April 17, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Hybrid meeting- Virtual and Room 247 City Hall

1. Members Present:

Mathew McAuley, Gaurav Behal, Margaret Bancercz, Peter Nimmrichter, Sean Morrison, Scott Black, Bo Akanbi, Gary Busteed, Paul Klysen, Shuchita Gupta

2. Member Regrets:

Dave Rokosh, Ariel Bautista, Sarah Mirriam, Lisa Hanson, Deb Toor, Councillor Sharman

3. Others Present:

Lynn Robichaud (Manager, Environmental Sustainability), Kate Hill-Montague (Supervisor, Planning Policy), Lauren McAusland (Coordinator, Better Homes Program), Becky Ellis (Supervisor, Landscape Architecture), Jon Joyce (MBTW), Sheila Boudreau (Spruce Lab), Julia van der Lann de Vries (Spruce Lab), Suzanne Gillies (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement:

The Land Acknowledgement was read.

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Approval of Minutes:

7. Delegation(s):

None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 Civic Square renewal project - 3 design concepts - Becky Ellis, Supervisor Landscape Architecture

John Joyce provided a presentation (attached) to the committee and gathered feedback and answered questions.

(Q) What material will be used for the canopies? (A) That is still to be determined since these are only conceptual designs, however they will probably have a hard roof, not a sail like material.

(Q) With the development at 409 Brant Street being a 24-story building, what has the sun analyze shown for Civic Square once the building is complete? (A) An analyze was done with the building and it will cast shadow over Civic Square in the morning, with full sun in the afternoon into the evening.

(Q) Has there been consideration to moving the house at 447 Locust Street? (A) That property was not in scope for this project.

(Q) Could the parking lot be eliminated all together? (A) The accessible parking needs to stay in that location, it is important to have accessible parking as close to City Hall as possible. Although Civic Square will be used during weekend and evenings for a lot of events and gatherings, City Hall is a Municipal building and the right thing to do is have accessible parking in the shortest route to City Hall during business hours.

(Q) Are there concerns with the homeless using the covered (canopied) area for shelter? (A) Site safety and security is a priority, lighting is being used as crime prevention, design has been done from the eye of the police to create a safe space. One way to prevent safety issues is to have the space used and animated as much as possible.

(Q) Can the canopies be more natural? Use glass or trees instead of metal? (A) Yes - some of the canopies we have been looking at have glass on the roof, it is possible. Canopy structures will be needed opposed to trees, trees are not reliable, a mix would be great to strike a balance.

(Q) How has the Indigenous community been engaged? (A) Leaders at First Nations have been engaged and are up to date on the framework of the designs. We are asking them how they would like to be involved. So far, the feedback is an opportunity for education as well as public art.

8.2 Council and staff updates:

a. Councillor Sharman

No update as Councillor Sharman was absent.

b. Lynn Robichaud - Sustainability

Lynn provided the following updates to the committee:

- the following EICS reports went to the Committee of the Whole (COW) in April and were all approved:
 - Corporate Zero Waste Policy update
 - Update to the Corporate Energy and Sustainable Building Policy
 - Bay Area Climate Change Council report
- Also of note, the Urban Forest Master Plan update was approved at the April COW
- On the agenda for the May COW from EICS is an update on the Better Homes Burlington program as well as a Climate Resilient Burlington progress report
- Currently working on a Climate Lens Policy and Guide
- Developing a Memorandum of Understanding for BurlingtonGreen fee for service agreement
- April 27 BurlingtonGreen will be engaging with the public from the Eco Hub
- May 4 is the Burlington For Accessible and Sustainable Transit (BFAST) Forum at the Burlington Central Library from 1pm - 3pm
- May 7 is the BACCC Climate Forum, in-person tickets are sold out, however Peter was offered 2 tickets that he cannot use so please let Suzanne know if you would like to attend
- Staff would like to add the new members of the committee to the Take Action Blog email list, please let Lynn know if you do not want to be added to the list
- Energy staff are working on four deep energy efficiency retrofit studies for the following facilities - Nelson Arena, Sims Square, Animal Control and Tansley Woods Recreation Centre

c. Kate Hill-Montague - Community Planning

Kate provided the following updates to the committee:

Staff continue to work on the Official Plan Targeted Realignment Exercise. This project will advance the policies of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 (BOP, 2020) by identifying where we should consider changes to the Official Plan. These changes will make sure that the Official Plan:

- Responds with a Burlington approach to the recent changes to Legislation, Provincial and Regional Plans, and policies;
 - Represents the community and Council's vision for growth; and
 - Embeds policies that further the objectives of the City's Strategic Plan, Housing Strategy, Integrated Mobility Plan and other master plans.
- The new OP needs new Zoning By-Laws to increase housing options
 - Looking to future workplans, staff are looking at how to move forward with three new community areas, this is in the very early planning stages
 - Major Transit Station Areas, area specific plan report will be going to the June Committee of the Whole meeting
 - Staff have been reviewing Bill 185 - Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes- new legislation from the province. A report outlining staff's response to the proposed amendments to the planning act.
 - Residential policies are no longer under appeal with the OLT

8.3 Policy and Development subcommittee

No update

8.4 Awareness subcommittee

Scott provided the following updates to the committee:

- The subcommittee is still looking for a chair
- Lauren is the staff representative on the committee

- At the meeting members were provided with an overview of what has been done in the past and how the committee operates
- Discussion around doing 2 events, one in the spring and one in the fall, and talked about if a spring event is even possible at this time or if they should just focus on the fall
- The following ideas were discussed as possible events - BurlingtonGreen Clean up Green up where the committee can register to host a community clean up, Yellow Fish Road which bring awareness to hazardous waste being put in storm sewers, Plug and Drive the committee could partner and promote the event, doing a webinar and/or community engagement on growing your own food, another webinar topic could be about endangered species

Please provide any ideas for events and webinars to members of the Awareness subcommittee, open to any and all ideas from committee members.

8.5 Reports from external groups and conferences:

a. Bay Area Climate Change Council (BACCC)

Peter has been in touch with staff at BACCC and has arranged a meeting to introduce himself and understand his participation on the council. The May 7 event is taking place instead of a meeting so the first meeting Peter will attend is on June 27.

b. Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee (ITAC)

No update, Sean has volunteered to represent SDC on the committee moving forward.

9. Other Business:

10. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.