



Minutes

Environment Advisory Committee The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Members Present:

Preethi Anbalagan (Co-Chair)
Akeem Gardner (Co-Chair)
Harripaul Bridgemohan
Rajbalinder Ghatoura
Jafir Jaferi
David Laing
Davika Misir
Sherry-Ann Ram
Vipul Shah
Stacey Wilson
City Councillor D. Whillans

Members Absent:

Sanjay Mathur
Tamsen Metcalfe
Amandeep Purewal

Staff Present:

Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works and Engineering
Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering
Sonya Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. and adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered.

EAC010-2021

That the agenda for the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2021, be approved, as published and circulated.

Carried

3. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

Nil

4. **Previous Minutes**

4.1 Minutes - Environment Advisory Committee - February 9, 2021

The minutes were considered by Committee of Council on February 24, 2021, and were approved by Council on March 3, 2021. The minutes were provided for Committee's information.

5. **Presentations\Delegations**

5.1 Staff Presentation re: Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Update

Alex Taranu, Senior Advisor, Public Works and Engineering, provided a presentation entitled "Brampton's Riverwalk - The Riverwalk Area Urban Design Master Plan".

Committee discussion took place regarding the Riverwalk project and included the following:

- Survey process and response

- It was noted that survey results will published next week
- Importance of public engagement and support for this project
- Opportunity for local schools to participate
- Suggestions for the Riverwalk project including:
 - Ecological concerns/considerations
 - Protection of naturalized areas
 - Incorporating waste management into the design
 - Implementation of a meadow and pollinator gardens
 - Establishment of a nature interpretive centre
 - Information was provided on the Environment Education Centre in the Heritage Heights area
 - Education and stewardship opportunities
 - Indigenous place-making and gardens

Mr. Taranu advised that all suggestions would be forwarded to the consulting team for consideration.

The following motion was considered.

EAC011-2021

That the staff presentation re: **Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Update**, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2021, be received.

Carried

6. Reports/Updates

- 6.1 Verbal Update from Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, re: Environmental Master Plan Update Approved by Council

Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, advised Committee that the Environmental Master Plan (EMP) Update was approved by Council on March 24, 2021. Ms. Kassaris advised that EMP update has been communicated on social media, and further community engagement will take place with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Clarification regarding carbon reduction targets and the need to clarify public misinformation
 - Staff advised that the City's targets are absolute GHG reductions, not intensity targets
- Request that EAC members be advised when matters related to the environment are presented to Council and/or Committee of Council for consideration

The following motion was considered.

EAC012-2021

That the verbal update from Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2021, re: **Environmental Master Plan Update Approved by Council**, be received.

Carried

6.2 Verbal Update from Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, re: Earth Day

Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, advised Committee that all in-person events for Earth Day have been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, and this event will be promoted online and through various social media channels.

In response to questions from Committee, Ms. Kassaris advised that messaging will include information on Earth Day activities people can do at home and in their communities.

The following motion was considered.

EAC013-2021

That the verbal update from Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2021, re: **Earth Day**, be received.

Carried

6.3 Verbal Update from Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works and Engineering, re: Centre for Community Energy Transformation

Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works and Engineering, provided an update regarding the Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET), which included information on the Advisory Task Force membership and first meeting, which took place on March 18, 2021. Mr. Hoy advised that further information regarding the CCET and the March 18, 2021 meeting is available on the City's website.

The following motion was considered.

EAC014-2021

That the verbal update from Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works and Engineering, to the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2021, re: **Centre for Community Energy Transformation**, be received.

Carried

7. **Sub-Committees**

Nil

8. **Other New/Business**

8.1 Discussion Item at the request of Stacey Wilson, Committee Member, re: Peel's Residential Rat Program and Problem

Stacey Wilson, Committee Member, addressed Committee regarding Peel's Residential Rat Program to control the rat population in Peel, and provided the following:

- Information regarding this program, which includes the use of integrated pest management services and reimbursements for residents
- Factors contributing to the growing rat population (e.g. garbage accumulation and improper storage, leaving food out for wildlife)
- Information on the use of barn owl habitat boxes in woodlots to help control the rat population

In response to questions from Committee, Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, Public Works and Engineering, advised that the City has no direct role in controlling the rat population, as this is a health issue under the jurisdiction of the Region of Peel. He indicated that he would follow up with regional staff to obtain further information on this issue to provide to Committee

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- The Region of Peel's response to this issue and the need for consultation with municipalities
- Concern regarding pest management practices (e.g. use of pesticides/herbicides) and the impact on other natural species
- Using natural eco-systems to address this issue and the need to review this program through an environmental lens

City Councillor Whillans advised that he would review this matter further with staff.

In response to a request from Committee, Mr. Hoy advised that staff would investigate opportunities for implementing habitat boxes in the City's woodlands, where appropriate.

9. Correspondence

Nil

10. Question Period

In response to a question from Sherry-Ann Ram, Committee Member, Stavroula Kassaris, Environmental Planner, Public Works and Engineering, provided further information regarding the City's Earth Day communications, noting that staff will be working with the Strategic Communications Division in this regard. Ms. Kassaris added that Committee members can provide suggestions to staff for additional messaging.

11. Public Question Period

Nil

12. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered.

EAC015-2021

That the Environment Advisory Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Preethi Anbalagan – Co-Chair

Akeem Gardner – Co-Chair