

**Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force
August 28, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Subject:	MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEETING EIGHT
Attendees:	Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Ivano Labricciosa, Scott Henderson, Roger Bouma, Lucy Stocco , Debbie McKee-Demczyk, Jeff Robinson, Katelyn Widdop, Keith Cowley, Dustin Kellow, Nancy Shaw
Guest:	Caitlin Morgan, Turab Rizvi, Navleen Sandhu, Christopher Ing, Chavee Nagulesvaran, Catherine Duncan
Staff:	Warren Munro, Kyle Benham, Paul Ralph
Regrets:	Peter Saturno, Ihor Lysyk, Glen Posteraro, Kyle Douglas, Peter Stoett, Daniel Stober
Meeting location:	Cisco Webex Meeting
Date & time:	August 28, 2020, 11 AM – 12:30 PM

Agenda Item	Actions
1. Welcome	<p>Opening remarks by Mayor Dan Carter and thanks to the participating members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Dan Carter highlighted that business community is concerned about the lack of consumer confidence. • Province will be providing the City with \$4 million for COVID related measures and loss of revenue. Funding will greatly assist the City and in reducing budget impacts. • Mayor Dan Carter is interested in highlighting the local business community through stories about business leaders and their impact. Mayor Carter opened the floor for discussion of whether stakeholders would participate and find the idea to be valuable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Robinson would be interested in participating and noted that he is currently supporting the community by shopping local. • Lucy Stocco stated that their sales offices have begun to open and they have community boards. Tribute Communities can display pictures and messages on their community boards. • Roger Bouma is interested in participating and offered to include the messaging in their digital

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	<p>marketing. Roger noted that shop local is a two-fold strategy – business and personal,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mayor Carter proposed sharing a document with new home buyers about why local matters and the faces of local businesses through their realtor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keith Cowley would be interested in participating and offered to include the marketing pieces in their 100 men of Oshawa organization. Keith also mentioned that it is important utilize personal social media to endorse local shops. • Mayor Carter noted that a guide of how to support local could be helpful. • Nancy Shaw stated that the Chamber can promote shop local through their 700 members. Nancy also noted that a slogan would assist in promotion. • Dustin highlighted the job portal that assists local businesses posting their positions. They can run profiles about the local business owners on the portal. • Ivano Labricciosa suggested creating a link/ central spot where everyone can share their photos. Ivano inquired whether there is a better way to welcome back students and market shop local with the students. • Scott Henderson shared that Trent is looking to hold a Teaching City course related to the local culture sector. In the short term, Trent does not expect a lot of students back but long term should be viable. • Debbie McKee-Demczyk highlighted their existing policies for local procurement. Debbie will follow up with Durham College communication team to support the initiative.
2. August 7th Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the August 7th meeting minutes.
3. Review of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the existing agenda.
4. Re-animating the Downtown Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Ontario Tech University students presented their findings about Downtown Reanimation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six students conducted research and stakeholder interviews during the month of August. • Students highlighted twelve main ideas and their feasibility to the Task Force.

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5. B.I.A. Curbside Pick-up/ Temporary Loading Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Munro will have staff review traffic by-law and other applicable laws and advance if possible. • Further information will be discussed at September 11 meeting. • Ivano Labricciosa highlighted that this will be a key initiative in case of a second wave. Stores are taking extraordinary steps to implement regulations and require city support where possible.
6. Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debbie McKee-Demczyk noted that at Durham College domestic enrolment remains strong but international enrolment has been impacted. Some international students are deferring enrolment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debbie also shared that a new law will allow international students to start online in their home country and still secure a visa for later semesters. • Most Durham College employees will continue to work remotely. • Mayor Carter inquired about the residence vacancy rate. Debbie will inquire about the data and share at the next meeting. • Mayor Carter inquired whether Durham College will be able to accommodate all the international students in January. Debbie stated that they are continuing to create a plan and are considering an online semester. • Scott Henderson provided an update for Trent University. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residence has low occupancy as of now. In their 200 bed count, they are only allowed 140 occupancy. Residency is only 1/3 filled. • International students remains uncertain for now • Overall enrolment is close to the number from last year. • Holding off making decisions about the future but remaining flexible to accommodate all the students. • Only a couple courses will require in person presence for September. • Peterborough residence is close to full given the nature of that campus. • Chair Marimpietri highlighted the significance of mixed use development. Also noted that other municipalities are taking the lead in this initiative as well.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger Bouma currently advising office clients on how to navigate the market. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger is noticing that investors are interested in investing industrial instead of office. Traditionally industrial was considered a lower rate of return. • Lucy Stocco shared that sales remain strong on low rise and high rise in Oshawa and Durham. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum tariffs have not impacted Tribute Communities yet because they are working on contracts that are fixed in prices. • Lumber prices have increased by 50%. Supply chain is also having challenges. • Tribute usually plans home 1 ½ years in advance. They lock in prices with contracts to avoid variability and look ahead. • Jeff Robinson noted that construction industry is very strong and there are still a large number of projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM test track is back up and running with a strong second quarter and they are seeking other projects to include. • Increase in construction of senior residences. • HVAC equipment is slow coming down the pipeline. • Mayor Carter inquired about the bidding process. Jeff noted that there are not a lot of industrial projects but there is an increase in residential and non-profits. Institutional projects have slowed down. • Keith Cowley shared that the biggest impact is in supply chain industry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most businesses are able to survive through Business Credit Availability Program (B.C.A.P.), principal payment deferral, and lines of credit. • Some concern about what happens once the govt. programs wind down. • Growth projects are increasing especially within industrial sector. • Mayor Dan Carter inquired about bankruptcy. Keith will confirm with economist but shared that on a local level there were none.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy Shaw noted that Chamber members are sharing the same feedback as the Task Force members especially the frustration with obtaining lumber. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some members are having to drop their membership due to priorities.
7. Status of Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Benham provided an update on certain action items. • Digital Main Street project is now live. Business Advisory Centre Durham (B.A.C.D.) is engaging clients to have an online presence. • Beta version of the job portal is ready. Awaiting confirmation for a student that could support the project to make it live.
8. Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing remarks by Chair Marimpietri. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial industry will be discussed in the next meeting. • Closing remarks by Mayor Carter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing discussions with Metrolinx, CN, and CP. • Continuing discussions with respect to building around the stations as well. • Mayor Carter will be meeting Premier Ford in the coming weeks and will advance items. • Culture and arts community working on new initiatives this year. • Next meeting will be September 11th at 11 AM.