

**Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force
July 17, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Subject:	MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEETING SIX
Attendees:	Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Nancy Shaw, Dustin Kellow, Ivano Labricciosa, Scott Henderson, Roger Bouma, Lucy Stocco, Glen Posteraro, Kyle Douglas, Debbie McKee Demczyk, Jeff Robinson, Katelyn Widdop (on behalf of Stacey Hawkins), Peter Stoett, Larissa Fenn, Ian Hamilton
Staff:	Paul Ralph, Warren Munro, Kyle Benham
Regrets:	Peter Saturno, Keith Cowley, Ihor Lysyk, Daniel Stober
Meeting location:	Cisco Webex Meeting
Date & time:	July 17, 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"> • Acknowledged that the July 3rd meeting was cancelled due to the passing of an Oshawa business leader. • Discussed the anticipation of Oshawa moving from phase two of recovery to phase three as a key factor in economic impact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that the Steering Committee and Pandemic Committee are meeting regularly to ensure that transition into phase three is seamless. • Highlighted that Oshawa City Council is highly in support of the Memorial Cup Bid for 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately a \$15 million - \$17 million economic impact. • Provincial, national, and international interest in the event. • Working in collaboration with Oshawa Generals.
2. June 19 th Meeting Minutes	Roger Bouma noted that Durham Realtor's Association was incorrectly credited with the suggestion related to second floor office space conversion to residential. Meeting minutes will be updated.
3. Review of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the existing agenda.

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<p>4. Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (H.O.P.A.)</p>	<p>Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority Presentation by Larissa Fenn and Ian Hamilton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase regulations around health and safety for staff. • Decrease in overall volume of shipment but increase for certain products. • Current projects are Sollio Grain Terminal and the demolition of Petrocor tank. • Port Regional Impact is 40,000 jobs, \$3 billion in cargo and support for key industries. • Highlighted their presence in the Community Profile. • Port is key to various activities such as the agricultural sector and potential redevelopment of G.M. lands, etc. • Identified \$25 million in infrastructure needs for Oshawa including dredging, office relocation and shed demolition. • Conducting reviews of sectors to collaborate with and identifying needs of Durham farmers. • Summarized work to date and next steps for Land Use Planning. • Items for collaboration: Harbour Road extension and joint advocacy for infrastructure investment. <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Marimpietri requested clarification on the demolition of the tank. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.O.P.A. stated that the contract has been awarded. Contractor will be applying for the permit. Demolition is anticipated for the month of August. • Chair Marimpietri requested H.O.P.A. comment on increasing public access to waterfront, upgrade to the west wharf and any other partnership opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.O.P.A. stated that recreational use is on their radar but not a scheduled plan. • West Wharf is included in the basket of infrastructure upgrades, however, the area is poorly surfaced and contains storm water issues. • Noted there is a visual component to west wharf that will be considered as well. • Jeff Robinson requested comments on the timeline of the improvement and their economic impact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.O.P.A. stated that improvements will be completed over time. If government finances are in order then improvements could be completed within 3 years. If funding must be from operations then longer time frame.

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	<p>Organization is awaiting government to head into recovery mode to begin the discussions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation will be emailed to members and posted on the task force webpage.
5. Status of Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopening Tool Kit for Small Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted on the website for public use. Document is actively being updated. • Patio Program To Support Reopening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines posted on the website. • Received a number of inquiries for the downtown sidewalk patio program and private property patio program. • Small Businesses' Digital Transformation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City is working with BACD. The application has been submitted to Digital Main Street Program and expecting a result in the coming weeks. • All three post-secondary institutions will be participation. Institutions are ready to go once the funding is in place. • Use of Sureties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have reviewed the surety bond information provided by the Surety Association of Canada. All departments assessed that the risk was too great but are open to further considerations if new information becomes available. • We have received a number of suggestions that the Cultural sector needs support and that it is important with respect to stimulating activity in the community. Staff is working on a proposal with cultural groups and Trent University Durham to identify and respond to this issue beginning in Sept.
6. Local Job Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dustin Kellow summarized the portal is for companies that do not have limited access to job boards. This portal would provide accessibility to companies and job seekers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently they are creating a prototype that will be available in the next couple of weeks. • There will be an easy to use template for job postings for employers. • Portal can be accessed through the task force website or through a search engine. • Key is to spread awareness through marketing and social media. <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Carter suggested social media posts templates that could be used by various organizations.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts will occur after the prototype is created. • Mayor Carter inquired about job trends in the market currently. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dustin Kellow noted that supply chain companies are currently performing very well and hiring a lot. Manufacturers are noticing a decline in new orders. They are filling older orders for now but have concerns about the future. • Glen Posteraro inquired about businesses facing a shortage in part-time employees due to government support programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dustin Kellow stated that government is currently updating their C.E.R.B. and Wage Subsidy programs to address this issue. • Glen Posteraro suggested the portal allow job seekers to indicate their availability in terms of hours that would not conflict with their C.E.R.B. payments. This would allow companies to know right away when interested in a candidate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dustin Kellow will take this into consideration and highlighted the amount that can be earned while on CERB.
7. Re-animating the Downtown Core	<p>Staff and Ontario Tech are working on a proposal to look at options for re-animating and re-building consumer confidence. The project would look at best/interesting practices for elsewhere, consult with stakeholders and suggests options/projects for addressing the issue. It is anticipated that the project will occur in August.</p>
8. Ontario's Economic Recovery Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The letter from the Province was provided to the Task Force for their information. The letter will be posted on Task Force webpage.
9. Roundtable	<p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> <p>Chair Marimpietri stated concern over a second wave of COVID-19 as economists stated that return to normal could take until 2020. Chair requested feedback regarding strategy and updates from businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Robinson shared the strategy and support programs offered by Province and Federal are key and should be maintained. Also expressed concern over travel and borders must remain closed to minimize exposure. • Financial institutions were unable to attend. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keith Cowley's email regarding an update will be shared. • Kyle Benham to connect with Daniel Stober for an update from TD.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen Posteraro shared concern for small business tenants when subsidies cease. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small business tenants could face closure and new tenants will be difficult to find. • Demand for housing has increased. • Online retail is much stronger. • Second floor office space is a challenge to fill right now. • End of the year or New Year will bring strong impact on these businesses. • Roger Bouma stated that housing sales are increasing. There was a significant increase since May and noticing an increasing trend in month over month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also shared that many homes were going over asking and were receiving no less than ten offers. • Roger stated that these increases could be a delayed reaction from spring. • Nancy Shaw shared that there is currently a mixed bag of reactions from the Chamber members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restaurants are eager to enter stage three. • Noticing a trend of people taking the initiative to shop local. • Shared concern over second wave of pandemic. • Business is slow overall but grateful to be back. • Mayor Carter is interested in doing a campaign to show the faces of local businesses and further drive the shop local initiative. • Scott Henderson shared that Trent University's Peterborough residence is full. The Durham campus is not full but actively taking in new students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently a 10% decrease in enrolment but expecting a larger enrolment for 2021/2022.
10. Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing remarks by Mayor Carter and Chair Marimpietri. • Next meeting will be August 7th at 11 AM.