

Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force June 5, 2020 - Meeting Minutes

Subject:	MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEETING FOUR
Attendees:	Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Tito Dante-Marimpietri, Nancy Shaw, Dustin Kellow, Ivano Labricciosa, Scott Henderson, Roger Bouma, Lucy Stocco , Glen Posteraro, Ihor Lysyk, Kyle Douglas, Daniel Stober, Debbie McKee Demczyk, Jeff Robinson, , Stacey Hawkins, Peter Stoett
Staff:	Paul Ralph, Warren Munro, Kyle Benham
Regrets:	Peter Saturno, Keith Cowley
Meeting location:	Cisco Webex Meeting
Date & time:	June 5, 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"> • Discussed the effect on various industries including a major drop in ridership for D.R.T. • Noted that Oshawa and Regional task force's purpose is to feed into each other
2. May 8 th Meeting Minutes	The minutes were approved. They will be posted to the Task Force webpage.
3. Review of the Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Benham reviewed the list of action items since the first meeting and their status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighted five items approved by Council on May 25th meeting and their status in moving them forward • Ivano Labricciosa recommends collecting data on volume of requests and quality of engagements by industry • Durham Recruiting noted the importance of the job portal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Streamline the process to allow employers and employees to find each other quickly ○ Employers cannot afford high premium for employment services currently especially for immediate staffing needs • Tribute Communities supports D.C. deferrals and would like to know whether Region and School Board will be

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	<p>responding positively. Deferrals will assist developers with cash flow issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council is in discussion of whether payment deferral or reduction in payment will be better suit given the forgone revenues ○ Mayor Dan Carter requested a letters of support from Task Force members to help support our case with the Region and School Board ○ Ivano Labricciosa is interested in showing the investment made in the community for development and how it continues to circulate in the economy
<p>4. Economic Forecast Update featuring TD's Deputy Chief Economist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As the outlook breakfast is postponed, TD will provide a virtual economic update ● June 18, 2020, 10:00am ● Co-hosted by TD Bank, the Oshawa Chamber and the City
<p>5. Supporting Small Businesses' Digital Transformation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joint City, Business Advisory Centre Durham (B.A.C.D.), Region and Durham College Program Proposal ● Kyle Benham summarized the program into three part <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digital service squad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Free advisory program offered by B.A.C.D. ● Lobby the province to renew the contract that will be ending in a month and provide more grants to businesses 2. D.M.S. Shop Here <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Large partnership of companies and municipalities ● Allows creation of free shopify site ● Region of Durham released a statement of interest in the program ● Program will be matching students across Canada with businesses 3. B.A.C.D. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Offering \$2500 grants for digital transformation ● Mentoring services <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kyle Benham suggested requesting the province to continue Digital Main Street support and funding ● BIA supports the Digital Main Street Program and believe that municipality support in addition to the Ontario B.I.A. letter that was sent will make the case stronger ● Kyle Benham noted that the work is already in motion and are seeking long term and short term solutions

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Dante-Marimpietri expressed interest in a list of website design and e-commerce businesses that could assist with updating websites • Durham College supports the initiative as it is very collaborative and supports Oshawa businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College already has an existing expertise with similar services being offered to students. • Interested in expediting this process to place ready students with businesses
6. Reopening Tool Kit for Small Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Robinson – need clear direction on how you re-open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the public aware that this how you can feel comfortable going in and businesses can show tangible ways they are making changes • Durham Recruiting – given phase 1 is underway there needs to be a checklist of things to do before opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durham Recruiting offered to share their list • Employers need to know ways to engage with their staff • Chair Dante-Marimpietri expressed interest in a one stop shop for guidelines that would move through economic development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to the Regions version of a generic toolkit but with more industry focus
7. Teaching City/City Idea Lab	<p>Discussion on challenge questions for involving post-secondary students in recovery related activities and research.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Benham summarized the call for interest regarding 5 challenge questions about economic recovery from Tech City • Ivano Labricciosa would like the questions/ solutions to be more actionable and not just about the policies to be implemented. Questions could be reworded to be narrow and outline steps of recovery. • Trent University is currently working on a course for summer regarding immediate COVID19 challenges. Interested in possibly creating a fall course regarding the shop local piece that would address current and long term sustainable solutions. • Ontario Tech supports the initiative. Interested in posing the questions to their graduate classes given their experience in various fields. • Ontario Tech should be able to contribute to digitalization and Teaching City • Ivanno Labricciosa and Peter Stoett offered to work with the City to identify more specific challenge questions.

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8. Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Builders Association suggested that the municipalities require a surety instead of a letter of credit to allow the builders to take on additional projects without have capital tied up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickering is accepting sureties as an example • Kyle Benham will further investigate this item and report back • Home Builders Association expressed concern over staffing in development services department and it's affect on processing applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas that were short staffed will now be facing more challenges as there is a hiring freeze • Commissioner Munro disclosed that backlog currently only exists in water resources but engineering has been directed to support development • Ivano Labricciosa has suggested a local combined meeting of the Metrolinx team to better coordinate efforts particularly with respect to impact on the power grid <p>Downtown Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ivano Labricciosa highlighted two issues from the downtown survey that he would like to bring to the task force's attention. The first is around safety/ security when coming into downtown. The second is restaurant would like an easier method to navigate patio permits as they will be turning to extend their restaurants to the sidewalk. <p>Business Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realtors Association noticed an improvement the past month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply is low because people are not willing to open their homes for showings • C.M.H.C. announced tighter regulations including higher credit score which does not pose a threat to the industry. However, tighter debt service ratio will be an issue • Policy makers shouldn't make one size fits all regulations. New regulations are more tailored to Toronto and Vancouver not smaller municipalities • Ontario Tech will be offering most courses online in fall and winter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labs will be open to bring students in physically • Will have a limited presence in downtown • Registration is currently down 10% • Trent University has started an initiative called Trent Forward

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be moving forward with student residence • Lobbying for federal government to ease regulations for international student through mandatory quarantine or January start date • Expecting a double cohort possibly for next year • Durham College application numbers remain reasonably strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about whether international students will be able to enter Canada • Ivano Labricciosa notes that Oshawa Power is revisiting their buying strategy to find more local suppliers • JJ Maguire has implemented a lot of safety regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about community easing on stay at home rules • Interested in creating an initiative to assist small business with navigating safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have individuals from the City visit businesses to assure they understand reopening guidelines • Mayor Dan Carter is interested in having summer students visit and provide resources to the small businesses
9. Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting will be June 19th at 11 AM • City is continuing to work on provincial and federal programs to expedite infrastructure projects and have more shovel ready projects <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surety vs. Letter of Credit • Letter of support regarding D.C. charges • Going business to business to talk about changes to business • Toolkit for re-opening • Province to refund D.M.S. • List of Website design and ecommerce businesses • Post-secondary interested in speaking further about challenge questions and refining them and course offerings • Coordination meeting with Metrolinx