

**Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force
October 30, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Subject:	MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEETING 12
Attendees:	Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Debbie McKee-Demczyk, Jeff Robinson, Dustin Kellow, Roger Bouma, Nancy Shaw, Peter Stoett, Ivano Labricciosa, Keith Cowley, Glen Posteraro, Lucy Stocco
Staff:	Kyle Benham
Regrets:	Peter Saturno, Ihor Lysyk, Kyle Douglas, Daniel Stober, Stacey Hawkins, Scott Henderson
Meeting location:	Cisco Webex Meeting
Date & time:	October 30, 2020, 11 AM – 12:30 PM

Agenda Item	Actions
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks by Chair Tito-Dante Marimpietri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified task force that meetings will be limited in the upcoming holiday season. • Noted that leadership team is in budget deliberations. • Opening remarks by Mayor Carter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns over the past week about Region of Durham moving back into stage two • Gave a lot of new interviews to remind Ministers, Premier, and MPP that Durham has taken great steps and tremendous job of following guidelines through PPE, social distancing, contact tracing, and capacity requirements. • Mayors from all eight cities and Regional Chair are all in agreement that Region does not need to move back. • COVID cases are mainly occurring from private large gatherings and not restaurants and stores.
2. October 16 th Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the October 16th meeting minutes.
3. Review of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the existing agenda.

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4. Faces of Local Businesses Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Benham provided an update on the Shop Local campaign. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shop Local media release will be live at noon. • All or Nothing Brewery, Avanti's, Lovell Holdings, Genosha Hotel will be the first businesses profiled. • Members will be emailed all information regarding the information to participate. • There will be social media content, flipbook of testimonials on the website, print posters, newspapers ads, banner ads and downloadable business kits. • Ivano Labricciosa suggested the addition of testimonials of customer to showcase confidence and to highlight the businesses that continue to operate. • Mayor Carter suggested impromptu street interviews with Oshawa residents/ customers about shopping local. • Dustin Kellow suggested categorizing businesses by industry in the Oshawa webpage business directory. • Chair Marimpietri suggested speaker's corners where on an established day businesses can come to share their thoughts on shop local.
5. Roundtable	<p>Open Discussion</p> <p>Glen Posteraro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that some restaurants are getting leeway from landlords beyond government subsidy but will need to be paid back. When the payback period begins there is uncertainty of how many businesses can survive. Also, there is uncertainty whether landlords will be inclined to vacate a unit as a new tenant can be difficult to find. • Advising clients that it is not an ideal time to be investing in commercial real estate, instead wait a few months to see recovery mode. Residential market is a great investment but supply is currently low. <p>Debbie McKee-Demczyk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations continue to be steady. Winter term will be offered online. • There has been few sporadic COVID cases with students but the students were off-campus. • Whitby campus expansion will be able to increase capacity for skilled trades training in summer 2021. • Durham College is continuing to explore more ideas for micro-credential training. • Federal government has a call for research proposals for colleges to work with their local community to address

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	<p>social challenges. Seeking input for potential partnerships.</p> <p>Scott Henderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistics and supply chain management program was approved by senate and is now gone for Ministry approval. Program would be available fall 2021. • Enrolment has been steady with slight growth in Durham campus. • Currently 37 student are occupying residence units and 13 more students are interested for the winter semester. • No COVID cases on Durham campus. • Trent University has new properties in Oshawa along King St. Looking to work with City and Region to work on the transport plan. • Considering micro-credential training as well. <p>Nancy Shaw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested Durham College connect with Spirit of Service committee for their research project. • Continue to attract new Chamber members. Some existing members had to drop membership due to budgetary reasons. • Chamber staff continue to work from home. Currently running a video series of “Rediscover you Neighbourhood” to encourage shop local. <p>Jeff Robinson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects are currently status quo. JJ Maguire continues to work through COVID challenges and keep staff safe. No COVID outbreaks on any work sites. • Project on Stevenson Rd South and Bond St. W. is near completion with tenants expected to start moving in within the next few weeks. Lakeridge Health will occupy space on the ground floor and construction for a bistro will begin soon. • In Durham Region there is not as many RFPs compared to east and west but there is a fair amount. • Concrete and labour shortage continue to be a problem west of Whitby. <p>Lucy Stocco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to strong sales in fall, construction for residential is expected to be good for next year. • In the past couple of weeks, high rise and low rise sales have slowed down. This can be related to the seasonal pattern. <p>Roger Bouma</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that there has been a little adjustment in the last couple of weeks due to the seasonal slow-down. Spring sales started late this year which pushed summer sales well into fall. • Averaged 88 sales a week in September which dropped to 82 sales a week in early October. Now averaging 59 residential sales a week. This is an annual trend for the slowdown to begin in October/November. Despite the drop in number of sales the average sale price was 7% above the asking price and average market time remains at 9 days. • Overall strong year for residential real estate. <p>Ivano Labricciosa – BIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the restaurants that will be affected from seasonal change with no outdoor and limited indoor. • Launching a Christmas campaign to eat and shop downtown. Remembrance Day event is now virtual but still promoting the banners. • BIA is conducting two surveys. The first survey showed that businesses are supportive of making sure the unsheltered are looked after, requesting better cleanup of garbage, and in support of less centralized distribution of food and clothing. Second survey about safety and security is currently underway. • BIA is supporting City’s second phase of the parking study. The first study showed there is adequate parking but members have pushed back on that and will be providing input on the second phase. <p>Mayor Carter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and clothing distribution is not allowed in Memorial Park. Organizations will have to spread out throughout the City. Proposed by-law amendment is being introduced to clarify the language and make it concise. <p>Ivano Labricciosa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The energy rates will be increasing as commodity rate will be increasing on November 1st. The increase is generated OPG but billing is through OPUC • Government rebate will be increasing as well to bring prices to inflationary levels. • There is also a new way of charging, customers can either be billed through a tiered rate or time-of-use rate. Customers are confused which system is better suited to their usage patterns. OPUC is providing assistance to make informed decisions without influencing the decision.

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	<p>Customers don't have to make a decision right away, their default charge in the meantime will be time of use rate.</p> <p>Roger Bouma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned over the fact that construction workers are occupying the free parking spaces downtown. This is resulting in parking issues for McLaughlin Square businesses and customers. There was an improvement in the past couple of months but continue to have isolated issues. <p>Mayor Carter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been conversation in the past with the Superintendent and Developer about the parking issue. They made alternative accommodations since their meeting but Mayor Carter will follow up. By-law will also follow up on the situation. • There is also concern of business owners and employees parking in free spots for customers. Suggesting working with the BIA to find a way to identify employee vehicles to avoid spaces being filled for an entire day. <p>Mayor Carter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other communities are stepping up and pick up some of the heavy burden from City of Oshawa to provide shelters across Durham Region <p>Ivano Labricciosa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event Durham Region returning to phase two, the restaurant industry will suffer greatly. BIA is requesting curbside pickup parking spots, extending the patio season with guidelines, marketing and promoting restaurants that are following guidelines, maintain the free parking program, cleaning and shoveling downtown storefronts, and working with DRPS to address trouble spots. <p>Mayor Carter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patio program is extended. Economic Development can assist with any inquiries about related to the extension, outdoor heater guidelines, and fire regulations. • Council has moved the initiative for snow clearing downtown forward, awaiting budget approvals. • Economic Development is working with BIA to identify curbside pickup zones.
6. Task Force Action Items	<p>Kyle Benham provided an update on action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dustin Kellow's commuting piece will be featured in Toronto Sun next week. • Economic Development will be hosting a virtual real estate and developer event on November 18th. Details will be emailed to members.

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7. Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing remarks by Mayor Carter.• Closing remarks by Chair Marimpietri.• Next meeting will be November 20th at 1:30 PM.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due to budget deliberations the time and date is changed.