



## **Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security & Wellbeing April 22, 2022 - Meeting Minutes**

- Attendees:** Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Bob Chapman, Fred Eismont, Noel Coppins, Kelly Brown, Steve Conaby, Sandra Black, Kiersten Allore-Engel, Dr. Peter Stoett
- Staff:** Tracy Adams, Kevin Alexander, Haik Beglarov, Phil Lyon
- Regrets:** Dave Saliba, Matt Bowles, Cindy Malachowski, Stephanie Skopyk, Todd Wilson, Paul Ralph, Shannon McFadyen
- Meeting Location:** Cisco Webex Meeting
- Time:** 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

### **1. Welcome**

Chair Chapman welcomed and thanked all Task Force members for joining.

### **2. Review and Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from March 25, 2022 were reviewed and no changes were made.

### **3. Update on the Downtown Patrol**

#### **Haik Beglarov, City of Oshawa:**

Reported that from March 20 - April 21, 2022 there have been a total of 973 incident reports, of which:

- 119 were criminal in nature but were addressed by Municipal Law Enforcement and Corporate Security;
- 32 were reported to DRPS for assistance;
- 647 were related to loitering and Trespass to Property;
- 173 categorized as garbage/ litter;
- 21 incidents related to graffiti;
- 1 open fire.

#### **Chair Bob Chapman**

As of July, another P.C.O.P. outreach team will be added to expand the hours including evening shifts.

#### **4. Update on Region's Actions**

##### **Kiersten Allore-Engel, Region of Durham**

Provided an update on the Region's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan;

- A searchable catalog was created and posted on [www.durham.ca/cswp](http://www.durham.ca/cswp). The catalog contains the work being produced by the Region related to the priority of risk factors. In addition, a search function by keyword or priority risk factor area is available.
- April 21 was the first area municipal working group to plan for the implementation.
- KPIs have been developed and information is updated regularly, including data points for each of the priority risk factors.

On June 10, there will be a virtual Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) Community Safety and Well-Being Symposium. The purpose is to join the different municipal organizations across the GTHA to share findings from the development of their Community Safety and Well-Being Plans. The event is targeted to people who work in the community safety and well-being policy and program delivery sector. Kiersten will report back after the event to share findings.

Community mapping has started to increase knowledge of the different types of service providers that are doing work in the community. This is an information gathering phase to see if there are any partnership opportunities. Internal working groups at the Region are trying to utilize existing data to assist in determining service delivery duplication and identify efficiencies.

##### **Dr. Peter Stoett, Ontario Tech University**

Suggested that he and Kiersten connect as there are people from the University that can assist with translating data and this could also provide an opportunity for students to get involved. Peter offered to facilitate an introduction to potential speakers for the symposium from the Criminology department.

##### **Mayor Dan Carter**

Introduced Phil Lyon; Director, Municipal Law Enforcement & License Services (MLES).

Mayor Carter continues to meet every month with the Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Board to advocate for more police resources including: a police officer to join the Corporate Security and Municipal Law Enforcement Team overnight and for the police to be more proactive in addressing minor crimes.

In February 2022, Council approved Report FIN-22-22 that provides additional funds to enhance the Corporate Security and Municipal Law Enforcement teams in the downtown. This program has been running since November 29, 2021. Mayor Carter informed the DRPS Board that from November 29, 2021 until April 17, 2022, there were

2,700 interactions ranging from individuals trespassing, open drug use, loitering, graffiti and other activities.

Mayor Carter is scheduled to meet with the Chief of Police, the Chair of the Police Services Board and the Regional Chair to discuss legislation changes, as well as to request more resources on the street, trails and green spaces.

Mayor Carter also recommended reading the book titled San Fran-Sicko by Michael Shellenberger.

### **Chair Bob Chapman**

The Region has purchased the Ritson Road School. A report will be presented to Regional Council in June regarding next steps.

The Micro Home pilot project is doing well. All ten homes are occupied and the residents in the area have welcomed the individuals. One occupant has been hired by the contractor at the Holy Cross School, which has been purchased by The Refuge.

The Holy Cross School is going to have 26 transitional units for youth who require housing. There will be an additional unit for a worker/ mentor to stay who can provide assistance to the other units and connect them to the proper services.

Throughout Durham Region, 219 unsheltered people were placed into housing last year and all are still in the housing to date.

## **5. Update on City's Actions**

### **Kevin Alexander, City of Oshawa**

Working with Social Service providers who are assisting and collaborating on patrols with Corporate Security and Municipal Law Enforcement at least three times a week. Continuing to meet bi-weekly with DRPS to ensure alignment of downtown patrols and initiatives.

By June, there will be 34 new cameras in the Centre Street parking garage.

### **Phil Lyon, City of Oshawa**

Work continues on the implementation of the Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Action Plan; some items have been completed and some will be presented to upcoming Corporate Services Committee meetings.

### **Mayor Dan Carter**

Report FIN-22-48 regarding Decorative Lighting and Event Permit Fees in Downtown Oshawa will be on the Monday April 25, 2022 Council Agenda. It is an investment of almost \$500,000 to enhance decorative lighting in the downtown. The City's Economic Development team has been working with the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Oshawa Business Alliance (D.O.B.A.).

Mayor Carter is looking into the possibility of an ambassador program for the downtown.

The Banner Program is under way which will ensure that the banners are being replaced, refreshed and cleaned up.

Electric Vehicle charging stations are being installed in the downtown core.

### **Chair Bob Chapman**

Provided an update on the Communities with Brooms event as there was a good turnout and garbage collected. Community Services staff continue daily downtown clean up.

The National Conference for the Royal Canadian Army Corps Association is April 28 – 30. It is expected that there will be about 120 visitors, including serving soldiers and veterans.

June is Convocation month, approximately 20,000 visitors expected. The City has allocated funds and is working with post-secondary educational partners to welcome convocation in the downtown core.

Several new restaurants in the downtown indicates confidence in the local economy.

80 and 100 Bond is coming along which will bring approximately 1,000 new residents soon.

## **6. Other business as brought up by Task Force Members**

### **Steve Conaby, Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce**

Collaborating with D.O.B.A. to support Oshawa and bring activities to the downtown core:

- About 60 people attended a Welcome Back event at an Oshawa Generals game;
- AGM on May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Biltmore Theatre, with 60 to 70 attendees anticipated;
- MNP and The Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament is taking place on May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Oshawa Golf and Curling Club.

### **Dr. Peter Stoett, Ontario Tech University**

Shared student requests for an additional emergency (blue) phone to be installed by the Regent Theatre, as there are night classes held there. Kevin Alexander to investigate.

Held an online panel on the opioid crisis, including some local people, which went well.

In-person symposium planned for June 16<sup>th</sup>. Hoping to have experts join from various sectors and to make policy advice recommendations for the Region and the City.

### **Chair Bob Chapman**

Chair Chapman mentioned several upcoming events;

- June 11-12: Peony Festival
- June 19: Fiesta week kicks off with the parade and select pavilions will be open
- June 26: Parkwood Estates is hosting Royal Tea and Garden Party, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Coming this summer: Kars on King

**Sandra Black, OSCC55+**

June will be declared Seniors Month in Oshawa.

June 1 is the annual "Swing into Summer" event, Senior of the Year to be presented.

Sandra will be collaborating with Ontario Tech University, Backdoor Mission, and the Region of Durham to establish a Community Values Agreement.

**Kelly Brown, Region of Durham - Primary Care Outreach Program (P.C.O.P.)**

Numbers are increasing as weather improves; however, there has been less overdose losses in the last couple weeks.

Vaccinations have slowed down, but interest should increase as the fourth dose is available five months after first dose. In about 4-6 weeks, once more people are eligible for the fourth shot, the paramedics will have a clinic at Backdoor Mission.

**Noel Coppins, RE/MAX Jazz**

Increased police presence has made a positive impact in activity around the buildings.

May 1 is official First Responders Day.

**Fred Eismont, Resident**

Residents asking if the garden plots are available to the general public.

Requests information on cost and purchasing of recycling bin lids that are now available.

Very positive feedback from businesses downtown resulting from police presence.

**Mayor Dan Carter**

Work continues on the Streetscape Construction project from Center Street to McMillan on the North side of King Street. Work will be ongoing this spring / summer as part of Council's commitment to the redevelopment in the downtown core.

The City takes possession of the North East corner of King, Bond and Simcoe, with the intention of developing a park in that area.

More interest in post-secondary education potentially expanding their footprint in the downtown.

At the Council meeting on April 25, CAMP's expired road occupancy permit will be discussed. This initiative was created when Durham Outlook for the Needy and St. Vincent's Kitchen were not available, but they are now open. Suggestions to CAMP organizers about where to serve in other areas of food insecurity have been provided.

The Mayors Cleanup will happen monthly from May to October. This will take place on a Saturday from 9 a.m., starting at the North Park at City Hall. More information to follow.

The work at Simcoe Street and the 401 will continue for the next two years. Laval will be closed, the bridge over the 401 will be reconstructed, widening of the 401 and additional improvements to come.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, May 27, 2022.