

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**  
**SMARTER NIAGARA STEERING COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 6-2009**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee held on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 commencing at 5:12 p.m. in Committee Room #4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Gabriel, Chair; Mr. Barr; Mr. Ensslen; Mr. Gayler; Mr. Halverson; Ms. Landry; Mr. Phillips; Ms. Shipley.

Staff: Mr. Gummo, Associate Director, Comprehensive Community Planning; Mr. Ranjan, Transportation Engineer; Ms. McManus, Legislative Assistant.

Working Group: Mr. Slepkov; Ms. German.

**Quorum**

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee Co-Chair determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to eight members, pursuant to Section 22.10 of the Procedural By-law 96-2007.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

42. Moved by Ms. Shipley  
Seconded by Ms. Landry

That the minutes of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee meeting of August 5, 2009, be received as ***amended***;

***That Minute Item 40 state Boulder Colorado.***

Carried.

**PRESENTATION**

43. **ENTRA Presentation – Inter Municipal Transit**

Mr. Kumar Ranjan, Transportation Engineer presented Committee members with an abbreviated version of the presentation provided at the September 15, 2009 Transportation Strategy Steering Committee meeting respecting Inter-Municipal Transit.

Following a lengthy discussion it was:

Moved by Mr. Barr  
Seconded by Mr. Ensslen

That Mr. Ranjan's presentation respecting Inter-Municipal Transit, be received for information;

That this Committee recommend to the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee;

That staff consider a Jitney-type private/public service as a viable option in the Phase II operational details respecting Inter-Municipal Transit;

That consideration be given to issuing tenders requesting private/public quote for Jitney services; and

That a copy of this recommendation be forwarded to the October 29, 2009 Council Business Planning Session for information.

Carried.

Moved by Mr. Halverson  
Seconded by Mr. Gayler

That this Committee recommends to the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee;

Whereas the development of an Inter-Municipal Transit service is critical for the future economy of Niagara;

Whereas the development of an Inter-Municipal Transit service is critical to the aims and objectives of Smart Growth Principles; and

That this Committee requests that Council continue to take a strong leadership role with respect to Inter-Municipal Transit.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### 44. Disposal of Surplus School Sites – Working Group

Following discussions it was decided that members (listed below) who stated an interest in participating in a Working Group respecting Disposal of Surplus School Sites meet once every six weeks to develop a clear mandate, establish a work plan, create recommendations and provide updates at each of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee meetings.

The following members expressed interest:

- Mr. Glenn Barr
- Mr. Chris Phillips
- Mr. Halverson
- Ms. Dale Shipley
- Mr. Bernie Slepko
- Ms. Lynne German

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

### 45. Discussion Papers on Potential Planning Policy Indicators

Committee members decided that an alternative to creating a Working Group which would focus on Potential Planning Policy Indicators would be that the Committee designates one full meeting, after November 18<sup>th</sup>, specifically for a Policy Indicator discussion.

### 46. Local Official Plan Policy

Mr. Gummo provided Committee members with an overview, by means of a PowerPoint presentation, respecting the work planned thus far with Local Official Plan Policies.

Highlights were, in part, as follows:

- Area Planners have organized 3 Workshops
  - Thursday, October 8, 2009
  - Thursday, October 15, 2009
  - Friday, October 30, 2009
  - Area Planners are investing 4 hours each time 3 workshops
- Draft agenda for the October 8<sup>th</sup> Workshop distributed to Smarter Niagara Steering Committee members for information
- End product; set of Model Policies

Following discussion it was unanimously decided that the November 18, 2009 scheduled meeting of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee be held solely for the purpose of reviewing and refining Model Local Policies emerging from the above mentioned Workshops.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

47. Moved by Mr. Phillips  
Seconded by Mr. Barr

That the following communications be received for information:

SNSC 27-2009      July / August New Urban News

SNSC 28-2009      Correspondence (dated Sept. 28, 2009) PCP News - 2010  
FCM-CH2M HILL Sustainable Community Awards / Prix des  
collectivités durables de la FCM-CH2M HILL 2010

Carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

48. Joint Ontario Planners Meeting

Mr. Gummo advised Committee members of the extremely successful joint conference of the Canadian Institute of Planners and Ontario Professional Planners Institute in Niagara Falls. He stated that it was the second largest turnout (nearly 1,000 people in attendance from across the country and other affiliated countries), Student Day (200 students present). The theme was Building a Better World on the basis of the four pillars of sustainability.

49. Secondary Suites

Mr. Barr quoted an article in the New Urban News surrounding the City of Vancouver passing a regulation on zoning allowing Secondary Suites. He stated that this is a major item (e.g. job creation, distributes people across areas) that should be pursued further.

Committee members agreed that a discussion respecting Secondary Suites should be worked in to the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting surrounding Local Official Plans.

**COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUEST**

Staff was requested to:

- Forward information pertaining to the October 29, 2009 Council Business Planning Session to members of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee (Refer to Minute Item #43) (Mr. Gayler)
- Forward a copy of the June 24 and August 5 minutes of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee and that "Update – Disposal of Surplus School Lands Working Group? be placed on future Smarter Niagara Steering Committee agendas (Refer to Minute Item #43) (Ms. German)
- Forward an electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation respecting Local Plan Policies to all members of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee (Refer to Minute Item #46) (Ms. Landry)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 7:10 p.m. This Committee will meet again November 18, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room 4

Robert Gabriel  
Chair

Lisa McManus  
Legislative Assistant