



**CITY OF KINGSTON
ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE &
TRANSPORTATION POLICIES COMMITTEE
MEETING NO. 2012-01
MINUTES**

**Tuesday December 13th, 2011
6:00 p.m. in Council Chamber, City Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Jim Neill, Chair
Councillor Rob Hutchison, Vice-Chair
Councillor Sandy Berg
Councillor Rick Downes
Councillor Bill Glover
Councillor Jeff Scott

OTHERS PRESENT

Approximately 7 members of the public

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Cynthia Beach, Commissioner, Sustainability & Growth
Mr. John Bolognone, City Clerk
Mr. Michael Fischer, Utility Engineer
Mr. Gerard Hunt, CAO
Mr. Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston
Mr. Denis Leger, Commissioner, Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services
Mr. Paul MacLatchy, Director, Environment & Sustainability Initiatives
Mr. Jim Miller, Manager, Technical Services
Ms. Susan Powley, Committee Clerk
Ms. Nancy Taylor, Vice-President, Utilities Kingston
Mr. Mark Van Buren, Director, Engineering
Mr. Terry Willing, Director, Building & Licensing

THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM REPORT

MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Susan Powley, Committee Clerk, called the meeting to order.

ELECTIONS

Chair

Ms. Powley requested nominations for Chair.

*Moved by Councillor Scott
Seconded by Councillor Berg*

THAT Councillor Neill be nominated Chair of the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee.

CARRIED

Councillor Neill accepted the nomination for Chair.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Scott*

THAT *nominations be closed and that Councillor Neill be declared Chair of the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee.*

CARRIED

Vice-Chair

Councillor Neill assumed the Chair and requested nominations for Vice-Chair.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Scott*

THAT *Councillor Hutchison be nominated Vice-Chair of the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee.*

CARRIED

Councillor Hutchison accepted the nomination for Vice-Chair.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Scott*

THAT *nominations be closed and that Councillor Hutchison be declared Vice-Chair of the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee.*

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Neill advised that a special meeting of Council has been called for 7:00 p.m., at which time the Committee will recess this meeting and reconvene when the meeting ends.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Downes*

THAT *the agenda and addendum be confirmed as amended to defer the following items to the January meeting due to a lack of time:*

- *Business item c) Residential Parking Pilot Program Communication Plan Update*
- *Business item d) Parking Garage – New Access Control and Revenue System*

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*Moved by Councillor Scott
Seconded by Councillor Berg*

THAT the minutes of the Environment, Infrastructure & Transportation Policies Committee Meeting No. 2011-11 held on November 08th, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Hutchison declared a possible pecuniary interest in regard to social housing provisions within the proposed policy of report EITP-12-004, 'Water Efficiency Retrofit Incentive Program', as his employer Kingston Co-Operative Homes Inc. may be a beneficiary of provisions for social housing in the policy.

DELEGATIONS

a) Mr. Peter Burpee – Pedestrian Safety

See Schedule Pages 1-2.

Mr. Burpee provided a powerpoint presentation. A copy is attached to the record. He noted correspondence listed at the end of the agenda which he had sent to the Non. Robert Chiarelli, Ministry of Transportation.

To a question by Councillor Berg, Mr. Van Buren confirmed that the City has volunteered for a pilot project of one of the crossings portrayed.

Councillor Neill thanked Mr. Burpee for attending.

BRIEFINGS

PETITIONS

BUSINESS

a) Sanitary Sewer Back Ups – Flooding Private Side Extraneous Flow Reduction Program

The Recommendation Report of the President & CEO, Utilities Kingston (EITP-12-003) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 3-41.

Mr. Keech introduced Mr. Mike Fischer who provided a powerpoint presentation. A copy of the presentation is attached to the record.

It was noted that the presentation centres on flooding from the sanitary sewer system, and that for other forms of flooding, Mr. Van Buren is present to answer any questions.

To a query by Councillor Berg regarding construction principles during the 1970's affecting both residential and commercial properties and the remedy, Mr. Miller confirmed that the practice was to move rainwater to the easiest outlet by way of downspouts which are still in place. In some areas of the City there are limited choices, and known downspouts will be disconnected.

Councillor Berg asked about the possibility of increasing the size of pipes which are currently built to Ministry standards, as noted at a recent Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) conference. Mr. Fischer responded that the design incorporates an adequate allowance for extraneous flow as oversizing presents new problems such as a requirement for more frequent flushing, additional operational and maintenance costs, and would ultimately affect treatment plants.

Councillor Hutchison referenced discussions with staff regarding the March flooding event and the impact of larger pipes. Mr. Miller referenced the last update report and confirmed the impact of larger pipes on normal flow which would present different operational issues. He explained there would be a tendency for a build up of debris as scouring velocities in pipes would be reduced. There would also be other maintenance issues, requiring consideration of other infrastructure issues. He noted deliberations during budget discussions in the range of \$350,000. Councillor Hutchison summarized the importance of clarification of what the City is doing, the limitations, and the impact of individual actions within a neighbourhood.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Scott*

THAT the meeting recess at 7:00 p.m. in order to allow for a special meeting of Council, and that the Committee reconvene upon the adjournment of that meeting.

CARRIED

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Hutchison*

THAT the meeting reconvene at 8:10 p.m. upon the adjournment of the special meeting of Council.

CARRIED

All members of the Committee were present for the continuation of the meeting.

To a question by Councillor Hutchison regarding adequate data from the west end of the City from which to draw conclusions, Mr. Miller confirmed that that area was more dramatically affected by the March event, and there is no record of community reporting from the July event. Staff are interested in any residential impacts.

Mr. Miller responded to questions by Councillor Hutchison by pointing out figure 4 on page 17. A colour version of the map can be provided. Mr. Miller noted a question regarding the acceleration of the separation of combined sewers, and said that rates

and funding options would be impacted. Page 17 of the report focuses on construction which will ultimately disrupt residents and businesses as traffic will be required to be rerouted. In regard to prioritization of the separation of sewers, Mr. Fisher referred to the finalization of the Sewer Master Plan, and an update within the Sewer Control Plan. He noted the prioritization of specific areas, and specifically a priority for the downtown core. In regard to stormwater that comes off asphalt, Mr. Miller confirmed and explained that this is a factor in the review process which is difficult to manage in the urban environment.

Councillor Glover enquired regarding the determination of underbuilding, building properly or overbuilding, and the determination of new trends. He explained concerns for rebuilding systems at the top of the hill, while pipes are still small at the bottom of the hill. Mr. Miller recognized this concern, and noted that staff don't have adequate data to make determinations. Any changes in Ministry of Environment guidelines will be followed, and best practices will be followed. He referred to similar dilemmas in other communities and that there is a broad awareness of these concerns.

To comments by Councillor Scott regarding regular septic system and drain pipe inspections, Mr. Miller explained that in terms of by-law enforcement, downspout disconnections can be viewed, but that inspections which require entering a home would require a voluntary compliance. The focus will be balanced, applied in particular to areas which have contributed to the flooding, as well as on areas that have actually flooded.

To a question by Councillor Scott regarding the application of new technologies, Mr. Van Buren advised that they have new and innovative best management practices, and that staff will be looking at addressing storm water closer to the source.

Councillor Glover suggested imposing a regulation through a by-law which would require a certificate of compliance when a property title is being transferred through a sale. Mr. Miller said they would take this into consideration and research this as an option.

Councillor Neill asked Councillor Hutchison to assume the Chair.

Councillor Neill noted three floodings on Helen Street which haven't happened before. Mr. Miller responded that generally speaking a variety of different factors relate to basement flooding which could include, for example, something to do with the house or failure of a piece of equipment. He noted that upstream issues could affect the drainage pattern in that system.

Councillor Neill enquired regarding an approach with property owners to acknowledge problems on their property, and the provision of an incentive such as the use of local improvement funds for upgrades which would be paid back over time on their taxes. Mr. Miller said this would need to be checked with the Legal Department. Provisions are in place for the owner to improve their services by contacting the contractor hired through the tender process, but there is no requirement for the homeowner to change their service. Mr. Keech recognized the dilemma, noting that driveways and trees

would be impacted and would require replacement. Staff are continuing to review this matter.

Councillor Neill resumed the Chair, and invited comments from the public.

Mr. Matthew Gventer, 93 Hillcrest Avenue

Mr. Gventer noted the human side of the matter. He referenced mapping, noting that the Kingscourt area is one of the most highly affected, and that Hillcrest Avenue doesn't have storm sewers. He requested clarification regarding the impact on the Kingscourt area which is the highest part of the City but which was heavily flooded. An association has been formed and flooding and water problems in the area were the biggest issue raised among the 70 residents in attendance, 50 of which had water problems. They have asked for a meeting with Utilities Kingston. Regarding his own property, three sump pumps were operating. As well, the Max Jackson Park experienced extensive water problems. He noted the city's limestone base, swamp areas in the City and that there may be a geological factor. These and other factors may also need to be addressed, and in combination with the homeowners.

Mr. Gventer highlighted the importance of a broad educational process, noted that the information they were provided was helpful, and they subsequently removed their flow from the sanitary system, pump the water into the backyard, and installed a backflow valve. He said they have no storm sewer so the water can't get away.

A Resident

Questions posed included what form that public education would take, what associations could be developed to look at surface water issues, and innovative ways to deal with water in residents homes. It was suggested that someone work with residents individually, and that neighbours get together at the grass roots level.

Ms. Marilyn Birmingham, 93 Hillcrest Avenue

Ms. Birmingham said they have had flooding issues since they moved to this address in 1976. She queried public awareness of available information, and that sump pump water has been going into the sewers without an understanding by residents. She suggested that information be added to utility bills.

Mr. Keech said that the public education plan, which is a significant part of the report, is not yet completed. He noted the request for staff to attend a neighbourhood association meeting, and that the information was being prepared for submission through a report to the Committee. He suggested that the association request a day time meeting with staff.

Mr. Miller added that a public education program was identified subsequent to the March report. He referenced actions within the recommendation relating to public education, and noted there is some flooding information on the website with links to agencies. He emphasized that some situations need to be considered on a case by

case basis so that changes such as redirecting water from a sump pump does not affect a neighbour's property.

Mr. Keech noted an action within the recommendation regarding enforcement.

Councillor Downes affirmed the acknowledgement of climate change through the recommendation and KEAF interest and involvement which needs to be kept in mind as policy is prepared. He said that what was known as a 100 year event is now history, and that there is no predictability.

Councillor Glover noted pending financial implications.

Moved by Councillor Berg

Seconded by Councillor Glover

It is recommended that Council for the City of Kingston approve the following programs and actions:

- 1. The 'Private-Side Extraneous Flow Reduction Program', consisting of a Preventative Plumbing Program, Downspout Disconnection Program and Sump Pump Disconnection Program, be approved for development and implementation starting in 2012.*
- 2. The 'Public-Side Extraneous Flow Reduction Program'.*
- 3. The principle and adoption of suitable practices to ensure, where possible, that elimination of extraneous flows to the sanitary system is maximized as part of any capital reconstruction affecting the sanitary system.*
- 4. That application of mandatory backflow prevention devices in all new homes be reviewed and reported back to Council by staff by 2012.*
- 5. The Public Education Package on basement flooding.*
- 6. The proactive enforcement of the Sewer Use By-Law No. 2008-192 as it relates to illegal connections and the elimination of extraneous flows that contribute to basement flooding.*
- 7. A review of existing policies and practices to determine their collective effectiveness or shortcomings in supporting activities to reduce flooding of all kinds, including both sewage backups and storm- and ground-water flooding.*

CARRIED

Councillor Berg referenced concerns expressed by Councillor Glover, and her involvement in a working group of KEAF whereby information could be provided regarding climate change. She also advised of her upcoming attendance at a Sustainability Conference with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) where climate change will be discussed.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Glover*

WHEREAS *Climate Change influences may be causing negative impacts on City infrastructure (ie. Flood events, etc.) and the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum (KEAF) has a group of specialists researching aspects, trends and effects of climate change;*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT *the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum (KEAF) be directed to report their findings to the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Standing Committee at such a time as they have sound date; and*

THAT *if possible, a recommendation and/or definition of 'Normal' events and trends be included.*

CARRIED

b) Water Efficiency Retrofit Incentive Program

The Recommendation Report of the President & CEO, Utilities Kingston (EITP-12-004) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 42-48.

Councillor Hutchison declared a possible pecuniary interest for the aspect of the recommendation which gives consideration to social housing. [The motion was split to take this declaration into consideration.]

To a question by Councillor Hutchison regarding the upper limit of the expenditure, Mr. Miller clarified that they are broadening the scope of programs within the overall budget limit.

There were no comments from the public.

*Moved by Councillor Downes
Seconded by Councillor Glover*

THAT *the following recommendation within Report EITP-12-004, without consideration of the social housing piece, be recommended to Council for approval:*

It is recommended that Council approve a Water Efficiency Retrofit Incentive Program that offers both prescriptive incentives that offer a set dollar amount per measure and custom incentives that offer \$5/m³ of annual water and sewer savings up to a maximum of 20% of eligible project costs. This new program will expand the water conservation measures eligible for funding to include measures other than toilet retrofits in multi-residential buildings.

CARRIED

Councillor Hutchison declared a possible pecuniary interest and withdrew from the discussion.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Downes*

THAT the following recommendation within Report EITP-12-004, with consideration given to the social housing piece, be recommended to Council for approval:

It is recommended that Council approve a Water Efficiency Retrofit Incentive Program that offers both prescriptive incentives that offer a set dollar amount per measure and custom incentives that offer \$5/m³ of annual water and sewer savings up to a maximum of 20% of eligible project costs. This new program will expand the water conservation measures eligible for funding to include measures other than toilet retrofits in multi-residential buildings.

CARRIED

Councillor Hutchison returned to the discussion.

c) Residential Parking Pilot Program Communication Plan Update

The Information Report of the Commissioner, Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services (EITP-12-001) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 49-54.

This report was deferred for consideration at the January meeting due to a lack of time.

d) Parking Garage – New Access Control and Revenue System

The Information Report of the Commissioner, Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services (EITP-12-002) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 55-59.

Ms. Paula Nichol, Manager, Parking Operations will provide a presentation.

This report was deferred for consideration at the January meeting due to a lack of time.

e) Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Updates

The Recommendation Report of the Commissioner, Sustainability & Growth (EITP-12-005) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 60-124.

Mr. MacLatchy was present and provided a brief synopsis of the report.

To a question by Councillor Scott relating to emissions described within Section 3.6 on page 15 of Exhibit A, Mr. MacLatchy provided clarification regarding the differences between aerobic and anaerobic calculations.

Councillor Hutchison expressed concern regarding Section 3.6 on page 15 of Exhibit A, noting municipal responsibility for methane, and querying the possibility of a 10% reduction. Mr. MacLatchy said he agreed from an environmental stewardship

perspective, and that there is an impact. He said that other communities are doing things that have resulted in reductions, and noted various approaches such as retrofitting old homes and using public transit.

Councillor Hutchison suggested, and Ms. Beach confirmed that staff will provide a briefing at Council.

Councillor Berg said that KEAF are anticipating conducting the described research within the recommendation. To a question regarding the Sustainability Symposium on 28th January 2012, Mr. MacLatchy advised that this is open to members of the public. Councillor Berg suggested this information be added together with a briefing.

Councillor Hutchison noted the many institutions within the City and asked if the City is in discussion with them. Mr. MacLatchy responded that there are community partners with Sustainability Kingston, and the development of a planning process is underway.

To questions by Councillor Scott, Mr. MacLatchy provided explanations regarding calculations and provided examples of what would change the calculations such as Utilities Kingston rental of solar water heaters.

Councillor Neill expressed concern regarding the production and consumption of greenhouse gases in the community. He noted the impact of the approximately 20,000 student population in relation to furnishings which are brought in and stay here, and emissions from older cars. Mr. MacLatchy said that a Stats Canada study based on personal transportation habits rates the City as high. The number of student population is not included. He said there are many older vehicles outside the City limits and the Stats Canada study for the City includes this area.

Councillor Neill invited comments from the public.

Ms. Marilyn Birmingham

Ms. Birmingham noted a term 'man made' and encouraged gender neutral language.

Mr. Matt Gventer

Mr. Gventer referred to the CO2 cycle. He suggested that clarification be provided regarding the request for KEAF involvement within the recommendation.

Councillor Hutchison advised that he had attended a sustainability conference in November, where he understood there is limited sustainability in building, and many exceptions are being made regarding development. He emphasized that the process needs to be accelerated.

Ms. Beach noted a speaker who had attended a Planning Committee meeting in June who could be invited to present as well as some others.

*Moved by Councillor Berg
Seconded by Councillor Scott*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Kingston Community Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory Report for 2006 to 2009 be accepted; and ***THAT*** the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum (KEAF) be requested to examine the inventory and its associated recommendations and develop a Local Action Plan for climate change mitigation and adaptation; and ***THAT*** KEAF recommend a Local Action Plan back to the Environment Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee by September 2012; and ***THAT*** staff continue to undertake annual updates to the Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.

CARRIED

MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

OTHER BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE / DOCUMENTS

- a) Mr. Peter Burpee to Hon. Robert Chiarelli, Ministry of Transportation - Pedestrian Facilities and Protection
Schedule Pages 125-126.
- b) Ms. Muriel Williams – Crossing busy intersections on City streets.
Schedule Pages 127-128.
- c) Ms. Elizabeth McCarten – Smoking on Princess Street. Schedule Pages 129.
- d) Ms. Catherine McNaughton – Litter and Bicycling Concerns
Schedule Page 130-131.
- e) Mr. Lincoln Osborne – Sustainability
Schedule Pages 132-133.

DATES OF NEXT MEETING

The following schedule of meetings has been established for 2012 with meetings to be held in the Council Chamber to begin at 6:00 p.m.:

- 17 January
- 27 March
- 08 May
- 10 July
- 11 September
- 13 November
- 14 February
- 10 April
- 12 June
- 07 August
- 09 October
- 11 December

Please note above that the above schedule was approved by Council on December 06th, 2011. Any updates regarding the location, date and time will be noted on each meeting agenda and on the City meeting calendar at: <http://www.cityofkingston.ca/calendar/meetings/all/>.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

