GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
REPORT 15-020
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present:
Deputy Mayor S. Merulla (Chair)
Councillors A. Johnson, J. Farr, M. Green, C. Collins, T. Jackson,
S. Duvall, T. Whitehead, D. Conley, M. Pearson, B. Johnson, L.
Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, R. Pasuta

Absent
with Regrets:
Mayor Eisenberger – Bereavement
Councillor J. Partridge – Personal

THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 15-020 AND
RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Operation of Uber in the City of Hamilton (Item 6.3)

   (a) That Uber, the taxi industry and City staff meet to determine how each
could work on a level playing field, while continuing to ensure public
safety;

   (b) That consultation occur with the Insurance Bureau of Ontario respecting
their formal response to Uber, as they perform in Ontario; and, the federal
and provincial governments with respect to the operation of Uber in
Ontario and nationally; and,

   (c) That staff from the Licensing Section be directed to liaise with Mr. Shafer,
of Uber, in collecting this information in the next few days and share the
information with members of Council and the public accordingly.
2. **Uber to Cease Operations in the City of Hamilton Pending Government Regulations (Item 6.3)**

That Uber be asked to cease operation in the city of Hamilton until such time as Uber vehicles are properly regulated by the Federal, Provincial and municipal Governments.

3. **Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Workforce Development, Report 15-001, September 22, 2015 (Item 8.1)**

That Terms of Reference for the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Taskforce on Workforce Development, attached as Appendix "A" to Report 15-020, be approved.

4. **Municipal Act Consultation (LS15030) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

(a) That City staff be directed to forward the submissions outlined in Report LS15030, as amended, to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing as Hamilton's response to the Province's *Municipal Act* consultation; and,

(b) That the reference to the municipal revenue tools be stricken (new taxes) be excluded from the submission to the province, to exclude both taxation methods that Toronto has used to date with the *City of Toronto Act*.

5. **Open for Business Sub-Committee Report 15-003, September 29, 2015 (Item 8.3)**

(a) **Continuous Improvement Team (CIT) Update (PED15154) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

That Report PED15154, respecting the Continuous Improvement Team (CIT) Update, be received.

6. **Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application, 112 King Street West, Dundas (ERG 15-01) (PED15156) (Ward 13) (Item 8.4)**

(a) That Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application ERG-15-01, submitted by Allaso Holdings Inc. (Pauline Boulos), owner of the property at 112 King Street West, Dundas, for an ERASE Redevelopment Grant not to exceed $203,000, over a maximum of ten years, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement;
(b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to effect recommendation (a) of Report PED15156, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,

(c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to approve and execute any grant amending agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant, as approved by City Council, are maintained.

7. Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application, 99-103 Locke Street South (ERG 15-02) (PED15144) (Ward 1) (Item 8.5)

(a) That Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant Application ERG-15-02, submitted by Spallacci & Sons Limited (Frank Spallacci), owner of the property at 99-103 Locke Street South, Hamilton, for an ERASE Redevelopment Grant not to exceed $1,335,600, the actual cost of the remediation, over a maximum of ten years, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement;

(b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the ERASE Redevelopment Agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to effect recommendation (a) of Report PED15144, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,

(c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to approve and execute any grant amending agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Environmental Remediation and Site Enhancement (ERASE) Redevelopment Grant, as approved by City Council, are maintained.

8. Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) – 193 King Street East, Hamilton (PED15153) (Ward 2) (Item 8.6)

(a) That a Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) application submitted by Urban Map Inc. (Peter De Sotto, Marvin Grimm, Alvaro Valencia), for the property at 193 King Street East, Hamilton, for a Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) grant estimated at $83,308.84 over a maximum of a five-year period, and based upon the incremental tax increase attributable to the redevelopment of 193 King
Street East, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Program; and,

(b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED15153, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

9. Capital Projects Closing Report as of June 30, 2015 (FCS15066) (City Wide) (Item 8.7)


10. $2.5 million in Additional Road and Sidewalk Resources (Item 9.1)

(a) That $2.5 million in additional road and sidewalk resources be incorporated into the 2016 Capital Budget process, to be funded from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve; and,

(b) That the funds be equally distributed across all wards as part of the Minor Maintenance Program.

11. Crisis in the Housing and Homelessness System in Hamilton (Item 9.2)

That staff be directed to report to the Emergency & Community Services Committee with strategy options on how to mitigate the looming crisis in the housing and homelessness system in Hamilton.

12. Potential Litigation relating to a Breach of Contract (LS15029) (City Wide) (Item 12.2)

(a) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to take all necessary steps in accordance with Report LS15029, respecting the Potential Litigation relating to a Breach of Contract and report back to the General Issues Committee; and,

(b) That the contents of Report LS15029, respecting the Potential Litigation relating to a Breach of Contract, and its appendix remain confidential.
13. **Lease Renewal - 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road (Lakeland Centre - Carmen's Inc.) (PED15176) (Ward 5) (Item 12.3)**

(a) That a Lease Renewal Agreement with Carmen's Inc. (the "Tenant") for 6,033 square feet of space occupied by Carmen's Inc., at 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road, Hamilton, as shown on Appendix "A" attached to Report PED15176, substantially based on the terms and conditions contained in Appendix "B" attached to Report PED15176, and such other terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development, be approved;

(b) That the rents and any other revenue related to the Lease with Carmen's Inc. (the "Tenant") at 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road, Hamilton be credited to the Confederation Park budget administered by Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HRCA);

(c) That all transaction costs related to the Lease with Carmen's Inc. (the "Tenant") at 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road, Hamilton, including valuation, and Real Estate and Legal Services fees, be funded from the Confederation Park budget;

(d) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documents, related to the Lease Renewal Agreement with Carmen's Inc. (the "Tenant") for 6,033 square feet of space occupied by Carmen's Inc., at 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road, Hamilton, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,

(e) That Appendix "B" to Report PED15176, respecting the Lease Renewal - 180 Van Wagner's Beach Road (Lakeland Centre - Carmen's Inc.), remain confidential until completion of the real estate transaction.

14. **Lease Renewal of Existing Space for Public Health Services (PHS), Suite 220, 100 Main Street East, Hamilton (PED15154) (Ward 2) (Item 12.4)**

(a) That a Lease Renewal Agreement with Homestead Land Holdings Limited (the "Landlord") for space occupied by Public Health Services (PHS), being Suite 220, 100 Main Street East, Hamilton, as shown on Appendix "A" attached to Report PED15154, substantially based on the terms and conditions contained in Appendix "B" attached to Report PED15154, and such other terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development, be approved;

(b) That the rents and any other costs related to the lease be funded from Account No. 55358-674021(RMRCH); and that Real Estate and Legal Services fees of $7,832 also be funded from Account No. 55358-674021(RMRCH) and credited to Account No. 45408-3560150200;

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(c) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documents, relating to Lease Renewal Agreement with Homestead Land Holdings Limited (the "Landlord") for space occupied by Public Health Services (PHS), being Suite 220, 100 Main Street East, Hamilton, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,

(d) That Report PED15154 and Appendix "B", respecting the Lease Renewal Agreement with Homestead Land Holdings Limited (the "Landlord") for space occupied by Public Health Services, being Suite 220, 100 Main Street East, Hamilton remain confidential until such time as the real estate transaction is complete.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

(i) Added as Item 4.1 – Delegation Request submitted by Antony Rizzuto, Blue Line Taxi, respecting the State of the Taxi Industry in Hamilton related to Competition Practices by UBER (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC)

(ii) Added as Item 4.2 – Delegation Request submitted by Ron Van Kleef respecting the Contributions by the Taxi Industry to the city of Hamilton and the Importance of Providing Businesses a Level Playing Field (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC)

(iii) Added as Item 4.3 – Delegation Request submitted by Danielle Boissonneau respecting Enbridge Inc.’s Pipelines (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC)

(iv) Added as Item 4.4 – Delegation Request submitted by Abigail Santos, Chair for Hamilton HIVE, respecting Hamilton’s Umbrella Organization for Young Professionals, Entrepreneurs, and Leaders in the City (For a future meeting of GIC)

(v) Item 6.2 – Wayne Terryberry, Hamilton Burlington Trails Council, respecting a Proposal for a Regional Multi-Use Greenway to Compliment LRT Infrastructure and Enhance Hamilton’s Active Transportation Network. Due to illness, Mr. Terryberry has requested that his presentation be moved to the November 4, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting.
(vi) Item 8.7 – Report FCS15066, respecting the Capital Projects Closing Report, as of June 30, 2015 – staff has requested that this matter be referred to the Capital Projects Work-in-Project Sub-committee, as approved by Council on July 10, 2015 (GIC Report 15-014, Item 10).

(vii) Added as Item 12.5 – Private and Confidential Matter respecting a Personnel Matter

Pursuant to Section 8.1, Sub-sections (b) and (e) of the City's Procedural By-law 14-300, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b) and (e) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City employees; and, litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the City.

The agenda for the October 21, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting was approved, as amended.

Prior to moving forward with the agenda, Deputy Mayor Merulla recognized a visiting dignitary, the Honourable Seth Kwame Acheampong, Ghanaian Minister of Parliament for the riding of Mpraeso.

On behalf of Council, Deputy Mayor Merulla congratulated Councillor Scott Duvall on his victory in the Federal election; becoming the new Minister of Parliament for the Hamilton Mountain.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

(i) Councillor L. Ferguson declared in interest to Item 6.3, the delegation by Chris Schafer of UBER Canada, as his family has an interest in the Taxi Industry.

(ii) Councillor M. Pearson declared an interest to Item 10, respecting the Crisis in the Housing and Homelessness System in Hamilton, as she is a rental property owner.

(iii) Councillor A. VanderBeek declared an interest to Item 10, respecting the Crisis in the Housing and Homelessness System in Hamilton, as she is a rental property owner.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

(i) October 7, 2015 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of the October 7, 2015 meeting of the General Issues Committee were approved, as presented.

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(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS

(i) Antony Rizzuto, Blue Line Taxi, respecting the State of the Taxi Industry in Hamilton related to Competition Practices by UBER (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC) (Item 4.1)

The delegation request submitted by Antony Rizzuto, Blue Line Taxi, respecting the State of the Taxi Industry in Hamilton related to Competition Practices by UBER, was approved to attend at the November 4, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting.

(ii) Ron Van Kleef respecting the Contributions by the Taxi Industry to the city of Hamilton and the Importance of Providing Businesses a Level Playing Field (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC) (Item 4.2)

The delegation request submitted by Ron Van Kleef respecting the Contributions by the Taxi Industry to the city of Hamilton and the Importance of Providing Businesses a Level Playing Field, was approved to attend at the November 4, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting.

(iii) Danielle Boissoneau respecting Enbridge Inc.'s Pipelines (Requesting to appear at the November 4, 2015 GIC) (Item 4.3)

The delegation request submitted by Danielle Boissoneau respecting Enbridge Inc.’s Pipelines, was approved to attend at the November 4, 2015 General Issues Committee meeting.

(iv) Abigail Santos, Chair for Hamilton HIVE, respecting Hamilton's Umbrella Organization for Young Professionals, Entrepreneurs, and Leaders in the City (For a future meeting of GIC) (Item 4.4)

The delegation request submitted by Abigail Santos, Chair for Hamilton HIVE, respecting Hamilton’s Umbrella Organization for Young Professionals, Entrepreneurs, and Leaders in the City, was approved for a future meeting of the General Issues Committee.
(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Minutes, August 11, 2015 (Item 5.1)

The Minutes of the August 11, 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities were received.

(f) HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Ron McKerlie, President, Mohawk College to provide a Presentation respecting Mohawk College’s City School Initiative (Item 6.1)

Mr. McKerlie addressed Committee and provided a verbal presentation respecting Mohawk College’s City School Initiative. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Welcoming Communities Initiative – aimed at recruiting more international students to Mohawk and encouraging them to live and work in Hamilton afterward.
- Bringing 30 thought leaders to Mohawk for a 2 day summit.
- Access Project – developing talent in our own backyard. Specifically the wealth of talent in priority neighbourhoods in the lower city and on the mountain.
- Launched City Schools earlier this month; opened the first City School at the Eva Rothwell resource centre.
- Launched the Access Project six years ago to make a college education accessible to all Hamiltonians.
- Education is Hamilton’s best poverty to prosperity solution.
- College in Motion Team will continue to work with high school students from across Hamilton.
- Plan to open six City Schools over the next three years, with five in the lower city and on the mountain.
- The next two schools will be in the Gibson Landsdown and McQueston neighbourhoods.
- The City School program needs to be invited into the neighbourhood and we won’t go there unless we are invited.

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We rely on the people in the neighbourhood to tell us what they need. Each will be customized to meet the specific community's needs. Some neighbourhoods the focus could be on at-risk youth, single moms or newcomers. We have also been asked to include, job search training, computer skills and career preparation workshops, training, general college courses and a mentorship program.

- Courses and workshops are tuition free and are delivered through faculty, staff and students.
- Consultation is critical to the success of City School.
- Mohawk is looking forward to working in collaboration with the City of Hamilton, the School Boards, the not-for-profit and private sectors.
- We need partners to provide a home for the City School program in each neighbourhood.
- We are not investing in bricks and mortar – we are only investing in people.
- The quality of the programs will be equal to the programs offered at our 3 Hamilton campuses.

The presentation provided by Ron Mc Kerlie, President of Mohawk College respecting Mohawk College's City School Initiative, was received.

(ii) Wayne Terryberry, Hamilton Burlington Trails Council, respecting a Proposal for a Regional Multi-Use Greenway to Compliment LRT Infrastructure and Enhance Hamilton's Active Transportation Network (Item 6.2)

The delegation by Wayne Terryberry, Hamilton Burlington Trails Council, respecting a Proposal for a Regional Multi-Use Greenway to Compliment LRT Infrastructure and Enhance Hamilton's Active Transportation Network, was deferred to the November 4, 2015 meeting of the General Issues Committee.

(iii) Chris Schafer, UBER Canada, respecting UBER Canada (Item 6.3)

Mr. Schafer addressed Committee respecting UBER Canada. Mr. Schafer's comments included, but were not limited to, the following:
• UBER is an International company and is in favour of up-to-date regulations relevant to the industry.

• Public safety is paramount to Uber.

• Uber requires and checks both federal and local criminal records checks on any new drivers.

• Mechanical inspections are required for all vehicles being used by Uber drivers.

• Each driver must have personal auto insurance in place and Uber provides an additional umbrella of up to $5 million.

• The Uber system does not allow for street hails and removes the need for cash, which makes it safer for drivers and more convenient for passengers.

• Customers can provide real time feedback respecting their driver, enhancing safety and accountability.

• Citizens have the option of using Uber when taxis may not be available or there may be a long wait time.

• The average estimated time of arrival with Uber is under 5 minutes.

• Most of the time, Uber rides are 30-40% cheaper than most taxi services.

• Uber has introduced Uber Pool, which is a carpooling product, which contributes to a greener environment.

• Uber helps to build strong and sustainable communities.

• Uber is committed to strengthening communities, expanding transportation options, delivering economic opportunities, and allowing innovation to thrive.

• There are over 350 cities where Uber currently operates.

• 60 jurisdictions that have adopted smart, modern regulations for the ridesharing industry.

• Uber completes over $1M trips around the world every day.

• Over 100,000 driver jobs are being generated by the Uber platform globally every month.
• In Seattle, there has been a 10% reduction in DUIs following Uber’s entry into the metro area.

• Products on the Uber platform such as Uber Taxi must have and HST/GST number.

• With peer-to-peer drivers, such as Uberex, the driver has an obligation to collect and remit HST and GST to the appropriate government bodies, depending on the earnings threshold.

• Drivers are advised that they have a $30,000 income threshold.

• The current provincial government, in their most recent budget, did have an item for the sharing economy and there was some vague talk about this matter.

• Provincial regulation would allow for uniformity across the board at the provincial level. Hamilton City Council has the opportunity to ask the Province to do the same.

• The Federal government’s authority is primarily over tax matters.

• Uber is not adverse to paying a licensing fee in order to contribute to the cost of municipal road repair and maintenance.

The presentation provided by Chris Schafer, UBER Canada, respecting UBER Canada, was received.

Councillor Jackson introduced the following Motion:

(i) **Operation of Uber in the City of Hamilton**

Recognizing that the City of Hamilton currently regulates the taxi industry to ensure public safety and consumer protection; and,

Recognizing that Uber is currently operating in Hamilton outside of the City’s business licensing regulations; and,

Whereas, Chris Schafer, representing Uber in Hamilton, has agreed to provide information respecting the current number of Uber vehicles cars in our community and information on how the ride-share company may be avoiding Municipal By-law Enforcement and answering whether or not Uber will cease operations until such time as all parties come together in an effort to create a level playing field;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That Uber, the taxi industry and City staff meet to determine how each could work on a level playing field, while continuing to ensure public safety;

(b) That consultation occur with the Insurance Bureau of Ontario respecting their formal response to Uber, as they perform in Ontario; and, the federal and provincial governments with respect to the operation of Uber in Ontario and nationally; and,

(c) That staff from the Licensing Section be directed to liaise with Mr. Shafer, of Uber, in collecting this information in the next few days and share the information with members of Council and the public accordingly.

For disposition of the above motion, please refer to Items 1 and 2.

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Municipal Act Consultation (LS15030) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

A new sub-section (b) was added to Item 8.2, to read as follows:

(b) That the reference to the municipal revenue tools be stricken (new taxes) be excluded from the submission to the province, to exclude both taxation methods that Toronto has used to date with the City of Toronto Act.

For disposition of the above motion, please refer to Item 4.

(ii) Open for Business Sub-Committee Report 15-003, September 29, 2015 (Item 8.3)

The General Manager of Planning and Economic Development was directed to report to the General Issues Committee on the status of position vacancies within the Planning Division.
(g) MOTIONS (Item 9.1)

(i) $2.5 million in Additional Road and Sidewalk Resources (Item 9.1)

Staff was directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with a detailed account of past variances related to road rehabilitation and sidewalk replacement budgets.

(h) NOTICES OF MOTION (Item 10)

Councillor C. Collins introduced the following Notice of Motion:

(i) $2.5 million in Additional Road and Sidewalk Resources (Item 10.1)

(a) That $2.5 million in additional road and sidewalk resources be incorporated into the 2016 Capital Budget process, and to be funded from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve; and,

(b) That the funds be equally distributed across all wards as part of the Minor Maintenance Program; and,

(c) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with a detailed account of past variances related to road rehabilitation and sidewalk replacement budgets.

The Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting $2.5 million in additional road and sidewalk resources.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 10.

Councillor Whitehead introduced the following Notice of Motion:

(ii) Crisis in the Housing and Homelessness System in Hamilton (Item 10.2)

Whereas, there is great concern about the growing pressures in the housing and homelessness system in Hamilton; and,

Whereas, the City has been forecasting a growing shortage of affordable housing in the city with the change in the rental market, but all indications are that it is already upon us; and,

Whereas, in Hamilton, rents have risen by over 4% in one year and rental vacancy rates have dropped to an unhealthy level of 1.8%; and,
Whereas, Hamilton’s very low vacancy rate is leading to higher rents, especially for the smallest units most often occupied by the lowest-income renters and the lowest-income renters already pay an average of 69% of income-to-rent, leaving them at high risk of homelessness; and,

Whereas, almost one-third of Hamilton households rent their homes in comparison to 22% across the province and the number of units in the primary rental market has dropped, including almost 2,000 due to approval of condo conversions; and,

Whereas, it is anticipated that this trend will continue and that 2015 data will show yet another sharp increase in rents; and,

Whereas, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find affordable housing in Hamilton and this is particularly true for clients of rent subsidy programs or people who are considered hard-to-house; and,

Whereas, landlords who participated in the City’s rent supplement and housing allowance programs in the past, no longer need this program to fill vacant units and no longer wish to participate in the program; and, we know that vacant units are being renovated to maximize rents, which is resulting in the further loss of affordable units; and,

Whereas, even more troubling, we hear accounts of landlords offering incentives to tenants to vacate their units to clear the way for this process; and,

Whereas, ensuring safe, quality housing is as important as affordability and many affordable housing units fail to meet zoning, building and/or fire code requirements; and,

Whereas, approximately 5,800 households are on the social housing waitlist and social housing stock needs substantial repairs, which is at an all-time high; and, the current state of the rental housing market in Hamilton will increase the pressure on the waitlist even more; and,

Whereas, 3,120 individual people stayed in emergency shelters in 2014, not including violence against women’s shelters; and, although the number of people staying in shelter has decreased – the length of time that they stay has increased and shelters serving single women are reporting a 100% occupancy rate and they regularly turn away women that need their services; and,

Whereas, home ownership is becoming unattainable, as Hamilton’s resale market has tended to be relatively affordable compared to other communities in the GTHA. But since 2012, the Hamilton overall resale price has increased by 22% and the increase was significantly higher in many of the priority neighbourhoods in the City’s Neighbourhood Action Council – October 28, 2015
Strategy (e.g. the housing prices in the Stinson neighbourhood increased by 61% since 2012); and,

Whereas, occupancy rates in the men’s shelter system are very high and although occupancy across the shelters hit a low in June at 83%, it was 97% in September 2015 and it currently at 101% for October, with Mission Services seeming to be consistently running in overflow; and,

Whereas, the Violence Against Women Shelters and Mary’s Place are consistently full and the demand for hotel rooms has skyrocketed. In September 2015, $65,000 was spent on hotel rooms alone and in all of 2014, the total cost for hotel rooms was $110,000; and,

Whereas, the Family Shelter is consistently full and there is nowhere for families to go, and families are sleeping on the floor at the shelter until units come available; and,

Whereas, the youth shelter continues to have beds available, but only because they have a strong shelter diversion program; and,

Whereas the youth shelter is experiencing a major budget pressure in their youth programs (same as 2014); being $360,000 short ($230,000 for the Resource Centre and $130,000 for Brennan House), their Board has decided that they cannot continue to provide the same level of service with the budget pressure and may decide to close some of their youth related programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to report to the Emergency & Community Services Committee with strategy options on how to mitigate the looming crisis in the housing and homelessness system in Hamilton.

The Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting the crisis in the housing and homelessness system in Hamilton.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 11.

Councillor A. Johnson introduced the following Notice of Motion:

(iii) Promoting the Rich History of Hamilton’s Public Rail Transit System (Item 10.3)

Whereas, history matters; and
 Whereas, that which is old is new again;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That staff be directed to investigate the methods of promoting the rich history of Hamilton's public rail transit system (the “R” in “HSR”), i.e. the Hamilton streetcars, phased out in the mid-twentieth century, and arguably “reborn” in LRT, with any funding to run such programs to be funded from the existing Tourism and Culture Budget; and,

(b) That staff be directed to liaise; particularly with the Hamilton Public Library, on this project, the Library Archives, and the General Management of the Library, for identification of ideal places for relevant, visually interesting displays; and report back to the General Issues Committee.

(i) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 12)

(i) Closed Session Minutes – October 7, 2015 (Item 12.1)

The Closed Session Minutes of the October 7, 2015 meeting of the General Issues Committee were approved as presented.

Committee moved into Closed Session, respecting Item 12.2 – Report LS15029, Potential Litigation relating to a Breach of Contract; Item 12.3 – Report PED15176, Lease Renewal - 180 Van Wagner’s Beach Road (Lakeland Centre - Carmen’s Inc.); Item 12.4 – Report PED15154, Lease Renewal of Existing Space for Public Health Services (PHS), Suite 220, 100 Main Street East, Hamilton; and, Item 12.5 respecting a Personnel Matter, pursuant to Section 8.1, Sub-sections (b), (c), (e) and (f) of the City's Procedural By-law 14-300, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b), (c), (e) and (f) of the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, as the subject matters pertain to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City employees; a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for City purposes; litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the City; and, the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

(i) Personnel Matter (Item 12.5)

Staff was provided with direction in Closed Session.
(k) **ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Merulla, Deputy Mayor  
Chair, General Issues Committee

Stephanie Paparella  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk
Terms of Reference: Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Task Force on Workforce Development

1. Mission

The Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Task Force will provide the leadership and direction required to establish a multi-organizational, industry led team that will specifically address Hamilton’s existing and impending skilled trades and talent deficiencies. It will work directly with the Mayor, the City Council and senior staff members on the formulation of an aggressive, action driven plan to increase the availability of skilled workers and knowledge workers for Hamilton’s Advanced Manufacturing, Life Sciences, Food Processing and the ICT (Innovation Communication Technology) sectors.

2. Mandate

The Blue Ribbon Task Force will:

- Establish defined outcomes with specific deliverables related to addressing the priority workforce development problems presently confronting Hamilton based industry/businesses. Additionally, it is expected that the task force members representing specific industry sectors will assume a leadership role in formulating the action plan.

- Ensure that the Task Force is "industry driven" and that Education is constantly informed of the "in-demand" skills and projected shortfalls in trades in Hamilton.

- Provide advice and assistance in the implementation of the Task Force’s mandate on workforce development.

- Provide advice and suggestions to the Mayor, Council and Senior Managers where and when required.

- Monitor and track progress and make recommendations where new or improved performance is required

3. Governance

3.1 Governance Defined

Governance is the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented). Good governance has been defined as having eight major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law.
3.2 Governance Model

- Mayor and City Council
  - Hamilton

- Blue Ribbon Task Force
  - 12 Members

- Project Sponsor
  - HAMILTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3.3 Governance Model Explained

3.3.1 Project Sponsor

The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force initiative is sponsored by the City of Hamilton. The Economic Development Division provides resources for project management, research, budgeting and administrative activities, and assumes financial accountability for the project. The Economic Development Division will be the direct link to the Mayor, Hamilton City Council, City Departments, and Task Force members.

3.3.2 The Blue Ribbon Task Force

This Task Force will not only function as an advisory group but its member organizations will be expected to work as part of a partnership to establish and deliver upon the Task Force's mandate. This may include, but will not be limited to, discussions with upper levels of government, implementation of specific objectives identified in the action plan, assist City staff in marketing Hamilton as a location for advanced manufacturing and Life Sciences.

3.3.3 Composition of the Blue Ribbon Task Force

The Blue Ribbon Task Force will consist of twelve members (12) namely; the Mayor, a City Councillor, a local representative from Labour and the Chamber of Commerce respectively (2), four representatives of Hamilton based industries (4), two post-secondary education reps (2), two workforce specialists (the Executive Directors of the Industry Education Council and Workforce Planning Hamilton). There will be a Chair and Vice-Chair of this Task Force that will be responsible for the provision of strategic leadership in both the development and the implementation of the Action Plan.

The characteristics required of a Blue Ribbon Task Force member include:

- Brings a "Hamilton" focus and has an established network that can be 'tapped' to assist in accomplishing the Task Force objectives
- Understands why the availability of "skilled labour" is essential for Hamilton’s economy and local companies
- Recognizes that successful collaboration produces results, not just structures and activities
- Is open, reflective and can help the Task Force find their way to the answers
- Engages others with diplomacy and political astuteness
- Is willing to put tough or delicate issues on the table and work them through
- Is willing to pioneer, break through and identify innovative solutions to complex issues related to workforce development
- Has experience being a change agent

3.3.4 Accountability

The Blue Ribbon Task Force is accountable to the following:

1. *Their Respective Members’ Organizations*
   Many Blue Ribbon Task Force members represent an organization and in such instances are accountable for ensuring that their decisions, advice and guidance are in keeping with the policies and priorities of their organizations.

2. *The Community*
   The Blue Ribbon Task Force is accountable for considering the impact of their decisions and recommendations on the broader community.

3. *The City of Hamilton*
   The Blue Ribbon Task Force (as a whole) is accountable to the City of Hamilton.

4.1 Chair and Vice-Chair

The Blue Ribbon Task Force will be led by a Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair and Vice-Chair play three key roles:

I. Leaders, facilitators, and team builders for the Task Force including presiding over the Blue ribbon Task Force meetings;
II. Principal overseers of the Task Force’s reports to stakeholders; and,
III. Chief spokespersons (along with the Mayor) in representing the Blue Ribbon Task Force to reviewers; the City of Hamilton; sponsors; media and the public.

The Chair and Vice-Chair will be individuals who are able to inspire colleagues and keep them focused on the necessary efforts required to complete the initiative.

4.2 Working Groups

Working groups will be established on an as needed basis and the Blue Ribbon Task Force members may be asked to volunteer in various aspects of these working groups. Working groups will report directly to the Steering Committee.
4.3 Staff Support

The Project Sponsor will ensure a staff complement is in place that is necessary to meet the deliverables of the project. The staff will provide support to the Task Force and its sub-committees and be accountable to City Council.

4.4 Decision-Making Authority

For a Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting quorum to be achieved, the majority of members must be present. A majority consists of 50% of the membership plus one.

All Task Force members are equal voting partners for decision-making that will be done on a consensus basis seeking 80% agreement.

The entire Task Force will meet a minimum of four times a year.

5.0 Term

Blue Ribbon Task Force members will serve a two year term. Task Force members can opt to renew their membership for a second two year term with the approval of the Blue Ribbon Task Force Chair and Vice Chair. New appointments for membership will be staggered to ensure continuity and integrity of the Task Force.

If a member resigns before the end of their term, they can recommend a replacement to complete their term that would represent the same sector. The Blue Ribbon Task Force Chair, Vice Chair and senior staff members will make the final determination for the replacement.

If a membership is not renewed, the Blue Ribbon Task Force Chair, Vice-Chair and senior staff will determine if a replacement is required immediately then identify and assist with the recruitment of individuals. These will be individuals who understand the importance of workforce development in Hamilton and are committed to moving this initiative forward.

5.1 Recruiting and Selecting Members

The process for recruiting and selecting new members will be as follows:

- Recruitment – Candidates will be recruited using one or all of the following methods: candidates are recruited through an open call and posting; candidates are approached by the Blue Ribbon Task Force Chair, Vice Chair, and senior staff and encouraged to become a member.
• The nomination of a Vice-Chair will be at the sole discretion of the Chair and subject to approval by a majority of members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force.

• Selection – For the initial term, Senior staff (in consultation with the Mayor and Chair) will select the candidates with the skills, attitudes and experiences described in these Terms of Reference, while ensuring major sectors of the workforce development community are represented on the Task Force. After the initial term, the selection process will be led by the Chair and Vice Chair. Candidates selected will be invited to become members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force.

6.0 Code of Conduct

Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force have a duty to make decisions solely in terms of the best interest of the community. It is expected that the members will not engage in any behaviour or conduct that may be seen to be an attempt to gain, through their position as a member or through their knowledge or contacts gained as Blue Ribbon Task Force member, any personal advantage, advancement, favour, influence, benefit, discount or other interest, for themselves, their spouses, their relatives, or their friends.

Blue Ribbon Task Force members must therefore declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest.

There may be times when members will be required to treat discussions, documents or other information relating to the work of the committee in a confidential manner.

Members of the Blue ribbon Task Force will commit themselves to the following:

• Shall work for the well-being of all citizens of Hamilton.
• Shall work with other members in a spirit of respect, openness, co-operation and proper decorum in spite of differences that may arise during discussions.
• Will not divulge confidential information that they may obtain in their capacity as a Blue Ribbon Task Force member.

Members are expected to attend all meetings of the Blue Ribbon Task Force. Should a member miss more than three meetings during their two year term (without reasonable explanation) on the Task Force, they will be contacted by the Chair and/or Vice-Chair to discuss their ongoing participation.

In the event that there is a failure to comply with Code of Conduct guidelines the Chair and Vice-Chair will be responsible for addressing the issue with the member, and recommending a suitable course of action.
7.0 Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest is defined as a situation in which the personal, professional or business interests of a Blue Ribbon Task Force member or a close relative/associate of the member are in conflict with the member’s ability to contribute to achieving the overall goals of the Task Force. A conflict of interest arises when a person or close associate may benefit or appear to benefit from that position financially or in some other inappropriate way.

7.1 Policy

a) Members shall not place themselves in a position where they are under obligation to any person or organization that might benefit from improper consideration or favour from members while performing their duties and responsibilities as a Task Force member.

b) Members shall not divulge confidential information or restricted information to any unauthorized person(s) or release such information in advance of authorization or authority.

c) Members shall not engage in any activity, work or business undertaking that may interfere with the achievement of the overall goals of the Blue Ribbon Task Force and Steering Committee. However, members are encouraged to:

- conduct any business that facilitates the achievement of the overall goals of the Task Force
- share any business they may be involved in that pertains to or has an impact on the overall goals of the Task Force.
- establish mutually beneficial partnerships that facilitate the achievement of the overall goals of the Task Force

d) Members shall declare if they have direct or indirect personal business or financial activities that conflict with their Blue Ribbon Task Force duties and responsibilities.

e) Members will declare any conflict of interest at all Task Force meetings which shall be recorded in the minutes.

f) After declaring a conflict of interest, the member shall not be present (nor vote) during the discussions, or otherwise attempt to influence the decision, nor shall the member in conflict of interest be counted in any required quorum with respect to a vote.
7.2 Procedure and Resolution

a) Members must disclose to the Chair any situation or matter where they have a conflict of interest or the potential for conflict of interest, prior to the meeting based on the agenda.

b) Members must disclose to all other members any situation or matter where they have a conflict of interest or the potential for conflict of interest immediately within the Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting when recognition of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest arises.

c) Once a conflict is declared, the member declaring the conflict will leave the meeting.

d) The Task Force Chair, Vice-Chair and senior staff will then decide whether or not the member in conflict of interest should be invited back to the meeting for information gleaning purposes; and/or whether the Task Force agrees the member is in a conflict of interest.

e) The member in conflict of interest may be asked to return to the meeting for information gathering and then asked to leave again, before a decision is made. The member in a conflict may accept or decline the invitation.

f) The member in conflict of interest shall not be present for the decision/vote.

g) Once the decision/vote is made, the Blue Ribbon Task Force will decide how to communicate the outcome to the member.

h) The Chair will communicate the outcome to the member following the agreed approach.

i) Before a person becomes a member, s/he must be made aware of this policy and be required to disclose any potential conflict of interest.