



**David Dunlap Observatory Park
Project Steering Committee**

Minutes

DDOP#01-21

Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

(Electronic Meeting pursuant to Section 238(3.3) of the Municipal Act, 2001)

An Electronic David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee Meeting, pursuant to Section 238(3.3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, of the Council of the City of Richmond Hill was held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via videoconference.

Committee members present via videoconference:

Councillor Chan - Chair
Acting Mayor DiPaola
Marney Beck-Robinson
Gloria Marsh
David McKay

Regrets: Councillor Cilevitz - Vice-Chair

Also in attendance: Councillor Muench
Councillor West

Staff members present via videoconference:

M. Dempster, City Manager
S. Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services
D. Joslin, Commissioner of Community Services
K. Kwan, Commissioner of Planning and Infrastructure
P. Masaro, Executive Director, Infrastructure and Engineering Services
D. Hearn, Director, Recreation and Culture
S. Huycke, Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk
N. Kalyvas, Director, Facility Management
B. Levesque, Director, Infrastructure Delivery
T. Steele, Director, Community Standards
J. Stewart, Director, Public Works Operations
L Conde, Manager, Manager, Strategy and Government Relations
A. Farrugia, Manager, Parks Operations
K. Graver, Manager, Strategic Communications
A. Mandatori, Manager, Capital Planning and Delivery

M. McCallum, Project Manager, Infrastructure Delivery
R. Munshi, Administrative Assistant

Staff members present on the 8th Floor:

R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk
K. Hurley, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: G. Marsh

That the agenda be adopted as distributed by the Clerk.

Carried

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by members of the Committee under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

3.1 Minutes - David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee meeting DDOP#01-19 held April 24, 2019

Moved by: Acting Mayor DiPaola

a) That the minutes of the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee meeting DDOP#01-19 held April 24, 2019, be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

3.2 Extract - Council meeting C#22-19 held May 14, 2019

Moved by: Acting Mayor DiPaola

a) That the extract from Council meeting C#22-19 held May 14, 2019 regarding staff report SREIS.19.007, David Dunlap Observatory Park Early Priorities Project Update, be received.

Carried Unanimously

4. Scheduled Business

4.1 SRPI.21.061 - Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Park Early Priorities Project Update

- Presentation by Bob Levesque, Director, Infrastructure Delivery, and Mike McCallum, Project Manager, Infrastructure Delivery

Paolo Masaro, Executive Director, Infrastructure and Engineering Services, provided introductory remarks and acknowledged the work of the Capital Sustainability Steering Committee (CSSC) and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory (RHDDO) Park Project. He highlighted the work that has been done since the last meeting of the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee (DDOPPSC) in April 2019, and introduced Bob Levesque, Director, Infrastructure Delivery, and Mike McCallum, Project Manager, Infrastructure Delivery, who would be providing a detailed presentation to the Committee.

Bob Levesque, Director, Infrastructure Delivery, reviewed the composition of the RHDDO Park Project Steering Committee, the staff Steering Committee, and the Technical Steering Committee, and displayed an aerial view of the RHDDO to provide context to the site. He provided an overview of the Master Plan that was approved in September 2016 which included a Vision Statement, Early Priorities (1 to 8 years - extended), Medium-term Projects (8 to 15 years), and Long-term Projects (15+ years); reviewed the Early Priorities Phasing Design and Early Priorities Phasing Construction; and detailed the 2022 Draft Capital Budget and Forecast.

Kathleen Graver, Manager, Strategic Communications, provided an overview of the Communications Approach for the RHDDO Park including goals and strategies, and reviewed Communications Tactics that included developing templates for use by all project partners with RHDDO branding, updating the RichmondHill.ca/DDO landing and child pages, and making use of existing communication channels as appropriate for major initiatives and year-end success wrap-up.

Mike McCallum, Project Manager, Infrastructure Delivery, discussed Current Projects and Activities including Interim Trails, Elvis Stojko Arena Fencing, Woodlot Restoration, and Heritage Building Restoration.

B. Levesque concluded the presentation by reviewing the recommendations related to the Radio Shack as a result of the 2017

Building Assessment Report and the recommendations related to the Pump House as detailed in the Master Plan, reviewed next steps in the process for the Committee, and opened up discussion to the Committee members if they had any questions and/or comments.

General discussion ensued regarding the budget associated with the RHDDO Park Project and the impact on the tax rate, as well as concerns with the timing and costs specific to the demolition and replication of the Radio Shack. Background information was provided to members regarding the purpose of both the DDOPPS and the CSSC, noting that the DDOPPS paused its work to allow for the CSSC to complete its mandate which was to inform and educate on fiscal sustainability and establish a sustainable long term capital investment strategy, and it was through that process that a strategy was developed where the DDO property and its historic buildings were identified as a priority.

Committee members discussed the budget and timing of the Pedestrian Rail Overpass as an Early Priority Feature of the Project as pedestrian access was key in establishing the DDO Park as a passive park; funding sources for the Project; integrating the trail system with other parks; initiation of a Parking Study to identify parking options on the site, taking into consideration interim and long term solutions, and potential for a shuttle bus service; programming for the DDO Park and property; re-design of the 16th Avenue entrance and signage/wayfinding for the site; fencing around the Elvis Stojko Arena; and the overall positive impact of the DDO Park on local tourism.

Moved by: Acting Mayor DiPaola

That the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee recommends to Council:

- a) That staff report SRPI.21.061 regarding the Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Park Early Priorities Project Update be received;
- b) That the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee recommend continued support of the David Dunlap Observatory Project;
- c) That the 10 Year Capital forecast include the early priorities identified in staff report SREIS.19.007 with an extended timeframe for implementation following the outcome of the Capital Sustainability Steering Committee review;

d) That staff continue with the implementation of the early priorities as well as the woodlot restoration work approved through the Corsica development agreement.

Carried Unanimously

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee will be at the call of the Chair.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Acting Mayor DiPaola

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.