

May 10, 2024

TO THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

The **regular meeting** of Council will be held on **Monday, May 13, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., in the Council Chambers, 350 City Hall Square.**

A special meeting of Council will be held on **Monday, May 13, 2024, immediately following the regular meeting of Council, in Room 139, 350 City Hall Square.** Council will at the special meeting adopt a resolution to authorize Council to meet in closed session, and the resolution shall contain the general nature of the matters to be considered in the closed session. The resolution must be adopted by a majority of Council present during the open special meeting before the meeting may be closed. An agenda for this meeting is enclosed under separate cover.

A meeting of the **Striking Committee** will be held on **Monday, May 13, 2024, immediately following the in-camera meeting of Council,** in Room 139, 350 City Hall Square. A resolution to meet in closed session must be adopted and shall contain the general nature of the matters to be considered. The resolution must be adopted by a majority of Council present during the open special meeting of the Striking Committee before the meeting may be closed. An agenda for this meeting is enclosed under separate cover.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR.

Yours very truly,



Steve Vlachodimos

City Clerk

/bm

c.c. Chief Administrative Officer

Consolidated City Council Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday, May 13, 2024

Time: 10:00 o'clock a.m.

Location: Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Windsor City Hall

All members will have the option of participating in person in Council Chambers or electronically and will be counted towards quorum in accordance with Procedure Bylaw 98-2011 as amended, which allows for electronic meetings. The minutes will reflect this accordingly. Any delegations have the option to participate in person or electronically.

MEMBERS:

Mayor Drew Dilkens

Ward 1 – Councillor Fred Francis

Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante

Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie

Ward 5 - Councillor Ed Sleiman

Ward 6 - Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

Ward 7 - Councillor Angelo Marignani

Ward 8 - Councillor Gary Kaschak

Ward 9 - Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Ward 10 - Councillor Jim Morrison

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item # Item Description
1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. CALL TO ORDER - Playing of the National Anthem

READING OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, which includes the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi. The City of Windsor honours all First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES (*previously distributed*)

**4.1. Adoption of the Windsor City Council minutes of its meeting held April 22, 2024.
(SCM 120/2024)**

5. NOTICE OF PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations

“VON Week” – May 19–25, 2024

“Walk to Make Cystic Fibrosis History” – May 26, 2024

Illumination

“VON Week” – May 19–25, 2024

6. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

7. COMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION PACKAGE (This includes both Correspondence and Communication Reports)

- 7.1 Correspondence 7.1.1. through 7.1.8. **(CMC 7/2024) (previously distributed)**
- 7.2. Response to CQ 6-2024 re: Heads and Beds Levy **(C 54/2024) (previously distributed)**
- 8. CONSENT AGENDA (previously distributed)**
- 8.1. Update National Housing Strategy Funding – City Wide **(C 53/2024) (previously distributed)**
Clerk’s Note: The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing submitting the **attached** letter from the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities dated May 1, 2024 and the **attached** letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated May 6, 2024 as additional information.
- 9. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS AND/OR WITHDRAWALS**
- 10. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**
- 8.2. Response to CR 198/2023 Windsor Police Services Human Services Issues – City Wide **(S 119/2023)**
a) Jason Bellaire, Police Chief, Windsor Police Services, available for questions (in person)
- 11.5. 2024 Business Improvement Area Budget & Levy Approval - Ward 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 **(C 51/2204)**
a) Chris MacLeod, Chairperson, The Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association, available for questions (in person)
- 11.1. 2024 Budget Amendment - City Wide **(C 48/2024)**
Clerk’s Note: The following are written submissions:
Marion Overholt, ward 4 resident submitting the **attached** letter dated May 8, 2024; Kaitlyn Karns, Executive Director, Ford City Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 1, 2024; Candyce Mollard, Coordinator, Olde Riverside Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter; Ettore Bonato, President Ottawa Street Business Improvement Association for “Uptown Ottawa” submitting the **attached** letter dated May 5, 2024; Bridget M. Scheuerman, Executive Director, Pillette Village submitting the **attached** letter dated May 1, 2024; Stephen Hargreaves, Director, Sandwich Town Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 6, 2024; Pietro DiPonio, Interim President of Via Italia-Erie Street Business Improvement Association submitting the attached letter dated May 2, 2024; Larry Horwitz, Chair, Wyandotte Towne Centre Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 8, 2024
a) Brent Klundert, Chair, Windsor Essex Home Builders Association (in person)

- b) Philip Fernandes, property owner, ward 3, available for questions
- c) Chris MacLeod, Chairperson, the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (in person)
- d) Dartis Willis, President/CEO Windsor Express (in person)
- e) Greg Spencer, Spencer Butcher (in person)
- f) Ray Blanchard, Business Owner, Director of Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (in person)

11.2. Strengthen the Core – Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan - City Wide (**C 49/2024**)

Clerk's Note: The following are written submissions:

Joe Goncalves, Acting Chief Executive Officer & Vice President Investment Attraction & Strategic Initiatives, Invest WindsorEssex submitting the **previously distributed** letter dated May 1, 2024; Philippa von Ziegenweidt, Citizens for Accountable Mega-Hospital Planning Process submitting the **attached** email dated May 8, 2024; Robert Cameron, Executive Director, Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative submitting the **attached** letter dated May 8, 2024; Marion Overholt, ward 4 resident submitting the **attached** letter dated May 8, 2024; Cameron Adamson, Border Masonic Temple Association-Committee Chair submitting the **attached** email dated May 10, 2024; Kaitlyn Karns, Executive Director, Ford City Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 1, 2024; Candyce Mollard, Coordinator, Olde Riverside Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter; Ettore Bonato, President Ottawa Street Business Improvement Association for "Uptown Ottawa" submitting the **attached** letter dated May 5, 2024; Bridget M. Scheuerman, Executive Director, Pilette Village submitting the **attached** letter dated May 1, 2024; Stephen Hargreaves, Director, Sandwich Town Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 6, 2024; Pietro DiPonio, Interim President of Via Italia-Erie Street Business Improvement Association submitting the attached letter dated May 2, 2024; Larry Horwitz, Chair, Wyandotte Towne Centre Business Improvement Association submitting the **attached** letter dated May 8, 2024; Joyce Zuk, Family Services Windsor-Essex submitting the **attached** letter dated May 10, 2024; Ron Balla, The Coffee Exchange submitting the **attached** letter dated May 6, 2024

- a) Sabine Matheson, Principal/Legal Counsel and Brian Teefy, Vice President, StrategyCorp, available for questions (via Zoom)
- b) Jason Bellaire, Police Chief, Windsor Police Services, available for questions (in person)
- c) Philip Fernandes, property owner, ward 3, available for questions
- d) Joyce Zuk, Family Services Windsor-Essex, available for questions (in person)
- e) Councillor Stephanie Plante, Ottawa Area, Ward 12 (via Zoom)
- f) Jonathon Foster, Nurse Police Team, Vice President – Emergency and Mental Health, Windsor Regional Hospital (in person)
- g) Rukshini Ponniah-Goulin, Executive Director, Downtown Mission of Windsor (in person)
- h) Brent Klundert, Chair, Windsor Essex Home Builders Association (in person)
- i) Chris MacLeod, Chairperson, The Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (in person)
- j) Shawn Lippert, Business Owner, and Dario Silvaggi, Business Partner, Windsor Adult Volleyball League, ward 3 (in person)
- k) Dartis Willis, President/CEO Windsor Express (in person)
- l) Greg Spencer, Spencer Butcher (in person)

- m) Tamara Kowalska, Co-Founder Windsor Youth Centre (in person)
- n) Maggie Chen, President of the Windsor Essex County Association Realtors (via Zoom)
- o) Rob Katzman, Katzman Enterprises, Downtown Windsor Business Person (via Zoom)
- p) Dr. Vincent Georgie, Executive Director & Chief Programmer, Windsor International Film Festival (in person)
- q) Nate Hope, Area Resident, Member of Windsor Downtown Neighbourhood Alliance (in person)
- r) Elizabeth Thompson, Director Canadian HR Services, and Jasen Sams, Vice President, Rocket Innovation Studio (in person)
- s) Ray Blanchard, Business Owner, Director of Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (in person)
- t) Robert Franz, Music Director, Windsor Symphony Orchestra (in person)
- u) Robert Cameron, Executive Director, Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative (in person)
- v) Jennie Atkins, Board member, Downtown Business Improvement Association (in person)
- w) Sheila Wisdom, area resident, ward 2 (in person)
- x) Misty Sergi, Business Owner, The Gifting Tree (in person)
- y) Vicky Smith, Owner, Tim Hortons Franchise, 80 Park Street East (in person)
- z) Andrew Corbett, Co-Owner/Operator, WKND Hospitality Group (in person)
- aa) Jennifer Matotek, Art Windsor Essex (in person)
- bb) Judy Bornais, Assistant Vice President of External Affairs and Charlie Simpkins, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Business Enterprise, University of Windsor (in person)
- cc) Anna Angelidis, Executive Director of Housing Information Services/Labour Sponsored Community Development Group and Jordan Nguyen, H4 Supervisor, Housing Information Services (in person)
- dd) Brian Schwab, Downtown Property Owner (in person)
- ee) Meher Ayesha, Relator (in person)
- ff) Caroline Taylor, area resident, ward 2 (in person)
- gg) Sarah Dewar, Business Owner, Maiden Lane, ward 3 (via Zoom)
- hh) Nicole Sbrocca, Chief Executive Officer Canadian Mental Health Association, Windsor-Essex County Branch (in person)

11. REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS (Non-Consent Items) (previously distributed)

- 11.3. Capital Budget Pre-Approval and Utility Agreement Signing Authority - Prince Road Storm Sewer Outlet Phase 9B - Ward 2 **(C 47/2024)**
- 11.4. 2024 Tax Policy Decisions and Establishment of the 2024 Final Property Tax Rates - City Wide **(C52/2024)**

12. CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS (previously distributed)

- 12.1. (i) Report of the Special In-Camera meeting or other Committee as may be held prior to Council (if scheduled)

- 12.2. Report of the Striking Committee of its meeting held April 22, 2024 **(SCM 116/2024)**
- 12.3 Report of the Special In-camera meeting held April 22, 2024 **(SCM 121/2024)**
Clerk's Note: Corrected version of cover sheet *attached*
- 12.4 Report of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee of its In-Camera meeting held April 22, 2024 **(SCM 108/2024)**

- 13. **BY-LAWS** (First and Second Reading) *(previously distributed)*
- 13.1 **By-law 74-2024** A BY-LAW TO ASSUME FOR SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE THE 6.10 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY AND THE 4.64 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY NORTH OF LAMBTON STREET, EAST OF MALDEN ROAD, SOUTH OF KENT STREET, AND WEST OF SECOND AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR149/2021 dated April 19, 2021.
- 13.2 **By-law 75-2024** A BY-LAW TO CLOSE, STOP UP AND CONVEY THE 6.10 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY AND THE 4.64 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY NORTH OF LAMBTON STREET, EAST OF MALDEN ROAD, SOUTH OF KENT STREET, AND WEST OF SECOND AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR149/2021 dated April 19, 2021.
- 13.3 **By-law 76-2024** A BY-LAW TO ASSUME FOR SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE THE 4.57 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY AND THE 4.57 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY LOCATED NORTH OF GRATIOT STREET, EAST OF MALDEN ROAD, AND SOUTH OF NICHOLS STREET, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR385/2022 dated September 6, 2022.
- 13.4 **By-law 77-2024** A BY-LAW TO CLOSE, STOP UP AND CONVEY THE 4.57 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY AND THE 4.57 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY LOCATED NORTH OF GRATIOT STREET, EAST OF MALDEN ROAD, AND SOUTH OF NICHOLS STREET, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR385/2022 dated September 6, 2022.
- 13.5 **By-law 78-2024** A BY-LAW TO ASSUME FOR SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE THE 4.57 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY LOCATED SOUTH OF NORTHWOOD STREET, EAST OF LONGFELLOW AVENUE AND WEST OF ALEXANDRA AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR226/2023 dated May 29, 2023.
- 13.6 **By-law 79-2024** A BY-LAW TO CLOSE, STOP UP AND CONVEY THE 4.57 METRE NORTH/SOUTH ALLEY LOCATED SOUTH OF NORTHWOOD STREET, EAST OF LONGFELLOW AVENUE AND WEST OF ALEXANDRA AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR226/2023 dated May 29, 2023.
- 13.7 **By-law 80-2024** A BY-LAW TO ASSUME FOR SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE THE 10.06 METRE WIDE PORTION OF THE PALL MALL STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED SOUTH OF NORTHWOOD STREET, EAST OF LONGFELLOW AVENUE, AND WEST

OF ALEXANDRA AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR226/2023 dated May 29, 2023.

- 13.8 **By-law 81-2024** A BY-LAW TO CLOSE, STOP UP AND CONVEY THE 10.06 METRE WIDE PORTION OF THE PALL MALL STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED SOUTH OF NORTHWOOD STREET, EAST OF LONGFELLOW AVENUE AND WEST OF ALEXANDRA AVENUE, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR226/2023 dated May 29, 2023.
- 13.9 **By-law 82-2024** A BY-LAW TO ASSUME FOR SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE THE 5.50 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY NORTH OF REDDOCK AVENUE, WEST OF THIRD STREET, AND SOUTH OF LANSING STREET, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR435/2021 dated October 4, 2021.
- 13.10 **By-law 83-2024** A BY-LAW TO CLOSE, STOP UP AND CONVEY THE 5.50 METRE EAST/WEST ALLEY NORTH OF REDDOCK AVENUE, WEST OF THIRD STREET, AND SOUTH OF LANSING STREET, CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR435/2021 dated October 4, 2021.
- 13.11 **By-law 84-2024** A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH LANDS AS A PUBLIC HIGHWAY KNOWN AS NORTH SERVICE ROAD IN THE CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR76/2011 dated February 28, 2011.
- 13.12 **By-law 85-2024** A BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW 9023 BEING A BY-LAW TO REGULATE VEHICULAR PARKING WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR ON MUNICIPAL STREETS, MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS AND PRIVATE PROPERTIES. Authorized by CAO73/2024 dated April 10, 2024.
- 13.13 **By-law 86-2024** A BY-LAW TO APPOINT DEPUTY TREASURERS FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR191/2024 dated April 22, 2024.
- 13.14 **By-law 87-2024** A BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABANDONMENT OF THE EAST MARSH TAP DRAIN IN THE CITY OF WINDSOR. Authorized by CR112/2015 dated June 15, 2015.
- 13.15 **By-law 88-2024** A BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 8600 CITED AS THE "CITY OF WINDSOR ZONING BY-LAW". Authorized by By-law 8600 S. 5.4.20.
- 13.16 **By-law 89-2024** A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR AT ITS MEETING HELD ON THE 13TH DAY OF MAY 2024.

14. MOVE BACK INTO FORMAL SESSION

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

16. THIRD AND FINAL READING OF THE BY-LAWS

By-laws 74-2024 through 89-2024 (inclusive)

17. PETITIONS

18. QUESTION PERIOD

19. STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

20. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
10:00 a.m., via Zoom video conference

Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 21, 2024
5:00 p.m., Room 522a, 350 City Hall Square West

City Council Meeting
Monday, May 27, 2024
10:00 a.m., Council Chambers

21. ADJOURNMENT



Committee Matters: SCM 121/2024

Subject: Report of the Special In-camera meeting held April 22, 2024

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL – IN CAMERA
April 22, 2024**

Meeting called to order at: 1:51 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Mayor Drew Dilkens
Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Councillor Fabio Costante
Councillor Fred Francis
Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac(departs at 3:53 p.m.)
Councillor Gary Kaschak
Councillor Angelo Marignani
Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Councillor Mark McKenzie
Councillor Jim Morrison
Councillor Ed Sleiman

Also in attendance:

Joe Mancina, Chief Administrative Officer
Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human and Health Services
Mark Winterton, Acting Commissioner of Infrastructure Services/City
Engineer
Janice Guthrie, Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer
Dana Paladino, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services
Ray Mensour, Commissioner of Community Services
Jelena Payne, Commissioner Economic Development
Steve Vlachodimos, City Clerk
Wira Vendrasco, Acting City Solicitor
Abe Taqtaq, Mayor's Chief of Staff
Dave Amyot and Tom Serafimovfski, Legal Counsel (Item 1)
Vincenza Mihalo, Executive Director of Human Resources (Items 5, 7 & 8)
Tyson Cragg, Executive Director of Transit Windsor (Items 8 & 9)
Matt Johnson, Executive Director Economic Development (Item 10)
**CLERK'S NOTE: For Item 1 only the Mayor, Members of Council,
Chief Administrative Officer, City Clerk, Mayor's Chief of Staff and
Legal Counsel were in attendance.**

Verbal Motion is presented by Councillor Ed Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Angelo Marignani, to move in Camera for discussion of the following item(s):

Item No.	Subject & Section - Pursuant to <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> , as amended
1	Legal matter – litigation update – verbal, Section 239(2)(b)(e)(f)(k)
2	Property matter – sale of land, Section 239(2)(c)
3	Legal/Property matter – expropriation settlement, Section 239(2)e)
4	Legal matter – advice subject to solicitor-client privilege/plan, Section 239(2)(f)(k)
5	Personal matter – appointment, Section 239(2)(b)
6	Personal matter – labour relations, Section 239(2)(d)
7	Personal matter – about identifiable individuals/labour relations/plan – review, Section 239(2)(b)(d)(k)
8	Personal matter – about identifiable individuals, labour relations, Section 239(2)(b)(d)(k) NOTE: Decision of Environment Standing Committee to be ratified.
9	Plan – information supplied in confidence, Section 239(2)(i) NOTE: Decision of Environment Standing Committee to be ratified.
10	Position/plan – economic development, Section 239(2)(k)(f)

Motion Carried.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:

Councillor Francis declares an interest and abstains from voting on Item 9 as it relates to the employer of a family member.

Discussion on the items of business.

Verbal Motion is presented by Councillor Fred Francis, seconded by Councillor Fabio Costante, to move back into public session.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Gignac was absent from the meeting when the vote was taken on this matter.

Moved by Councillor Mark McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Kieran McKenzie, THAT the Clerk BE DIRECTED to transmit the recommendation(s) contained in the report(s) discussed at the In-Camera Council Meeting held April 22, 2024 directly to Council for consideration at the next Regular Meeting.

1. That the confidential verbal presentation from Legal Counsel respecting a legal matter – litigation update **BE RECEIVED.**
2. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from the Coordinator of Real Estate Services, Manager of Real Estate Services, Acting City Solicitor, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a property matter – sale of land **BE APPROVED.**
3. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from Senior Legal Counsel, Acting City Solicitor, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a legal/property matter – expropriation settlement **BE APPROVED.**
4. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from the Executive Director Housing and Children's Services, Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer, Acting City Solicitor, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Commissioner of Human and Health Services respecting a legal matter – advice subject to solicitor-client privilege/plan **BE APPROVED.**

5. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from the Executive Director of Human Resources, Acting City Solicitor, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a personal matter – appointment **BE APPROVED**.

6. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from the Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services, Executive Director of Human Resources, Commissioner of Community Services, Acting Commissioner of Infrastructure Services, Commissioner of Health and Human Services, Commissioner of Economic Development and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a personal matter – labour relations **BE APPROVED**.

7. That the recommendation contained in the in-camera report from the Executive Director of Human Resources, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a personal matter – about identifiable individuals/labour relations/plan **BE APPROVED**.

Councillor Fred Francis voting nay.

8. That the confidential report from the Executive Director of Transit Windsor, Executive Director of Human Resources, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services, Executive Director of Transit Windsor, Acting Commissioner of Infrastructure Services and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a personal matter – about identifiable individuals, labour relations **BE RECEIVED** and that the in-camera recommendation of the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Committee of its meeting held April 22, 2024 **BE APPROVED**.

Councillor Fred Francis voting nay.

9. That the confidential report from the Manager of Performance Measurement and Business Case Development, Executive Director of Transit Windsor, Acting Commissioner of Infrastructure Services and Commissioner, Acting City Solicitor and Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer respecting a plan – information supplied in confidence **BE RECEIVED** and that the in-camera recommendation of the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Committee of its meeting held April 22, 2024 **BE APPROVED**.

Councillor Fred Francis declares an interest and abstains from voting and discussion on this matter.

10. That the confidential discussions respecting a position/plan – economic development **BE RECEIVED** and further that Administration **PROCEED** on the verbal direction of Council.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac was absent from the meeting when the votes were taken on these matters.

**Moved by Councillor Kieran McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Ed Sleiman,
That the special meeting of council held April 22, 2024 BE ADJOURNED.
(Time: 4:20 p.m.)**

Motion Carried.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac was absent from the meeting when the votes was taken on this matter.



May 1st, 2024

Dear Service Manager,

I understand that there may be some concern relating to the \$357 Million dollars which the federal government hoped to flow through the Province of Ontario under the National Housing Strategy to support your work.

I was disappointed to learn that Ontario has rejected the conditional approval of their most recent Action Plan, and is choosing to forego the funding.

I want to assure you that the full amount of this funding which was meant to flow through the Province will nevertheless be used to make investments in affordable housing and housing supports for the most vulnerable in Ontario, and will be delivered directly by the federal government.

As you are aware, this funding is a reimbursement to Ontario for funds already spent. So, it should not impact you in the delivery of services this year. I would hope that the provincial government will not pull funding from affordable housing in future fiscal years. You should not be penalized for their failure to meet obligations under bilateral agreements.

With or without provincial involvement, we will ensure that affordable housing and housing supports for the most vulnerable are provided to the communities and residents in Ontario who need it most. We will likewise continue to work with Ontario in the hopes that we can avoid a similar situation in future years of our agreement.

I would like to meet with you at a mutually convenient time in order to ensure we deliver the funding in a way that most effectively supports your work, and to resolve any outstanding questions you might have.

Thank you for all that you do to serve some of our most vulnerable community members. I look forward to chatting more soon.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre
777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2024-2180

May 6, 2024

Dear service manager,

I know there have been concerns raised about the future of the National Housing Strategy (NHS) following the federal government's previous decision to withhold both its funding over the remaining term and the funds already spent by the province through service managers on the federal government's behalf.

I want to assure you that the Province of Ontario will continue to fund the provincial portion of the NHS. We believe that service managers are best positioned to understand the needs of their local communities and this is why we have fought so hard to retain your role in the program.

I am aware that you have recently received a letter from Minister Fraser. After weeks of discussion, the minister has finally agreed with us on the important role service managers play in delivering housing programs on behalf of the province and our municipal partners.

I want to thank you for your achievements over the past five years. Together we have made extraordinary progress delivering and preserving affordable housing in Ontario. Through your efforts, we are already more than halfway to our target of making available more than 19,000 new affordable housing units. In addition, together we have surpassed the NHS target of renovating, restoring or rehabilitating 26,000 affordable housing units by more than 365 per cent, with more than 96,000 units upgraded. Many of these units would not be available to families without your efforts.

Undoubtedly, the federal government's refusal to reimburse the \$357 million that we have spent on their behalf will have a negative impact on service delivery. I want to assure you that we will continue to work with you to mitigate these impacts so we can provide the best possible services to the people we have the honour of representing.

Again, thank you for all your efforts as we work to deliver and preserve affordable housing across Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Calandra', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Burke Christian, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

From: Windsor CAMPP <>

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 12:04 PM

To: clerks <clerks@citywindsor.ca>

Cc: Francis, Fred <ffrancis@citywindsor.ca>; Costante, Fabio <fcostante@citywindsor.ca>; Agostino, Renaldo <ragostino@citywindsor.ca>; Sleiman, Ed <esleiman@citywindsor.ca>; McKenzie, Mark <mmckenzie@citywindsor.ca>; Gignac, Jo-Anne (Councillor) <joagignac@citywindsor.ca>; Marignani, Angelo <amarignani@citywindsor.ca>; Mckenzie, Kieran <kmckenzie@citywindsor.ca>; Morrison, Jim <jmorrison@citywindsor.ca>; mayoro <mayoro@citywindsor.ca>; Kaschak, Gary <gkaschak@citywindsor.ca>; Croucher, Debi <>

Subject: 11.2: C 49/2024 Strengthen the Core – Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of Windsor City Council:

Buried in Appendix A of StrategyCorp’s January 2024 report “*Downtown Revitalization Plan – Key Findings and Recommendations*,” it is noted that: **“There is a perception that Windsor has not done a good job historically at retaining anchor institutions in the downtown core.”**

Unfortunately, this observation is not explored more fully in the body of the report.

The closure of the Ouellette Campus of Windsor Regional Hospital, and its replacement with an Urgent Care Centre (UCC), is a jarring example of a plan that will undo the much-needed efforts to turn Windsor’s downtown around.

The language surrounding the facility being planned in Windsor is misleading, and diminishes the risk to the area. While the public has been repeatedly promised a “satellite emergency department,” the small print indicates very clearly it is to be a UCC.

Early in the mega-hospital planning process, the community were invited to look at Brampton’s UCC as an example of what we can expect in Windsor.

Built in 2017, it was located on the site of Brampton's aging downtown hospital. All hospital services were transferred to the new Civic Hospital, approximately 10km from the city's downtown core.

According to the facility's website, "Our **[UCC] provides care when your illness or injury isn't an emergency**, but just can't wait," (emphasis added). Under the [Frequently Asked Questions](#), patients are advised:

When should I go to the Urgent Care Centre?

Our services are covered by a valid Ontario health card. Visit the Urgent Care Centre for illnesses or injuries such as:

- sprains, strains or broken bones
- allergic reactions or skin rashes
- asthma attacks
- minor burns
- cuts that might need stitches
- earaches or eye injuries
- fevers, coughs and colds
- infections
- nose and throat complaints

Babies six months of age or younger should visit Osler's Emergency Departments.

Patients are told to visit the emergency department for care related to serious injuries, illness or conditions, especially if they are experiencing symptoms and have an existing chronic condition, including heart disease, kidney disease, or diabetes.

This is a far cry from the healthcare services provided to Windsor's downtown population today.

In April 2020, the UCC in Brampton closed its doors, "[to help increase focus on high risk, vulnerable patients in the community during COVID-19.](#) "

It only [reopened 21 months later](#), in December 2021.

For the thousands of residents of Windsor's downtown core who do not own cars, especially those who are elderly or have impaired mobility, such a loss of access to healthcare services will be catastrophic. It will also be extremely costly to mitigate.

A UCC does not meet the healthcare needs of Brampton's downtown population. It will not meet the often complex healthcare needs of Windsor's current downtown population. It will not meet the community's future healthcare needs if the city's core is strengthened as proposed.

I urge you to follow the lead of Brampton's mayor Patrick Brown. He has been working tirelessly for increased provincial funding ["to bridge Brampton's health care gap; including the completion of the second hospital with a 24/7 emergency department and additional beds."](#)

The importance of a hospital as an anchor institution goes far beyond the provision of a full range of healthcare services and overnight beds. An acute care hospital provides thousands of direct jobs, which in turn increases demand for area housing and ancillary businesses. The presence of an anchor institution provides the stability for smaller businesses to establish themselves nearby.

Shockingly - because of the size and scope of the project - the prospect of further hollowing out of Windsor's downtown core was not considered in 2015 when the location of the new hospital was decided upon. According to *The Windsor Star's* Anne Jarvis, Bob Renaud, Chair of the Site Selection Committee for the new hospital, acknowledged: ["There was never one suggestion made that we had to consider hollowing out the urban core."](#)

If the Ouellette Campus of Windsor Regional Hospital is replaced by a UCC as planned, this closure alone will seriously undermine the efforts envisioned in C 49/2024.

I urge Council to add advocating for **maintaining full acute care hospital services in Windsor's downtown core** to the Revitalization Plan. We need to do better, because, as Brampton discovered, it will be extremely difficult to reverse such a grave planning mistake after the fact.

Sincerely,

Philippa von Ziegenweidt

[CAMPP - Citizens for an Accountable Mega-hospital Planning Process](#)

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

City Council Meeting
May 13, 2024
Item 11.2 – Written Submission

Regarding item 11.2 C49/2024 Strengthening the Core Revitalization Plan

Your Worship Mayor Drew Dilkens and City Council:

Since 2010 DWCC has been living and working in the downtown core to cultivate grassroots initiatives that aspire to seeing downtown as ‘a good place to grow up and a good place to grow old.’

During the last two decades the call for fiscal restraint has been prioritized over the call for investment in the downtown core. The Strengthening the Core Revitalization Plan is a positive step forward and DWCC is supportive of the initiative. Investment in the core is a win-win. It can build a safe and enjoyable experience for residents as well as strengthen the financial wellbeing of the city.

Our reflection on the seven strategies notes the initial actions are centred on the business district investing in an increase of policing, camera surveillance, and bylaw staffing. The balance of the strategies is inspiring but lack specific actions. Our concern is if the other strategies will be backed with ideas and dollars in the coming years? If funding is not considered in future City of Windsor budgets this initiative will lose steam and undermine confidence in the City Administration to persevere in the hard work of transformation of the neighbourhoods we love.

We acknowledge that no one group has the capacity to make the change necessary. All levels of government, private corporations, residents and philanthropists, faith institutions and not for profits have opportunity and responsibility to participate. We also acknowledge that someone has to step up and lead.

DWCC commits to participate in supporting and speaking into the ongoing proposal. Over the summer season DWCC will be conducting a series of conversations based on the Revitalization Plan within the downtown neighbourhoods. The goal is to collate ideas from local residents that will be presented to Councillor Agostino and the Mayor’s Office.

DWCC asks the City Council to approve the Strengthening the Core Revitalization Plan.

Sincerely,



Robert Cameron (Executive Director, DWCC)

From: Cameron Adamson <>
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 2:10 AM
To: clerks <clerks@citywindsor.ca>
Subject: May 13th, 2024 Windsor City Council Meeting; Written Submission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern;

As a Windsor Masonic Temple Committee Chair, please see below for **support** of:

- Windsor City Council Meeting Agenda Item 11.2 "*Strengthen the Core – Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan* (Meeting Date: May 13th, 2024)"

While I wish I could attend the May 13th, 2024 meeting, I will be visiting family.

Written Submission.

The success of the Windsor Masonic Temple and the success of the City of Windsor cannot be separated. Windsor's success is the Windsor Masonic Temple's success. The Windsor Masonic Temple's success is the City of Windsor's success.

The Windsor Masonic Temple is an integral and proud part of Windsor's downtown. The Windsor Masonic Temple is an integral and proud part the entire city and region.

The Windsor Masonic Temple adds to the historical and architectural character of Windsor.

The Windsor Masonic Temple is a community space, home to the cherished memories of countless Windsor residents and visitors; it provides space for youth groups, educational programs, and much more.

The Windsor Masonic Temple is a tourist destination, attracting visitors from around the world.

The Windsor Masonic Temple supports local businesses and artists.

Presently, the Windsor Masonic Temple is engaged in a program called "*For The Next 100 Years*," This program has resulted in:

- improved accessibility;
- improved energy efficiency;
- preserved and restored unique heritage features;
- increased security and safety; and
- an extended useful life.

On numerous occasions, the City of Windsor has demonstrated its commitment to and support of the Windsor Masonic Temple.

The Windsor Masonic Temple is now demonstrating its commitment to the City of Windsor by supporting the "*Strengthen the Core – Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan*;" a plan which dovetails well with the "*For The Next 100 Years*" program.

The Windsor Masonic Temple is not immune to the challenges being faced by and in Windsor's downtown; challenges including vagrancy and disorderly activity, vandalism/damage to (amongst other things) the Windsor Masonic Temple's facade, waste/hazards (including syringes) being left on the property, and theft/break-ins.

To combat these challenges and protect the property (including and especially its iconic facade), the Windsor Masonic Temple installed security cameras with active monitoring. These security cameras have reduced vagrancy, vandalism, and damage while increasing security, safety, and accessibility. The Windsor Masonic Temple also installed additional security features, resulting in the same.

As security cameras with monitoring are assisting at the Windsor Masonic Temple, they should also assist downtown as a whole, via implementation of "*Project SafeStreets*."

The Windsor Masonic Temple is protecting both the investments in and results of the "*For The Next 100 Years*" program.

In the same way, the *Strengthen the Core* plan will protect Windsor's downtown.

The Windsor Masonic Temple would welcome a new "*tailored to Windsor police response model focused on sustained high visibility and collaborative cross-sectoral response, Windsor Police Service will use all approaches to promote lawful behaviour, and disrupt and intervene in open drug use, property damage, petty crime, and disorderly conduct [all issues the Windsor Masonic Temple is facing] in the downtown core.*"

Downtown *needs* the enhanced Windsor Police Service City Central Patrol Team (CCPT) referenced in the plan.

In April 2024, the Windsor Masonic Temple welcomed police officers for a "*Coffee With A Cop*" event. In May 2024, the Windsor Masonic Temple welcomed fire services for a "*Coffee With A Fire Crew*" event. During both events, downtown safety issues (especially those issues referenced above) were discussed.

The Windsor Masonic Temple practices **high standards** and **healthy space(s)** in its day-to-day operations. Seeing these practices reflected within the *Strengthen the Core* plan is very promising.

As noted above, the success of the Windsor Masonic Temple and the success of the City of Windsor cannot be separated. As the *Strengthen The Core* plan notes, we are **stronger together**.

As Councillor Renaldo Agostino stated when discussing the *Strengthen the Core* plan, "we need an all-hands-on deck approach to strengthening and improving downtown Windsor..."

Through the "*For The Next 100 Years*" program, the Windsor Masonic Temple is one of the hands strengthening and improving downtown Windsor.

The "*Strengthen The Core*" plan will provide more hands and more resources to strengthen and improve downtown Windsor *for everyone*.

The *Strengthen the Core* plan has full support.

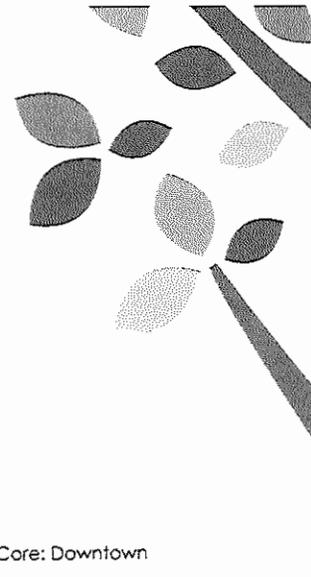
[On a personal note, as a resident of Downtown Windsor since 2009, I support the *Strengthen The Core* plan. Windsor is a wonderful city, with a wonderful downtown. Like every downtown, it is presently facing challenges that must be addressed. The *Strengthen The Core* plan will address these challenges in a comprehensive and balanced manner. As a downtown resident, I am proud of the work done by all involved in creating this plan.]

Thank you,

Cameron Adamson
Border Masonic Temple Association-Committee Chair

"We are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial.

Message available in alternative formats



**City Council Meeting
May 13, 2024
Item 11.1 & 11.2 -
Written Submission**

Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

The Pilette Village BIA extends its earnest support to the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan.

We will always encourage our City's Business Improvement Districts in their efforts to improve their area. Over the years the Business Improvement areas have worked together through event support and meeting on common ground for the betterment of the City of Windsor. This aligns seamlessly with the goals of the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan, which we believe will spur a renaissance of activity and pride throughout not just the core, but all over Windsor-Essex.

Pilette Village is currently experiencing a Revitalization project which has seen new businesses move into our business district and a new look and energy within our boundaries. We applaud the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan's vision of bringing together residents, entrepreneurs, and creators to celebrate and uplift the spirit of Downtown Windsor. Just as our business district serves as a backdrop and support for the community at large, we believe the Strengthen the Core Plan will revitalize the city core into a space of enterprise, creativity, and community pride.

Pilette Village is happy to support this long-awaited project, and look forward to the transformation of our City's main core, with the hopes that it will be diverse and speak to the long history of the City of Windsor.

Respectfully submitted

Bridget M. Scheuerman
Executive Director

www.pilettevillage.com

4769 Wyandotte St. E
Windsor, ON N8Y 1H8

PH: 519.962.6550



OLDE RIVERSIDE
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Olde Riverside Town Centre Business Association to express our enthusiastic support for the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative.

Our district has long been known for its intimate shopping and dining experience, and thrives on the principles of exceptional customer service and a community-focused atmosphere. We know these are the very same principles held by our city and in particular, those who live, work, and play in the downtown core.

Olde Riverside is a beloved area of Windsor where residents and visitors flock to enjoy a range of services, from dining and personal care to health and finance. We believe that revitalizing downtown Windsor will not only enhance the city's core but will also invigorate our local business environment by increasing foot traffic and elevating the overall consumer experience across the city.

We are confident that the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative will lead to a flourishing downtown that benefits all associated business districts, including Olde Riverside. As such, we are committed to supporting this important campaign through our own community engagements and by encouraging our business members and their patrons to participate actively in the revitalization efforts.

Thank you for your dedication to enhancing Windsor's downtown. Olde Riverside is proud to stand with you in this endeavour, and we look forward to seeing the collective impact of our efforts on the city we call home.

Sincerely,

Candyce Mollard
Coordinator

Ottawa Street BIA
1346 Ottawa Street
Windsor, Ontario
N8X 2E8

May 5, 2024

Attn: Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON
N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council,

The Ottawa Street BIA, Uptown Ottawa, extends its enthusiastic support for the Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan.

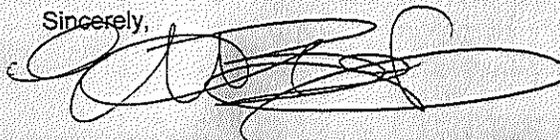
The BIA realizes that it is no simple task to re-invent a community; along with our creative, diverse community, entrepreneurs with their investments in businesses, along with the community itself and countless hours invested in bringing the community together, the Ottawa Street BIA has seen a huge improvement in not only the business community but also in our neighbourhood.

There is much going on in the City of Windsor these days with new businesses moving to the City, plants being built in support of a cleaner, less polluted world, the new and improved bridge connecting Canada to the United States and the announcement of new housing space.

With all that is happening, it is wonderful to see the City of Windsor, along with its business partners and the Downtown BIA, positively work together to strengthen the downtown core of the City of Windsor through its Downtown Revitalization Plan.

Ottawa Street BIA is committed to contributing to the efforts that will shape the future of our city and proud to be a part of the City of Windsor and support the Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan for the benefit of the core, the City of Windsor and for the entire Windsor-Essex region.

Sincerely,



Ettore Bonato

President Ottawa Street BIA for 'Uptown Ottawa'

**City Council Meeting
May 13, 2024
Item 11.1 & 11.2 –
Written Submission**



May 1, 2024

Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

Ford City embodies the spirit of transformation, and for this reason, the Ford City Business Improvement Association extends its enthusiastic support for the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan.

From Ford City's own humble beginnings in the 1700s to our pivotal role in the automotive boom, tenacious and tough Ford City has always been about innovation and resilience.

As Ford City reinvents itself, leaving behind old stereotypes and embracing a creative community supportive of entrepreneurship and leadership, we recognize the tremendous value of the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan. This initiative reflects the revitalization of an important geographic space for Windsor-Essex, and rekindles the community's spirit, which is a synergy that Ford City knows very well.

The collaborative drive of the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan mirrors Ford City's own journey. While we were once singularly defined by the automotive industry, we are a homebase for makers, mold-breakers, and risk-takers, just like the rest of our region, and for this reason, we are gladly aligned with the DWBRA's commitment to support the transformation of Downtown Windsor.

We are in support of the Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan choosing to look forward, to redefine and to innovate. It's this forward-thinking mindset that will position Windsor as a regional gem of culture, commerce, and connection, and we're ready to contribute to this new chapter as it speaks to a larger narrative of Windsor's renaissance.

Ford City BIA is committed to contributing to the collective efforts that will shape the future of our city. We're proud to be in alignment with the Downtown Windsor Business Revitalization Association for the benefit of the core, and for the entire Windsor-Essex region.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn Karns
Executive Director, Ford City BIA

May 8, 2024

Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

As the Chair of the Wyandotte Towne Centre Business Improvement Association, I am pleased to extend our support for the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative. Our association, representing a diverse group of cultures and businesses along one of Windsor's key thoroughfares, understands the significant impact that a thriving downtown core has on surrounding communities.

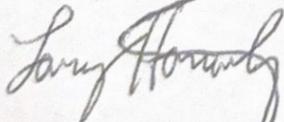
Since our formation in 1990, the Wyandotte Towne Centre has embraced the spirit of "Where Windsor Welcomes the World," reflecting our commitment to creating a welcoming and prosperous environment for businesses and customers from around the globe. For this reason, we are in alignment with the objectives of the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative, which seeks to revitalize and enhance the central business district of our beloved city.

We believe that strengthening the core of Windsor will create ripple effects that benefit all surrounding areas, including Wyandotte Towne Centre. Enhanced infrastructure, improved safety, and a more engaging community space downtown will attract more visitors and residents, thereby supporting the businesses and cultural diversity that define our district.

As you move forward with this transformative project, know that you have a partner in Wyandotte Towne Centre. We are committed to supporting this initiative through our resources and by encouraging our community members to participate actively. We are happy to move forward toward a future that honours our rich history, all the while embracing the growth and opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for your leadership in this vital endeavour. We look forward to working together to create a dynamic and thriving downtown that reflects the indomitable spirit of Windsor.

Sincerely,



Larry Horwitz
Chair

May 8, 2024

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Windsor City Councillors,

Re: C-48 and C-49 Budget and Strengthening the Core Reports

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed plan for downtown. I do not support the proposal for the following reasons:

- The excessive expenditure on police and bylaw services
- The absence of funding for safe consumption and treatment services
- The lack of coordination and cooperation with the senior levels of government to address the housing needs of our vulnerable residents

The consultant's report highlighted the lack of true engagement with community partners. They documented a pervasive feeling that city administration does not listen to the advice that community partners provide.

Community hubs like H4 are not a Windsor invention. Other communities have used the model far more extensively than Windsor has. There is no plan for housing and caring for people on the street now. The H4 expansion and proposed housing has been dormant and the decision to expropriate land only underlines the precarious nature of the proposal. A five-year wait is excessive. When you compare Windsor's proposal to the plan that London is implementing, it is readily apparent that our plan is inadequate and falls far short of meeting the needs of our community.

If this proposal for the downtown is approved, we will be adapting a plan to criminalize homelessness. I think our city administration can do better if they are allowed to offer comprehensive solutions to the problems we face.

Sincerely,

Marion Overholt



May 2, 2024

Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

On behalf of Via Italia – the heart of Italian culture and commerce on Erie Street – We are writing to express our support for the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative. We recognize the importance and value of promoting vitality within our own community through the arts, dining, and retail.

Via Italia thrives because of our shared dedication to cultural richness and business excellence, values that we know resonate with the 'Strengthen the Core' initiative's goals for downtown Windsor. We understand the importance of a strong city core, which enhances business opportunities while also enriching the community's cultural landscape. By revitalizing the heart of the city, we foresee a tremendous boost in the overall attractiveness and livability of the area, which in turn benefits all surrounding communities, including ours.

The 'Strengthen the Core' initiative's focus on infrastructure improvements, community engagement, and economic development is crucial for the prosperity of Windsor's downtown, and overall well-being. We believe that the success of this initiative will be the starting point for further enhancements throughout the city, encouraging more visitors and residents to explore and appreciate the diverse offerings of the entirety of Windsor.

Via Italia is proud to support 'Strengthen the Core' and is committed to contributing to its success. We look forward to the positive changes that this campaign will bring about and are eager to collaborate on efforts that will enhance both our own BIA, the core, and the city at large.

Thank you for leading this transformative campaign. You have our full support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. DiPonio".

Pietro DiPonio,
Interim President of Via Italia-Erie Street BIA



May 6, 2024

Mayor Dilkens and Members of Windsor City Council, City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607, Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council,

The 'Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan' aligns with the values of Sandwich Town; unity, diversity, inclusivity, and a relentless drive to develop the most valuable segments of our city. The plan is designed to see Windsor's core flourish, and our BIA sees great potential for our urban communities to become cornerstones for future generations to gather, celebrate, and create new histories.

Sandwich Town enthusiastically supports the 'Strengthen the Core: Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan.' We look forward to engaging in efforts to elevate Windsor and are excited to contribute to the new beginnings of downtown with massive potential that we see benefiting the entire city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Hargreaves".

Stephen Hargreaves
Director, Sandwich Town BIA

6 May 2024

To
Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of City Council
City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, ON N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and Members of City Council:

I am writing in support of the Strengthening The Core Downtown Windsor Revitalization Initiative.

As a business operating in the downtown for over 30 years, we have seen both good and difficult times befall downtown Windsor. No period in the past three decades has proven a more difficult time for businesses to operate within, than we are challenged with right now.

I have staff threatened, police called numerous times within the past year (and more). I've had violent acts occur by drug-impaired people that cause great distress to our staff, customers, and the reputation on downtown Windsor.

Right now, Windsor is at a juncture and must decide to invest in the core if it hopes to showcase this city to prospective new employers and attract new business. We are in NEED of a transformative change in the way downtown is run and bold leadership is required of the City if we are to have any hopes of providing a city we can showcase.

Please take the initiative to provide the strong leadership and vision needed to transform the center of this city into something we can all be proud of.

Vote in favour of the Strengthening the Core Revitalization Initiative.

Thank you,
Ron Balla
The Coffee Exchange



May 10, 2024

Re: Item 11.2 Strengthening the Core-Downtown Windsor Revitalization Plan

Family Services Windsor-Essex (FSWE) is pleased to provide our support for the implementation of the proposed Downtown Revitalization Plan. For the past ten years we have had the privilege of working with the City of Windsor to provide Homelessness Outreach Workers, primarily in our downtown core. More recently, we have supported the Windsor Police Service as it relates to the safety and security of those engaging in panhandling. In both instances we have gained first-hand knowledge of the concerns of businesses and residents in the downtown as well as a deep understanding of the needs of those without permanent housing.

Since the inception of the H4, Family Services has supported this critical facility that offers drop in programming for those experiencing homelessness. A key component of a comprehensive homelessness prevention and intervention program is the provision of a drop in facility. Our Outreach Workers work to encourage individuals to access programming at the H4 as we support people on their pathway to housing. Expanding the hours of operation of the H4 has been an important initiative and we commend the proposed plan for recommending the continued extension of the H4's hours.

It is our hope that as we continue to work together as a community that includes the collaboration of businesses, police, the City of Windsor and community agencies, residents will feel safer and confident in their downtown. The improvements to downtown include addressing the needs of those without permanent housing and those who live in poverty. Providing the right supports in a comprehensive manner is an important step in supporting all of our residents.

We recognize that social challenges are not incumbent on the Windsor Police Service to address alone. It is only by working together that we can build the type of downtown that is accessible for all.

We commend the Mayor and Council for their commitment to addressing the needs of our community as a whole and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Joyce Zuk
Executive Director