



**ROUNDTABLE ON THE ENVIRONMENT
MINUTES
MEETING 6**

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2005
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Committee Room 1
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

Enquiry: Frank Baldassini
Committee Secretary
416-395-7352
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Members

Present: Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone, Chair Councillor Paula Fletcher, Vice-Chair Susan Antler Bob Blazeovski John Cartwright Robert Kerr Dr. Roger Keil Mark G. Mitchell	Steven Peck Gord Perks Judy Simon Karen Sun Dr. Peter Victor Regrets: Paul Muldoon Tim Woods
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The meeting convened at 6:35 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Pantalone in the Chair.

There were no declarations of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

Confirmation of Minutes – September 22, 2005 and November 23, 2005

Welcome and Introductions

The Members of the Roundtable on the Environment and staff members were welcomed. The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The Chair also announced that Toronto received the award “Low Carbon Leader 2005” from The Climate Group, based in London, UK. The award was given to the top five cities in a ranking of

low carbon leaders in business, government and individuals created by Business Week. Toronto was ranked No. 5. The government rankings are at www.businessweek.com/go/carbon.

Reports/Communications

1. Environmental Initiatives Contained in the City of Toronto 2006 Capital Budget

Presentation from the Executive Director, Technical Services Division, on environmental initiatives contained in the City of Toronto 2006 Capital Budget.

Minute 7.1

William G. Crowther, Executive Director, Technical Services Division, presented a 10-minute Power Point presentation on environmental initiatives contained in the City of Toronto 2006 Capital Budget, and provided the following points of information:

Overview:

- *development of consolidated environmental budget – work in progress;*
- *recent changes to administrative structure (Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin is responsible for environment);*
- *new Executive Environment Team (EET); and*
- *in November 2005, EET created budget subcommittee to:*
 - *finalize list of environment initiatives (2006 budget); and*
 - *create process to identify environment projects (2006 budget).*

Proposed Next Steps:

- *capital budget to be approved December 2005;*
- *operating budget to be approved March 2006;*
- *EET Budget Subcommittee to:*
 - *finalize consolidated budget for 2006; and*
 - *develop budget process for 2007; and*
- *present final budget/process to the Roundtable on the Environment in May 2006.*

(a paper copy of the Power Point presentation from the Executive Director, Technical Services Division, is on file in the City Clerk's Office, North York Civic Centre.)

The Roundtable on the Environment requested support staff to provide a more complete presentation regarding the environmental initiatives contained in the City of Toronto 2006 Capital Budget at the May 29, 2006, Roundtable meeting, and include, as part of the presentation, information/comments addressing the following:

- (1) specific environmental initiatives contained in the 2006 City of Toronto Capital Budget and the details of their approval by City Council;*
- (2) how the environmental initiatives relate to the overall goals of the City;*
- (3) discussion of the initiatives in a larger context, why choices were made, and benefits to members of the public;*

- (4) *how the environmental initiatives address the recommendations contained in the report entitled “Environmental Plan: Clean, Green and Healthy – A Plan for an Environmentally Sustainable Toronto”; and*
- (5) *level of engagement of members of the public in the decision-making process which determined which capital projects received approval.*

Action:

The Roundtable on the Environment received the Power Point presentation from the Executive Director, Technical Services Division, with thanks.

2. Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair

Presentation from Laurie Simmonds, Publisher, and Janet McCausland, Awards Manager, Green Toronto Awards, Key Publishers/Green Living Enterprises, on a proposal for a Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair.

Communication (December 5, 2005) from the Deputy Mayor Pantalone, Chair, Roundtable on the Environment, advising that Key Publishers/Green Living Enterprises, the City’s partners on the Green Toronto Awards, are proposing that the City work with them to deliver a one-day community environmental fair that will be held each September in Nathan Phillips Square.

Recommendation:

The City co-sponsor the Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) net proceeds from the event, if any, be forwarded to non-profit organization(s); and
- (2) exhibitors and sponsors will be approved in advance by the Chair of the Roundtable on the Environment and/or senior City staff, as appropriate.

Minute 7.2

Laurie Simmonds, Publisher, and Janet McCausland, Awards Manager, Green Toronto Awards, Key Publishers/Green Living Enterprises, made a 5-minute Power Point presentation on a proposal for a Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair, and provided the following information:

Concept:

- *An annual one-day community environmental fair in Nathan Phillips Square to showcase all aspects of a green lifestyle;*

- *Highlights the broad range of possible products, services and lifestyle changes that are available; from organic foods and gardens, to low-flush toilets, to alternative-powered vehicles and green development; and*
- *Friday, September 29, 2006 is currently on hold.*

(a paper copy of the Power Point presentation from Laurie Simmonds, Publisher, and Janet McCausland, Awards Manager, Green Toronto Awards, Key Publishers/Green Living Enterprises, is on file in the City Clerk's Office, North York Civic Centre.)

The Roundtable on the Environment requested that the proponents of the event, with the assistance of support staff, take into account the following comments and suggestions, and report back to the Roundtable on the Environment meeting on May 29, 2006:

- (1) the event should be geared towards all citizens of the City rather than directing information to only people who own cars and homes;*
- (2) make it a socially relevant event with the emphasis on community;*
- (3) ensure that the event does not conflict with the activities of non-profit local environmental groups, and review ways to ensure non-profit local environmental groups are given an opportunity to participate;*
- (4) consider establishing a "theme" (e.g. air quality, car-free day, etc.) for the event, rather than trying to book as many exhibitors as possible;*
- (5) the event should complement – not compete for resources with – existing environmental events. For example, consider building on initiatives from the spring environmental events (e.g. EarthDay, Earth Week, Waste Reduction Week, etc.);*
- (6) consider partnerships with such groups as the Better Building Partnership, as well as other appropriate groups/alliances;*
- (7) consider demonstrating solutions to environmental concerns in a way that is relevant to a range of people; and*
- (8) ensure that all consumers (homeowners as well as renters) are covered in the products booths.*

Action:

The Roundtable on the Environment:

- (1) received the Power Point presentation from Laurie Simmonds, Publisher, and Janet McCausland, Awards Manager, Green Toronto Awards, Key Publishers/Green Living Enterprises, with thanks; and*
- (2) recommended that the Roundtable support the concept of the City co-sponsoring the Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair, together with the two conditions presented by the Deputy Mayor in his communication (December 5, 2005), subject to the Roundtable receiving a further report on February 20, 2006, from support staff on the following:*
 - (a) review the comments and suggestions presented by the Roundtable with the proponents of the Green Toronto: A Community Environmental Fair event; and*

- (b) *review all 2006 environmental events that are taking place, advise the Roundtable on the date of such events, and which events are receiving City support.*

3. Better Buildings Partnership

Presentation from Richard Morris, Manager, Energy Efficiency Office, Business and Strategic Innovation, Facilities and Real Estate Division, on the Better Buildings Partnership program and related programs.

Minute 7.3

Richard Morris, Manager, Energy Efficiency Office, Business and Strategic Innovation, Facilities and Real Estate Division, made a 10-minute presentation on the Better Buildings Partnership program and related programs, and provided the following information:

Better Buildings Partnership – Business & Strategic Innovation

- *the City of Toronto Energy Efficiency Office (EEO) has a mandate to develop and implement a comprehensive energy efficiency and conservation strategy for the City of Toronto; and*
- *Signature Programs and Projects:*
 - *Better Buildings Partnership;*
 - *Better Buildings Partnership – Loan Repayment Reserve Fund;*
 - *Better Transportation Partnership;*
 - *Employee Energy Efficiency @ Work (E3@Work);*
 - *Fuel Cells Demonstration Project;*
 - *Greater Toronto Area Hydrogen Village;*
 - *Demand Management and Demand Response Study (Priority);*
 - *Better Buildings New Construction Program (BBNCP) (Priority); and*
 - *Toronto Hydro Electric System Limited (THESL) – Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan (Priority).*

(a paper copy of the Power Point presentation from Richard Morris, Manager, Energy Efficiency Office, Business and Strategic Innovation, Facilities and Real Estate Division, is on file in the City Clerk's Office, North York Civic Centre.)

The Roundtable on the Environment offered the following suggestions regarding the Better Building Partnership program:

- (1) *a monitoring component needs to be included in order to determine how successful the various programs are, and in order to allow the City to accurately assess if stated priorities and objectives are being met, and if not, where the short-comings exist;*
- (2) *create a method to show inter-active effect of savings (such as the E3@ Work program) that is being realized by the City;*
- (3) *investigate opportunities to increase funding of the program;*

- (4) *when appropriate, present the Sustainability Energy Business Plan (RFP request) to the Roundtable for review and comment;*
- (5) *review the Terms of Reference of the Sustainability Energy Business Plan to determine if other sectors can be captured;*
- (6) *establish a “benchmark” to determine if the City of Toronto is leading the pack Canada wide or if the City is trailing similar initiatives in other areas; and*
- (7) *explore joint ventures with other sectors (e.g. Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Toronto Hydro, etc.).*

Action:

The Roundtable on the Environment received the presentation from Richard Morris, Manager, Energy Efficiency Office, Business and Strategic Innovation, Facilities and Real Estate Division, with thanks.

4. City of Toronto Green Guide

Presentation from Shelley Grice, Manager, Environmental Services, Technical Services Division, on the proposed City of Toronto Green Guide.

Minute 7.4

Shelley Grice, Manager, Environmental Services, Technical Services Division, made a 10-minute presentation regarding the City of Toronto Green Guide, requested feed-back from members of the Roundtable, and provided the following information:

- *the City of Toronto Green Guide will give the public a convenient summary of all City’s environmental programs, services & initiatives, and present info in reader-friendly and attractive format;*
- *Coordinated by Environmental Services and Corporate Communications;*
- *Target audience is residents of Toronto who would like information on environmental programs, services and issues;*
- *What will it look like?*
 - *two-colour format and magazine-style layout;*
 - *writing style friendly and casual;*
 - *variety of colourful photos; and*
 - *approximately 40 – 45 pages;*
- *What’s included?*
 - *Cleaner Air;*
 - *Purer Water;*
 - *Taking Care of Our Environment;*
 - *Better Use of Energy;*
 - *Parks, Trees and Wildlife;*
 - *Healthier Lawns and Gardens;*
 - *Waste and Recycling;*
 - *People in Motion;*

- *Leadership and Innovation; and*
- *Learning for Greener Communities;*
- *Distribution Options:*
 - *City web site – main access point*
 - *Mechanisms to encourage visit to web site:*
 - *Inserts in community and city-wide papers;*
 - *Flyers at environmental events; and*
 - *Ads in bus shelters;*
 - *Copies at*
 - *City Hall and Civic Centres (through Access Toronto);*
 - *Toronto Public Libraries;*
 - *Councillors' offices; and*
 - *Environment Days events;*
- *Next Steps:*
 - *Finalize guide end of 2005; and*
 - *Determine distribution strategy - January 2006.*

The Roundtable on the Environment offered the following suggestions, for consideration by support staff, regarding the City of Toronto Green Guide:

- (1) *set-up the guide as an HTML file on the City Website, in order to allow for citizens to copy part of the guide, rather than a PDF file which does not allow for a portion of the file to be used exclusively from the rest of the document;*
- (2) *create the guide also in poster format for easy reference by users;*
- (3) *create the guide in calendar format, with important environmental dates and events listed;*
- (4) *create an activity section for use by school children;*
- (5) *include a list with contact information of community environmental groups and organizations,*
- (6) *investigate the feasibility of getting the guide into the hands of each citizen of the City of Toronto;*
- (7) *distribute the guide through the public, separate school system, as well as through private schools;*
- (8) *distribute the guide to teachers at university, college and high-school as a teaching tool;*
- (9) *include regular up-dates; and*
- (10) *include a column section advising of the challenges facing the City with regard to a particular issue and what is being done to address the challenge.*

Action:

The Roundtable on the Environment:

- (1) *received the presentation from Shelley Grice, Manager, Environmental Services, Technical Services Division, regarding the City of Toronto Green Guide, with thanks; and*

- (2) *requested support staff to take into account the suggestions provided by the Roundtable in preparing the final draft of the City of Toronto Green Guide.*

5. Discussion on information requests from previous Roundtable meetings

The Executive Director, Technical Services Division, has provided the following status reports and reports for information, which were requested by the Roundtable at its previous meetings.

(a) Idling Control By-law: Improving Enforcement

- (1) Report (December 6, 2005) from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, reporting on a business model detailing the expenditures required to enforce the Idling Control By-law and the revenues which would be generated and as well to review the feasibility of installing an automatic three minute stall feature on all appropriate City and TTC vehicles.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the feasibility of installing an automatic three minute stall feature on all appropriate City vehicles be referred to the Director of Fleet Services for analysis under the Technology Testing Program;
 - (2) the feasibility of installing an automatic three minute stall feature on all appropriate TTC vehicles be referred to the General Manager of the TTC; and
 - (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.
- (2) Communication (December 6, 2005) from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, advising that the business model has not yet been completed, and it is anticipated that his report will be ready for the next meeting of the Roundtable on the Environment in early 2006.

(b) Sustainable Development Management Tools

Communication (December 5, 2005) from Deputy Mayor Pantalone, Chair, Roundtable on the Environment, advising that staff has provided the Roundtable with an initial assessment of the feasibility and appropriateness of implementing the sustainability management tools that were presented on June 8th by Roundtable member Rob Kerr from ICLEI.

Recommendation:

Request staff as part of the upcoming Environmental Plan update, to assess how the City is doing with regards to operating according to the principles contained in the Melbourne Principles for Sustainable Cities and report back to the Roundtable on the Environment with their findings.

(c) Renewable Energy

(1) Draft Renewable Energy Letter to the Ministry of Energy

Copy of a communication (November 14, 2005) from William G. Crowther, Executive Director, Technical Services Division, to Donna Cansfield, Ontario Minister of Energy, advising that the City of Toronto supports the Ministry of Energy's efforts to develop a pilot program to encourage small or community-owned renewable energy generation in Ontario, as outlined by the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA) in *Powering Ontario Communities: Proposed Policy for Contracts Up To 10 MW*.

(2) Changes needed to the Ontario Building Code to support renewable energy

Communication (December 1, 2005) from William G. Crowther, Executive Director, Technical Services Division, responding to the Roundtable on the Environment's request that staff report back on "changes required and measures existing within the Ontario Building Code that will assist in the development of proposals regarding the development of a renewable energy plan."; and further advising that this request was made at the September 22, 2005, Roundtable meeting, and was endorsed by City Council at its October 26, 27, 28 and 31, 2005, meeting.

Minute 7.5

The Chair advised that the Roundtable had before it a number of reports from City staff on information that had been requested and that there are recommendations associated with these reports for consideration by the Roundtable.

Action:

The Roundtable on the Environment:

(1) *requested the Chair to:*

(a) *advise the Policy and Finance Committee of the following recommendations regarding the Idling Control By-law: Improving Enforcement:*

- (i) *the feasibility of installing an automatic three minute stall feature on all appropriate City vehicles be referred to the Director of Fleet Services for analysis under the Technology Testing Program;*
 - (ii) *the feasibility of installing an automatic three minute stall feature on all appropriate Toronto Transit Commission vehicles be referred to the General Manager of the Toronto Transit Commission;*
 - (iii) *Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin be requested to report back on this matter to the Roundtable on the Environment meeting on May 29, 2006; and*
 - (iv) *the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto; and*
- (b) *report to the Roundtable on the Environment meeting on February 20, 2006, on the feasibility of holding a half-day or full-day workshop for members, in order that the Roundtable can reflect in-depth collectively on a chosen issue(s) and report to City Council prior to the end of the current Council Term of Office;*
- (2) *deferred consideration of the communication (December 5, 2005) from Deputy Mayor Pantalone, regarding Sustainable Development Management Tools, to its meeting on February 20, 2006; and*
- (3) *endorsed the draft renewable energy letter to the Ministry of Energy and requested Roundtable support staff to report to the Roundtable on the Environment meeting on February 20, 2006, on:*
- (a) *the Ontario Energy Conservation Responsibility Act and Ontario Power Authority's Supply Mix Advice and Recommendations;*
 - (b) *the preparation of an energy plan for the City of Toronto and any targets that may be set; and*
 - (c) *when the Toronto Environmental Plan may be updated; and*
 - (d) *the status of the following recommendation, which was approved by the Roundtable on the Environment on September 22, 2005:*
 - “(c) *the Chief Building Official and Executive Director be requested to report and make recommendations to the Policy and Finance Committee on other amendments that would be required to the Ontario Building Code, in order to address retro-fitting and green building issues;”.*

6. Green Toronto Awards

Minute 7.6

The Chair advised the Green Toronto Awards were scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2006, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and that further details will be made available to members in the near future.

Next Meetings

- (a) Monday, February 20, 2006, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West; and
- (b) Monday, May 29, 2006, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Chair