

**MARCH 2, 2018**

**Minutes of the Toronto Film, Television and digital media board  
Working Committee: Infrastructure, Business and Inter-Sector Development  
Notes and Agreements from Feb 21, 2018 meeting**

**Infrastructure working group,  
and  
City of Toronto Planning,  
Create TO,  
Waterfront Secretariat,  
Waterfront Toronto**

**Attending from working group:**

TFTDM Co-Chair, Jonathan Ahee

Working group Chair, Sarah Ker-Hornell

Working Group: Neishaw Ali, Jim Mirkopoulos, Warren Ross, Cynthia Lynch, Monty Montgomerie, David Hardy, Doug Barrett (phone), Peter Miller (phone).

**Attending from City:**

- Julius Gombos , Waterfront Toronto

- Carly Bowman, City of Toronto Planning

- David Stonehouse, Waterfront Secretariat

- Kristina Cerner, Waterfront Toronto

- Marina Sheehan, CreateTO (Formerly TPLC, and Toronto Realty Association)

**Agreements and notes:**

- All presentations (Waterfront Toronto, City Planning, Waterfront Secretariat) would be sent electronically to working group Chair for circulation to group and TFTDM
- Going forwards, meetings would not require permission from Ec Dev, Council etc, but could continue as needed, as well as scheduling every few months.
- Agreed that all City groups are committed to following the Council approved PortLands precinct plan, *and acknowledged that it included land allocation for film and television development uses, including several land parcels suitable for studio development.*
- Acknowledged by City groups that any consideration of land use by screen-based industry, including studios, would factor in the jobs and almost \$2 Billion in direct economic benefits/spending to the City in addition to property taxes considerations.

- *According to all City groups present, the nblc report recommendations and the Hemson report recommendations which informed it, are the lead for implementation vis a vis screen-based industries, and studio development in particular.*
- Waterfront Toronto will have their work schedule locked down by end of March; will be made available for circulation and production planning purposes.
- According to David S, there are now weekly meetings with all of the City groups (above) and Ec Dev
- All agreed to be willing to co-ordinate with stakeholders when impacting their ability to operate, especially studios.
- City groups understood that there would be a TFTDM, Infrastructure person on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (Councillor Fletcher had selected Sarah K-H).
- Waterfront Toronto recommended that a TFTDM, Infrastructure person work closely with the Construction Liaison Committee; Jonathan Ahee offered to take on this role.
- Agreed that City groups would work with Harold (permit office) regarding transportation planning throughout the process, so that the permit office is fully informed at all times as to access and traffic planning issues.
- Agreed that TO Core principles established with TFTDM, specific to film and television industry needs, are the reference point for the Unilever film friendly access/parking/policies.
- Agreed that this did not restrict any locations from permit shooting; there is no 'blackout' location in the Unilever planning, or anywhere in the City of Toronto.
- Waterfront Secretariat indicated 21 projects within the South of Eastern and PortLands planning; agreed that WS will connect us with the leads on any/each of those projects to ensure pro-active rather than reactive input regarding any possible impacts on industry activity.
- City groups reiterated that Sidewalk Labs' characterization of their land purview was incorrect (cited Staff report, signed by John Livey).
- City groups stressed that there was no business relationship with Sidewalk Labs other than the 12 acres west of the PortLands (Quayside); this relationship did not include any commitment to land, but was for discussion and pilot ideas and studies only, over the course of one year only.

- Waterfront Secretariat and Waterfront Toronto agreed that they could assist in diffusing the false “us vs them” (residential vs film industry) positioning created by Sidewalk Labs and now echoed in various news channels; they would begin with a meeting with Sidewalk Labs to ask that they restrict their comms to the agreement in place only.

Conclusion:

While there was lots of agreement to continue to discuss, the biggest issue - commitment to specific parcels of land now for a) studio development (short term) and b) after the construction phase (3-5 years) - remains a significant challenge, which requires swift action.



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Sarah Ker-Hornell, Chair