

Location

Menesetzung Room
1:00 pm

Attendees

Vicky Culbert - BIA Appointment
Colin Carmichael - Huron Chamber of Commerce Appointment
Christopher Spaleta – Citizen Appointment

Janice Hallahan, CAO
Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure and Operations
Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Trevor Bazinet, Mayor
Randy Carroll, Councillor
Allison Segeren, Councillor

Jennifer Hachler, GSP
Ryan Riehl, BMROSS
Dale Erb, BMROSS

Notes

1. Mayor Bazinet opens the meeting.
2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Segeren
Seconded by: Member Spaleta

That the Rebuilding Downtown Infrastructure Task Force hereby accepts the December 5, 2024 Agenda for Meeting #14, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Segeren
Seconded by: Member Spaleta

That the Rebuilding Downtown Infrastructure Task Force hereby adopts the November 13, 2024, Meeting No. 13 Notes, as printed.

CARRIED

4. Dale, Ryan, and Jennifer provide a design update. Reference Drawings were included in the agenda package. Discussions focused on the following elements.

- Final Design Drawings
 - Drawings being finalized.
- Grading and drainage
 - Many existing business entrances have been match.
- Street Lighting
 - Refer to Assembly Drawings provided. Design includes banner arms, planter arms, receptacles.



- Streetscape Elements
 - Refer to GSP Drawing Information.
 - Planters – Skateboard deterrent discussion – agreed to include indent in design.
 - Planting list (see appendix) – agreed to proceed with recommendations from Taskforce but will be reviewed further with Council.
 - Street Sign Wall (feature wall). It was agreed to change it the finished to an engraved polished concrete instead of granite. Letters are to be cast in and painted to stand out. Downlighting will be provided in design. Symbol/logo will not be added to the street sign wall (only street name and lettering).
- Update Meetings with Stakeholder Groups
 - Municipal Marine and Heritage
 - Nothing requiring modification.



POLISHED PREMIUM

No comments from the Task Force.

- Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee comment items:
 - Backless benches.
 - Recycling bin opening access.
 - Dedicated spots for limited mobility and delivery vehicles.
 - Additional painting on access aisles.
 - Protection at signage and sign location.
 - Additional spot at Colborne – Theatre only accessible from the rear
 - Interior parking (could curb be dropped).
 - Wayfinding – dark lettering on light background preferred.
 - Tactile plate colour and location (crossings and aisles).

Task Force noted the following:

- Dedicated spots for deliveries vehicles would likely not be used.
- Painting of aisles to be implemented.
- Bollard protection for signage to be investigated.
- Additional spot at Colborne to be investigated.
- Include mobi-mats as provisional items in the tender. May be cost dependent.
- Accessible parallel parking around the interior should stay. No changes to the curbs to be considered at this time. Could be considered at a later date.
- Trash and recycling bins are to be front loading.

- No changes to benching configuration at this time.
- Town Operations and Managers
 - It was reported that Operations commented on the additional seasonal operational changes that may be triggered.
- Utility liaison
 - It was noted that Bell Canada and the Town disagree on who is responsible for costs of works being considered by Bell Canada. Future discussions with the utility are pending.
 - Future Proofing – Hurontel Duct – it was noted that additional ducts are being added to the design to account for possible future installations.
- Tendering
 - Drawings, Specifications being worked on.
 - Construction Staging plan being worked on.
 - Tendering will likely be near the end of the 3rd week in January with a goal of awarding a contract somewhere around mid-March with mobilization sometime in April.
- Contractor – Preferred Contractor Criteria was discussed with following items of importance reviewed:
 - Office personnel and related tasks.
 - Site personnel and Equipment.
 - Comparable projects completed and underway.
 - Quality Management.
 - On-site Presence (courteous, traffic and pedestrian management, tidiness, cooperative, respect, etc.).
 - Public Relations.
 - Project management.
 - Schedule and ability to meet timelines.
- Probable Cost Update
 - Dale noted that the current probable cost update is similar to the budget provided to Council in April but it is anticipated that the underlighting for the planters and feature wall has not yet been included in the project cost.
- Planting List
 - The planting list was discussed and the native cultivars discussed and it was recognized that the materials differ from the current Town policy.

Preferred planting for trees and perennial/shrub planting:

All the native/native cultivars and hybrids are in red.

Street Trees:

- *Platanus x acerifolia 'Bloodgood' (London Plane Tree) – Native Hybrid*
- *Nyssa sylvatica 'Northern Splendor' (Northern Splendor Sourgum) – Native Cultivar*
- *Gymnocladus dioicus 'Espresso' (Espresso Kentucky Coffee Tree) – Native Cultivar*
- *Quercus coccinea (Scarlet Oak) – Non Native*

These trees were chosen over straight natives due to space constraints, salt tolerance, maintenance (lack of fruit or seeds) and generally performing better in urban street conditions. Straight natives will be too tall for the space in which they are being planted which is the rationale for many of the chosen native hybrids or cultivars.

Shrubs and perennials/grasses:

- *Hydrangea paniculata 'bobo' (Bobo Hydrangea) – Non Native*
- *Aster novae angliae 'Purple Dome' (New England Aster) – Native Cultivar*
- *Sisyrinchium angustifolium (Bye eyed Grass) – Native*
- *Echinacea purpurea 'PowWow Wild Berry' (Wild Berry Purple Coneflower) – Native Cultivar*
- *Lobelia siphilitica (Great Blue Lobelia) – Native*
- *Clethra alnifloia 'Hummingbird' (Hummingbird Summersweet) – Non Native*
- *Schizachyrium scoparium 'The Blues' (Little Bluestem) – Native Cultivar*
- *Molinia caerulea 'Moorflamme' (Moor Flame Grass) – Non Native*

These shrubs and perennials were chosen over some native options due to size constraints and salt tolerance. A lot of straight native shrubs and perennials are too tall and will cause sightline issues. Vegetation in planters needs to be less than 2 feet (0.6m) tall.

5. Information Received

- None discussed.

6. Press Reporters and Citizen Question and Answer Period

- John Thompson spoke and commented on the wayfinding signage and the dark on light preference.

7. Future Meetings and Milestones

- Council meeting on December 16th. Dale to prepare update presentation.
- Public Open House – early spring – likely a larger venue required.

8. Next Meeting

To be determined.

9. Adjourn

Moved by: Councillor Carroll

Seconded by: Councillor Segeren

That the Rebuilding Downtown Infrastructure Task Force does now adjourn at 2:27 pm.

CARRIED