Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee Report

6th Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee April 23, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor M. Brown, Councillors M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J.

Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley,

S. Turner, H. Usher, T. Park

ABSENT: M. Salih, M. Cassidy, J. Zaifman

ALSO PRESENT: M. Hayward, A.L. Barbon, H. Beecroft, B. Card, B. Coxhead, S.

Datars Bere, J. Davies, A. Dunbar, J.M. Fleming, T. Gaffney, G. Kotsifas, L. Livingstone, S. Maguire, P. McKague, D. O'Brien, K. Paleczny, J. Parsons, A. Rammeloo, J. Ramsay, M. Ribera, A. Roseburgh, L. Rowe, C. Saunders, K. Scherr, E. Soldo, J.

Stanford, B. Warner, R. Wilcox and P. Yeoman.

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM.

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that the following pecuniary interests were disclosed:

- a) Councillor T. Park disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 4.1 of this Report having to do with the Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative, particularly as it relates to subsection a)iii) regarding the South Leg of the project in the area of Wellington Street, between Horton and the Thames River, and Wellington Road between the Thames River to Bond Street, by indicating that her family owns adjoining property.
- b) Councillor S. Turner disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 4.1 of this Report having to do with the Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative, particularly as it relates to subsection a)iii) regarding the South Leg of the project in the area of Wellington Street, between Horton and the Thames River, and Wellington Road between the Thames River to Bond Street, by indicating that his family owns adjoining property.
- c) Councillor J. Morgan disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 4.1 of this Report having to do with the Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative, particularly as it relates to subsection a)i) regarding the North leg of the project, as well as those portions of parts b), c), d), g) and h) pertaining to that portion of the project, by indicating that this leg of the project passes through the vicinity of his employer, Western University.

2. Consent

None.

3. Scheduled Items

3.1 Public Participation Meeting - Not to be heard before 4:00 PM - Public Consultation - Proposed Expansion of a Gaming Site

That the following actions be taken with respect to the proposed expansion of a gaming site in London:

- a) the staff report dated April 23, 2018 BE RECEIVED;
- b) the expansion of a gaming site to include entertainment options that would allow for up to 1,200 slots at a casino, and up to 50 live table games, within the jurisdiction of The Corporation of the City of London, BE ENDORSED; it being noted that The Corporation of the City of London prefers an expanded location at the Western Fair District;

- c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back on how some or all of the incremental revenues from expanded gaming, paid to The Corporation of the City of London according to the contribution agreement with the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, could be allocated to prevent, reduce or mitigate harms in the Zone SW 4 bundle from problem gambling, including fostering a partnership between the local community and the gaming operator; and
- d) the Province of Ontario and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario BE REQUESTED to flow the additional revenues from expanded gaming in London back into the community in a more significant way than the current funding arrangement, and that the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to engage with relevant parties;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication from J. Dales, Chair, Western Fair Association Board of Governors, with respect to this matter;

it being pointed out that the individuals indicated on the <u>attached</u> public participation meeting record made oral submissions with respect to the proposed expansion of a gaming site in London.

Voting Record:

Moved by: H. Usher

Seconded by: M. van Holst

Motion to approve that the following actions be taken with respect to the proposed expansion of a gaming site in London:

a) the staff report dated April 23, 2018 BE RECEIVED;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication from J. Dales, Chair, Western Fair Association Board of Governors, with respect to this matter;

it being pointed out that the individuals indicated on the <u>attached</u> public participation meeting record made oral submissions with respect to the proposed expansion of a gaming site in London.

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

Moved by: J. Morgan Seconded by: P. Squire

Motion to approve that part b) commence with the words "the expansion of a gaming site to include entertainment options that would allow for up to 1,200 slots at a casino, and up to 50 live table games, within the jurisdiction of The Corporation of the City of London, BE ENDORSED;"

Yeas: (7): Mayor M. Brown, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, V. Ridley, S. Turner, and T. Park

Nays: (5): M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, and H. Usher

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (7 to 5)

Moved by: J. Morgan Seconded by: P. Squire

Motion to approve the addition of the words "it being noted that The Corporation of the City of London prefers an expanded location at the Western Fair District;" to the end of part b).

Yeas: (11): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J.

Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, H. Usher, and T. Park

Nays: (1): S. Turner

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (11 to 1)

Moved by: J. Helmer Seconded by: P. Hubert

Motion to approve the following part c)

c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back on how some or all of the incremental revenues from expanded gaming, paid to The Corporation of the City of London according to the contribution agreement with the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, could be allocated to prevent, reduce or mitigate harms in the Zone SW 4 bundle from problem gambling, including fostering a partnership between the local community and the gaming operator;

Yeas: (11): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Nays: (1): P. Squire

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (11 to 1)

Moved by: J. Morgan Seconded by: P. Squire

Motion to approve the following part d):

d) the Province of Ontario and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario BE REQUESTED to flow the additional revenues from expanded gaming in London back into the community in a more significant way than the current funding arrangement; and that Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to engage with relevant parties;

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

Moved by: M. van Holst Seconded by: B. Armstrong

Motion to approve that the Public Participation Meeting BE OPENED.

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

Moved by: P. Hubert Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to Approve that the Public Participation Meeting BE CLOSED.

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

4. Items for Direction

4.1 Bus Rapid Transit – Environmental Assessment Initiative

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative:

- a) the staff report dated April 23, 2018, entitled "Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative", together with the associated presentation made by the Project Director, Rapid Transit Implementation at the April 23, 2018 meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee, as well as the communication dated April 12, 2018, from C. Butler, BE REFERRED to the May 7, 2018 meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee for consideration and debate, in order to allow additional time for the public and the Council Members to review the information; and
- b) the communication dated April 15, 2018, from Councillor M. van Holst, requesting that the Civic Administration assist in clarifying the Municipal Council's priorities with respect to the Rapid Transit Project, BE RECEIVED.

Voting Record:

Moved by: V. Ridley Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Initiative:

a) the staff report dated April 23, 2018, entitled "Bus Rapid Transit – Environmental Assessment Initiative", together with the associated presentation made by the Project Director, Rapid Transit Implementation at the April 23, 2018 meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee, as well as the communication dated April 12, 2018, from C. Butler, BE REFERRED to the May 7, 2018 meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee for consideration and debate, in order to allow additional time for the public and the Council Members to review the information; and

Yeas: (10): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, and T. Park

Nays: (2): S. Turner, and H. Usher

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (10 to 2)

Moved by: P. Hubert Seconded by: H. Usher

That the following part b) be approved:

the communication dated April 15, 2018, from Councillor M. van Holst, requesting that the Civic Administration assist in clarifying the Municipal Council's priorities with respect to the Rapid Transit Project, BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

Moved by: V. Ridley Seconded by: P. Squire

That the order of business BE CHANGED in order to permit Item 4.1 to be dealt with prior to Item 3.1.

Yeas: (3): B. Armstrong, P. Squire, and V. Ridley

Nays: (9): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, J. Helmer, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins,

S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Failed (3 to 9)

4.2 Motion on Daytime Meetings

Moved by: M. van Holst Seconded by: J. Helmer

That the communication dated April 15, 2018, from Councillor M. van Holst, requesting that Council and Standing Committee meetings be scheduled during the day, where possible, with arrangements made to accommodate public participation meetings at appropriate times. BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (12): Mayor M. Brown, M. van Holst, B. Armstrong, J. Helmer, P. Squire, J. Morgan, P. Hubert, A. Hopkins, V. Ridley, S. Turner, H. Usher, and T. Park

Absent (3): M. Salih, M. Cassidy, and J. Zaifman

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

5. **Deferred Matters/Additional Business**

None.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 PM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

- 3.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING Public Consultation Proposed Expansion of a Gaming Site
- Ed Betterley suggesting that the gaming proponent's approach says a lot about their business tactics and that he expects they will be very aggressive; indicating that they have come in offering buyouts to current employees and he does not feel that this is fair; stating that he is in support of expanded gaming, but that should be done through the casino that offers music entertainment, etc.; suggesting that the benefits that local patrons get are less than other gaming facilities; advising that one issue he has is that staff currently know him by name, but they almost always ask him to open any bags he is carrying, but the same staff don't ask the female patrons to open any bags they are carrying; adding that the survey may have included 700 people, and asking why weren't people surveyed outside the casino; and stating that the whole process could use more feedback.
- Mark Horner, racehorse owner, employer, located north of London speaking to the benefits of expanded gaming at Western Fair; suggesting the proposed model will produce a win/win through the provision of 700 jobs, continuation of horseracing at Western Fair, and providing a full entertainment centre at one location; suggesting that not locating the expanded gaming at Western Fair would devastate horseracing in all of Southwestern Ontario; and strongly urging, on behalf of thousands of horse people, to keep gaming at the Western Fair District.
- Laura, 8-year volunteer with the Western Fair indicating that she doesn't believe gambling should be expanded as it is an individual activity that doesn't promote social interaction; noting that there are a variety of activities at the Western Fair; suggesting that there is adequate gaming opportunities available to people in such places as Windsor, Niagara Falls and Las Vegas, all of which are quite easily accessible; listing all the enjoyable activities already available at the Western Fair District; and requesting that the City not proceed with endorsing expanded gaming.
- A. Straatman, Seelster Farms indicating that she is in favour of expanded gaming; noting that Seelster Farms is a third generation operation, with approximately 200 horses, 600 acres and 20 full time employees; adding that she is representing more than 500 breeders in Ontario; advising that if Western Fair was not to have gaming, the best case scenario would be irreparable change to horseracing in Ontario; and urging the Municipal Council to vote for a win/win partnership for the Western Fair and Gateway.
- Wayne indicating that he is totally against expanded gaming in London; suggesting that the Province sees gaming as an opportunity for revenues, but at the same time there are people begging on the street; stating that the Province is selling entertainment, but it is really selling gambling; noting that the Province has privatized gaming so that the general public can no longer access data regarding that activity; stating that gambling will be expanded, but it is just a question of where because it all boils down to dollars; advising that the proponent would not be here if they weren't going to build a casino; advising that he had a responsibility to himself to express his feelings on expanded gaming and to try and help Council Members recognize the associated repercussions of expanded gaming; and adding that if you could take all of the monies people spend on gambling we would all be in much better shape.
- Jackie suggesting that the proponent likes London, but that they are looking at other
 locations than Western Fair; stating that London needs a new casino, but not a bigger
 more profitable one as the current one is big enough; noting that she wants
 entertainment and horseracing to stay as it is; indicating that she does not want a hotel
 as that would take over from the Western Fair and replace current exhibit space; and
 asking that things stay as they are.

- R. Caranci, Paramount Developments Inc. noting that one of the big factors in developing their property on Dundas Street was the Western Fair, which has been a large part of London for a number of years; indicating support for expanded gambling at the Western Fair District; stating that this part of London has needed rejuvenation, which is happening with projects such as the redevelopment of the former Kelloggs plant; advising that while there was a large outcry when gambling was originally allowed, at the end of the day it has proven to be the right decision; noting that the benefit to the City will be approximately \$6 million per year, with a lot of dollars to be invested in the London community; advising that Paramount Developments Inc. purchase their Dundas Street property as they wanted to help rejuvenate the Old East Village, applauding the decision by Gateway and its efforts to negotiate expanded gaming at the Western Fair District.
- J. Pastorius, Old East Village Business Improvement Area making the <u>attached</u> presentation.
- S. Merritt, 831 Elias Street indicating that she understands that the purpose of the public participating meeting is to speak to whether or not gaming should be expanded in London, but noting that the people who have spoken in favour of expanded gaming have done so in the context of horseracing and the Old East Village and have kept referring back to the Western Fair District; stating that she believes that that context is a safe one for expanded gaming and as a result would like to support the position of the Old East Business Improvement Area that all partners, including Gateway, should monitor effects on the local community; advising that because of its long history, Western Fair understands context in the community and how things will need to be rolled out; stating that the best place for expanded gaming is the Western Fair District, and emphasizing that expanded gaming will need to support growth and development of business and the needs of the community; summarizing that she supports, in context, expanded gaming in the Western Fair District.
- Pam, Ward 13 indicating she doesn't feel anywhere informed enough to make a decision with respect to the expansion of gaming and that she is not likely alone; advising that she would like more information and that is critical for all parties as the decision will have a tremendous impact on the entire community; referencing that last week in the local newspaper there was an article indicating that 70% of survey responders supported expanded gaming, but that the online survey was unscientific; advising she is not sure where the gambling proceeds go and asking where the cost benefit analysis is; questioning how it is possible to make an informed decision without sufficient information such as whether or not expanded gaming has the potential to help revenues and provide an economic boost; noting the timing of the upcoming election...nothing like a political campaign to get people to care; and asking that we learn what we need to know.
- M. Bray indicating support for expanded gaming and that she worked on this many years ago; noting she has always felt a casino should be located Downtown and that there are lots of sites between the London Convention Centre and Budweiser Gardens where a casino should go, even if the slot machines were left at the Western Fair District; and indicating that a Downtown casino would bring business into the core.
- F. Felici stating there are other important issues beyond whether or not you support expanded gaming, including being involved in revitalization; advising that you really need to understand that where it operates is as important as if it is operated; and indicating that it could be very exciting and a unique opportunity for the Old East Village if the expanded gaming was located at the Western Fair District.
- D. Desantos, 809 Dundas Street noting that expanded gaming would bring 700-1000 jobs to London and that's what we need; advising it would also help the construction industry and keeping gaming at the Western Fair District would also help the horse people.

- L. Sibley and L. Griffin, Addiction Services of Thames Valley providing the <u>attached</u> presentation and concluding by emphasizing the need to have an effective local strategy in place, with adequate resources to offer educational opportunities to promote prevention, reduce the stigma attached with seeking treatment for gambling addiction, and to provide assistance to those affected by gambling addiction.
- Jeff Harmon, Edinburgh Street advising that he had a very serious history of gambling addiction but now serves on the Addiction Services of Thames Valley Board of Directors; spoke to how gambling consumed him and resulted in the loss of family savings, loss of his professional designation, loss of his job and almost the loss of his marriage and would have most certainly taken his own life if it weren't for the support of his family and friends; stating that anyone could succumb to a gambling addiction just like he experienced because of the availability of gambling and, in particular, card games; advising that while he personally strongly opposes the expansion of gaming because of his own experience, as a Board Member he takes a more pragmatic view that resources need to be set aside for treatment and prevention to ensure that others don't end up going down the same path that he did.



Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON

April 23, 2018

Dear Chair and Members:

From the earliest days of the Old East Village revitalization efforts the Western Fair District has been a partner. In collaboration with the City of London and community residents the Old East Village BIA and Western Fair stewarded the redevelopment of Queens Park over more than a ten-year period resulting in the final investment of the area's first splash pad this spring. In 2010, at the BIA's request the Western Fair District invested in parking lot improvements including gateway features in their northwest lots. Beyond their current gaming activities, in 2006 Western Fair District embraced the London Farmers Market, a private business located in the Confederation Building. The Market at the Western Fair District has become a significant economic driver for the Old East Village and in 2018 they furthered their commitment to this neighbourhood institution by taking over operations and discussing potential further development of market activities. These projects are examples of Western Fair's participation as a great community partner and neighbour.

It would have been natural for Londoners who support expanded gaming to have used the Western Fair District as a reference point as they are presently the provider of such activities. As the provider of a variety of events, activities and services, the site is consistently well maintained and well-staffed. This is the standard that Londoners are expecting and putting gambling aside for a moment, in our experience, there have been no negative impacts on revitalization as a result of activities on the Western Fair grounds.

This standard of excellence is also the standard that the Old East Village businesses and community have come to expect from the Western Fair District. The OLG has fulfilled its commitment to community engagement through the recent municipal process; however this is only the first phase of dialogue. If expanded gaming is to remain at the Western Fair District then the successful collaboration between the Old East Village and Western Fair District will need to include other partners such as Gateway Casinos who will also become stakeholders in our community.

If it is decided that expanded gaming is to be permanently located at 900 King Street the BIA would like to request a Community Partnership Committee be implemented as a mechanism for ongoing communication between all invested parties. Groups such as Western Fair District, City of London, Gateway Casinos, Old East Village BIA and community residents should be included, however this list is not exhaustive.

Early discussions suggest that there are great opportunities for cooperation between all groups. The Western Fair District understands and has participated in the urban renewal of Old East Village and with their continued partnership and the partnership of Gateway Casino's we will have the tools to work towards a development that can support the needs of all involved.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Pastorius BIA Manager

Maria Drangova BIA Board Chair



HELP FOR YOU

Addiction Services

HELP FOR SOMEONE ELSE

ADSTV - IGDPGS

• Our services are listed on our website:

www.adstv.ca

- We are a treatment facility that also provides education in the schools and the community
- Caseloads are a mix between people with gambling problems and concerned significant others (spouses, adult children, parents)

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Addiction Services

IELP FOR SOMEONE ELSE

Our Intention

- Share our expertise after providing gambling treatment services for 20 years
- Provide some advice related to new prevention strategies for this community
- Assist with strategy for an expansion of gambling that maximizes benefits and minimizes costs as much as possible
- Remind you that there will be very real costs for some visitors to and residents of this community

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Addiction Services

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Gambling by the Numbers

- 1997 to April 2018:
 - 6290 persons identified gambling as a concern
 - 1.66% of London population over 20 years
 - 668 concerned significant others sought help
- When people experience problems with gambling many others are affected:
 - Entire family (sometimes three generations),
 friends, employers, peers, banks, retail business,
 charities for example

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Types of Gamblers

Continuum perspective:

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At Risk Gamblers

Canadian Gambling Digest 2013-2014

- 6.3 percent of people are thought to be "at risk gamblers and problem gamblers."
- 6.3% of London population =

23,940

Modernization (which means privatization)
 and increased accessibility to new forms of
 gambling may increase risk for Londoners

reedom from addiction

HELP FOR YOU

Addiction Services

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"You don't need to have a gambling problem to have problems from gambling"







HELP FOR SOMEONE ELSE

Questions?



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