



## Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 7p.m.

Zoom meeting

### MINUTES

Attendance: Bob Gordon, Catherine Pacella, John Dance, Monica Helm, Lynne Byford, Tina Raymond (CAG), Ron Rose, Georgia Blondon, Brendan O’Kelly, Heather Jarrett, Tom Scott, Bonnie Wepler, Councillor Shawn Menard, Carol Workun, Peter Tobin, Courtenay Beauregard, Adriana Beaman, Taylor Marquis (Regional), Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, Don Fugler, Jayson Maclean, Donna, Paul Goodkey, Ariela Summit (Office of Councillor Menard), Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Meenakshi Gupta, Linda Pollock, Ian Sadinsky, Krista Broeckx, Terry and Peggy West, Kristine Houde, Doug Macaulay, Jamie Brougham

Agenda approval: moved by Tom Scott, seconded by Peter Tobin

Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2020 – moved by Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, seconded by Ian Sadinsky

#### Chair’s Report – Bob Gordon

- Contacted by Mainstreeter and moving forward, to run a column the new fee is \$80 per issue per half page article
- Ron Rose clarified that all politicians pay to submit something to the Mainstreeter, so does CAG
- Question: do other community newspaper charge community associations to submit a column?
- Bonnie Wepler (on Mainstreeter board) – have had a consistent loss in terms of revenue, so they are looking to increase revenue
- Bonnie also clarified that \$80 is a 50% reduction
- Ron also noted that some community newspapers are run by their community associations – ie: OSCAR – so not fair to compare all newspapers and community associations
- Tina Raymond noted that CAG will start to have a column every issue and they will be charged the same amount
- Question: if we don’t have this column, how do we communicate with the community?
- Ron clarified that we would be charged for the next column which is due tomorrow (January 13) so it’s very short notice
- Bob will submit the upcoming column and we will pay \$80 and defer this discussion to another meeting

#### Councillor’s Report – Councillor Menard

- Has some concerns about the enforcement of different requirements during the state of emergency and will look into it more
- Draft Official Plan released just before the holidays

- It's a full rewrite with lots of details, a need for each community association to look into their affected areas
- Going to plan for a ward council meeting in early February to discuss just the Official Plan, city staff will be invited to attend
- Need staff to agree to changes before planning committee
- Greenfield/Hawthorne/Main – some missing pieces in the redevelopment (burying of Hydro wires, tight corner at Main/Hawthorne, pedestrian crossing on Greenfield, pedestrian crossing at Main/Colonel By)
  - o Potential funding for crossing at Main and Colonel By so it is looking promising
- Meetings with MTO and city re: Queensway bridge replacement – exploring a different way to construct the bridge over the canal (ie: crane in the canal vs at the corner of CBD/Hawthorne), also looking at lot where Gordon and McGovern is located for bike lane connectivity
- Bus routes through Greystone – had a meeting on site with residents and OC Transpo
- Overflowing dumpster behind Lees Apartment buildings – it was removed and property management is aware of their responsibilities
- Pathway along west side of Rideau River is now being winter maintained
- Ward boundary changes – it is passed council now so it is tough to make changes now
- Q – Is OOE the only community in your ward that is affected by secondary plans?
- A – Another one has been repealed in our ward (Confederation Heights Secondary Plan – mostly in Alta Vista Ward but a small part in Capital) – doesn't know if others are being changed the way that OOE's secondary plan is
- Q – When were the garbage dumpsters moved at Lees Apartment buildings? Noticed the dumpsters were moved but also noticed lots of garbage on the hill.
- A – It was moved during the holidays, bylaw said they wouldn't do a clean up of the trash that was scattered; also trash cans along the MUP and garbage is flowing out of it
- Q – Why isn't the S curve along the western pathway MUP down to Brantwood Park is not winter maintained
- A – Have been pushing the city for more winter maintenance, Springhurst to LRT was given priority because of connectivity to public transportation, they continue to push for it and city says they don't have enough funding

#### Regional - Taylor Marquis

- Zoning for school at Deschatalets has been approved
- Severance application submitted by Regional and it was also approved
- Heritage application has also been submitted and approved, so school board can start moving forward with their permits
- Chapel demolition could start at the end of February/early March pending COVID restrictions
- Councillor Menard noted that the city now has a signed memorandum of understanding with the school board for the community centre and much of the funding for the 21,000 square feet for the gym and community centre

#### Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

- \$17,974.13
- All cheques have been cashed for the LPAT legal fees and welcome brochure

#### CAG report – Tina Raymond

- After school programming is on hold while in school is online
- Some virtual activities for the winter
- Not sure how March Break and summer programming will unfold
- Hoping for some form of a winter party but not sure at this point how it might look

#### Ward boundary discussion – John Dance

- Reason for change to University of Ottawa sports field has been given as a “better boundary than the 417”
- Implications are that issues concerning the Lees Campus will require two councillors' attention (ie: issues from noise at the sports field)
- If housing is built around the LRT/Lees Station, then they will be in Rideau Vanier Ward but using the services of Capital Ward (ie: Springhurst Park)
- Growth expected in this area will really increase the population in Rideau Vanier which is already quite large
- Q – Has this been discussed in conjunction with Rideau Vanier Ward?
- A – John has sent an email to Councillor Mathieu Fluery but has not heard back yet, also emailed the university to see if they are aware and have not heard back either
- Motion: That the OOECA request that the City of Ottawa cancel the proposed transfer of the University of Ottawa Lees Campus to Rideau-Vanier Ward, moved by John Dance and seconded by Ron Rose
  - o Motion approved (all approved, no objections or abstentions)
- As follow up, John to write to mayor and other councillors

#### Pedestrian Crossing/Greenfield Main Hawthorne – Tom Scott

- \*Please see speaking notes from Tom Scott attached below
- Some suggestions were made on revisions to the letter
- Letter to be sent to mayor and councillors as previously discussed in December

#### Committee reports (\*all received reports attached below)

- Membership – Suzanne Johnston
  - o not in attendance, no report submitted
- Planning – Ron Rose (interim chair)
  - o See attached report
  - o Q – how is short term rental being defined?
  - o A – less than 90 days
  - o Q – does the short term rental bring revenue to the city?
  - o A – don't have an answer for that
  - o Q – any cut-off to the number of short term rentals allowed?
  - o A – no
- SLOE – Jayson MacLean

- Mainstreeter Biodiversity event happening January
- Health and Safety – Courtenay Beauregard
  - No report
- Lansdowne – John Dance
  - See attached report
- Communications – Bob Gordon
  - Carol Workun joining communications committee
- FCA – Ron Rose
  - See attached report
- Corners on Main and Greystone Village – Peter Tobin
  - See attached report
  - Peter will also temporarily take on the Lees Avenue rep role
- Parks and Greenspaces – Brendan O’Kelly
  - See attached report

New Business –

Date of Next Meeting – February 9, 2021

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn – Moved by Tom Scott, seconded by everybody

**Attachments:**

Speaking notes from Tom Scott on pedestrian crossing/Hawthorne/Main/Greenfield redesign  
Good evening all

You may recall at the December meeting // we passed a motion to send a letter to the Mayor and our Councillor concerning the outcomes of the last Public Advisory Committee meeting on the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne reconstruction project.

I drafted a letter following that motion and shared a copy with members of the Transportation Committee. I also sent a copy to our Councillor’s Office staff // since I would be quoting from their comments at the December meeting. I received back mixed reviews and especially concerns about approaching the Mayor directly. In order to proceed // I am seeking advice and support from the whole of the board.

I would appreciate some support in editing, but the subjects are diverse and at times complex. My fear is // that if we don’t get a compelling argument out at first step for each of these issues // then we might not have a chance to go at it again.

The Community Association issues about the re-design // that we all expressed to City staff and consultants at that PAC number 3 meeting //were broad-reaching but generally focused on safety. This was especially true for the safety of cyclists at a number of locations identified in the new design // as well as of pedestrians at key corners and controlled crossings.

A number of issues we raised right from the start, almost two years ago, were still not fixed; and, in fact, the consultants then admitted that their design would not now deal with those requested improvements.

Some of you will recall our Committee's walk-about in the rain // to review and comment on each recommendation in the Main Street Roadway Safety Audit report. In answer to our own report to the City, we were promised then that the critical safety issues not fixed in the Main project would be dealt with by the upcoming Greenfield reconstruction project – and here we are now, and they still aren't in the planning or budget to be fixed.

At the third PAC meeting, several items were added by staff and consultants to the previous plan we had seen at PAC number 2 // over a year ago:

- A re-build of the storm sewers on North Main at the end of Harvey. These were done as part of the Main complete street project but are not really functioning as planned.
- Hydro Ottawa and the City agreed that burying overhead utilities along North Main and Greenfield was now a necessity, so that was added to the project scope.
- A new approach to protecting the sidewalk-corners at Greenfield and Main was also added to respond to changing road safety standards.
- Parking on Greenfield would be reduced to allow for a straighter and safer cycling path and sidewalk right-of way.
- Finally, some early realignment of gas lines and gas mains would also be required.

So, we saw that both the scope and budget could have been flexible, and should have been able to deal with all the identified safety issues, but didn't. That was the situation I brought to the last Community Association meeting. Since then // the Councillor announced that a new deal with the Province and federal government would fund a controlled crossing at CBD and North Main, so again we see that nothing is yet fixed in stone.

The reason that I recommended sending a letter to the Mayor was quite simple. Raising these concerns with City staff has not been successful. Now that the redesign and budget have been moved forward staff have found themselves in a locked-in situation. Only direction from elected officials can change this // and the Mayor is, of course, the most-senior elected official in the City. As he said himself about the Elgin Street project // he was very pleased to have influenced design and planning there to support local neighbourhoods. So, we know that going to the Mayor can work!

The reconstruction of Greenfield and surrounding neighbourhoods will have a significant impact on Old Ottawa East with a strong focus on water and sewer. Its outcomes will also have effects, both positive and negative, on the whole of the City: none more so than on active transportation- pedestrians and cyclists.

Those things that we are asking of design improvements are completely consistent with City Council's direction to staff under the **Five Big Moves** approach // and especially for fifteen-minute walkable neighbourhoods and a priority on active transportation. Our recommendations to the Mayor would also support the City's already-declared Climate Change emergency, notably for improving resilience in our utility services.

I don't ever recall a committee chair or the Board chair returning to the Board once they received agreement to send a letter. So, this is something new for me. The reason that I feel I need to do this is response I received back from Committee members and from the Councillor's staff // and we need to be all together on this.

### **Committee reports:**

#### ***OOECA Lansdowne Committee – John Dance***

Ian Sadinsky and Brendan O'Kelly have joined the committee.

### ***Approved Changes to help OSEG with Pandemic and Other Financial Challenges***

On December 9, 2020 City Council approved the bail-out provisions for OSEG which were previously approved by the city's finance and economic development committee. As a result of Councillor Menard's efforts and community action, two changes were made to what was originally approved:

- (1) OSEG has agreed that the Red Blacks and the 67s will stay for at least an additional 10 years;
- (2) The City and OSEG are to produce a strategy "to boost foot traffic at Lansdowne," with a plan to report back to council by June 2021. Council also approved a motion to include a "stakeholders' sounding board" in the discussions, which would include the Ottawa Farmers' Market, community associations, business groups and representatives from the festival, theatre and music communities. No details have been released as to how community associations will be involved.

The seven councillors who voted against the bailout were: Jeff Leiper, Catherine McKenney, Carol Anne Meehan, Theresa Kavanagh, Rawlson King, Diane Deans and Shawn Menard.

### ***Proposed Changes to Aberdeen Square***

As of this writing, according to Dan Chenier, General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services, "The City and Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group are still reviewing the requested changes [from Councillor Menard] to the proposal and discussions on this matter have not yet concluded."

In short, it appears as though the City and OSEG still intend on proceeding with what they proposed in August despite the fact that there was no community consultation factored into these proposals and none of the suggestions made in subsequent "consultations" has been accepted.

### ***Lansdowne Use during the Pandemic***

Despite OSEG's struggles, the urban park portion of Lansdowne has been very busy over the last few months. Perhaps Lansdowne really is fulfilling its purpose of people simply enjoying themselves outdoors, whether on the skating rink, sliding down the hill of the "great lawn," or simply strolling about. The Flora Footbridge has allowed lots more OOs to easily walk to the park.

Greystone Village and the Corners on Main – Peter Tobin

Since Dec. 20 OC buses have been using des Oblats to access Main St northbound. Despite initial concerns about adding buses to an already busy street, things have worked out fairly well so far. The #16 comes only every 30 minutes and the #56 only twice a day.

While the Lees Ave. apartments are not on my patch, we have had for some time no Lees Apt. report to the Board. I will endeavour on occasion to address that void.

At least as far back as 2009 the CA itself, SLOE and individual OE residents have sent complaints to the management of the Rideau East building at 170 Lees. The main concern has been garbage from 170 flowing onto the MUP. In the last 6 weeks OE resident Carol Alette has emailed Rideau E., and copied Councillor Menard's office, of

her concerns about garbage and maintenance at 170. The Councillor's office has responded and by law officers have been in contact with the management. The impact of these appeals has been a more positive response and action taken by the management team of Rideau East to control the flow of garbage.

On Jan. 8 I sent an email as a Corners resident to HAMA Investments registering my personal concerns about the garbage. Ms. Alette has submitted an article to the Mainstreeter on this topic.

## **Planning Committee Report – Ron Rose**

### **Draft Official Plan.**

Much of the time this past month was spent reviewing the draft Official Plan. We have focused on the implications of some of the mechanisms proposed in that draft for Old Ottawa East. It seems that many of the proposals will have a negative impact on our community. A list of questions about the draft Official Plan has been prepared for the Councillor to raise with staff, and the Councillor's office is attempting to organize a meeting with City staff and the OOE Planning Committee. In addition, we have requested that someone from the City planning dept participate in our regular meeting January 28th

*Specific proposals impacting OOE include:*

Secondary Plans. The existing Old Ottawa East Secondary Plan will be discarded and a new one has been proposed which does not include those parts of the community north of the 417 and east of Brunswick St. These orphaned areas will be included in a secondary plan that includes parts of downtown and the Golden Triangle.

Transects. Instead of planning by land use, as is done now, the draft OP proposes to plan by 'Transects', similar to layers of an onion. Again, Old Ottawa East has been split into two transects; a Downtown Transect, which includes at least the part of OOE north of the 417, possibly more, and an Inner Urban Transect, which includes the rest of our community.

Special Districts. All properties facing the Rideau Canal will be included in a separate Special District for the Rideau Canal, subject to different planning requirements from the rest of the community.

One characteristic of all these changes is that there was absolutely no consultation or communication with the community on the part of the City

The Draft OP runs to approximately 260 pages, and new supporting documents keep appearing as well. Just trying to keep up with the documentation, and understanding how they impact our community, is a full time job. If any residents currently not members of the Planning Committee would like to **volunteer** to review different sections of the draft, their offer would be greatly appreciated and possibly rewarded. The full text of the draft OP can be found at [https://engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan/news\\_feed/draft-new-official-plan](https://engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan/news_feed/draft-new-official-plan)

**Ward Boundary Review.** John Dance will be reporting separately on this issue.

**Committee of Adjustment.** 71 Chestnut St. This Wednesday, the Committee of Adjustment (CofA) will consider a number of requests for minor variances for a proposed residence at 71 Chestnut St. The developer hosted a Zoom consultation with interested members of the community last Thursday. Nearby residents expressed concerns about the closeness of the building to the lot line, and also raised concerns about safety at the corner of Springhurst and Brunswick. The Planning Committee will attend and will be speaking to these requested variances

**Short Term Rentals.** The City has circulated a proposed Zoning By-law amendment which would permit short-term rental of residential dwellings city-wide. The proposed zoning amendments will permit the short-term rental of residential units as an additional use in Residential zones. The Planning Committee will be reviewing these proposals at our meeting January 28th. I would appreciate hearing from any resident if they have experienced problems with residences being used as short-term rentals through online platforms.

Federation of Citizens Associations report – Ron Rose

The **new chair** of the FCA is Alex Cullen, a former MPP and City Councillor. The vice chair is Robert Brinker.

The FCA **meets** virtually on the third Wednesday of the month (January 20th) and the Planning Committee of the FCA meets the second Wednesday (January 14th). The Planning Committee of the FCA is the most active of the Federation's committees, and provides the majority of material for the General Meetings.

Planning issues have been the major focus of the Federation over the past two months, especially discussions about the various aspects of the draft Official Plan. However, there have also been a number of other issues reviewed by the Federation.

**Environmental issues** are a major concern of the FCA, and the Greenspace Alliance is an active member. Over the past two months, the Federation reviewed documentation on Environmental Justice from a Planning Perspective, and how to create more green spaces within Ottawa's urban areas.

The Federation also had a report from the **Ottawa Neighbourhood Study**. <https://www.neighbourhoodstudy.ca>. The study reports on a range of socio-economic and demographic data by neighbourhood. The Study had approached the FCA to ask its members to check the boundaries of their respective organizations. Approximately three years ago, we approached the Study to include the Riverdale, Avenue Road, Main St triangle within Old Ottawa East, which they have done. According to the Study, the population of Old Ottawa East in 2016 was 7,350, vs 6,210 in Old Ottawa South.

**Affordability of housing**, particularly within Transit-Oriented-Development (TOD) areas is also an area of concern for the FCA, and special attention was paid to a two-tower 500 unit development at Bayshore that Council recently approved which included 45 units for affordable housing.

The FCA wrote to the Mayor concerning the **Mid-term Governance Review** of Council suggesting changes to Committee representation, citing the overwhelming majority of Urban and Suburban Councillors on the Planning Committee. The suggestion were rebuffed by the Mayor.

The November meeting heard a presentation from **Walkable Ottawa**, an organization dedicated to making Ottawa a more pedestrian friendly, walkable community. Their position paper is available at [https://ca848991-4ec8-4632-81f2-2c8909ac971f.filesusr.com/ugd/f7ac66\\_b10419b8c50040e89dbf4a13c5ec637b.pdf](https://ca848991-4ec8-4632-81f2-2c8909ac971f.filesusr.com/ugd/f7ac66_b10419b8c50040e89dbf4a13c5ec637b.pdf)

**Planning issues** that also consumed the FCA's attention included discussions of the use of **Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZO)**, which allows the Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs to directly zone land for a particular purpose. The Minister does not have to give notice nor consult with the public prior to issuing or revoking a zoning order. The use of these MZOs has grown exponentially in the past year, mainly in the area around Toronto. Protected wetlands have been rezoned to allow warehouse development for example. The Federation feels that this excessive use of MZOs is an abuse of the Minister's power.

The Federation has been made aware of a recent initiative by the Mayor to impose a **tax on vacant property**. This has been welcomed by communities such as Vanier and



Hintonburg. Vacant and derelict buildings are probably not such an issue in Old Ottawa East, other than the building on the NW corner of the Greenfield/Concord N intersection.

Parks and Greenspace – Brendan O’Kelly

Grand Allée

In December Erin O’Connor, from Regional, hosted a meeting to discuss the design of the allée. There are plans for a paved walkway down the middle bordered by existing trees, as well as some new shrubs and sod. There will be decorative arches on either side of the entrance to the allée, which are intended to evoke the window structures of the Deschatelets building.

There was support for connecting paths between the Grand Allée and Des Oblats (as well as from Springhurst to Des Oblats, should the Sisters of the Sacred Heart convent ever be redeveloped).

Regional has asked for the OOECA’s input on plant selection, as well as to consider adopting the park for maintenance purposes.

January Meeting

The parks and greenspace committee will meet on January 19th to review current and future projects. New members to the committee are always welcome, and can reach out to me at [brendan.w.okelly@gmail.com](mailto:brendan.w.okelly@gmail.com).

Springhurst Park Amenities Costs

We are still waiting to hear about the release of the tender package. The cost increases from \$95,000 to over \$122,000 over the course of 2020 were attributed by city staff to a more detailed estimate submitted by the project consultant later last year.

### **Ward Boundary Change - Removal of uOttawa Lees Campus from Capital Ward**

**Issue:** The uOttawa Lees campus has been removed from Capital Ward boundaries without consultation or sound justification. The change will be injurious to the Old Ottawa East community.

**Background:**

- Because of greater population growth in some parts of the city a study was conducted to determine if boundary changes were warranted and what they should be.
- Included in changes to the ward boundaries was a request of unknown origin to “Move the Gee-Gees sports field from W6-19 (Capital) to W6-17 (Rideau-Vanier).” In fact, the map shows the transfer of the entire Lees campus, not just the sports field.
- The reasons given refer to a better boundary (the River rather than Highway 417) and the area’s association with sports facilities directly to the north in Rideau-Vanier
- At no point during the consultation process was this request brought to the attention of the OOE community.

- The change has nothing to do with the primary objective of establishing new ward boundaries, i.e., addressing “effective representation.”

***Implications:***

- Any issues pertaining to the Lees campus become the responsibility of the Councillor of Rideau-Vanier, meaning the OOECA will now have two councillors to work with.
- The OOE community’s influence on the critical development of the uOttawa Lees lands will be diminished by the change
- The Lees campus area has for more than a century been a part of Ottawa East - not part of Sandy Hill. Before the Queensway separated the area from Sandy Hill, several rail lines did.
- Issues arising from operations (e.g., sporting events) and plans of uOttawa on the Lees campus fundamentally affect OOE and Capital Ward residents - not those of Sandy Hill. So the university should be dealing with the Capital Ward councillor, not the Sandy Hill (Rideau-Vanier) councillor.
- OOE prides itself on having two universities: we do not want one of them removed from our boundaries.
- The new draft OP stresses the importance of 15-minute neighbourhoods and complete communities. Removing the uOttawa Lees campus from OOE is contrary to these ideas.

**Recommendation / Motion:**

Moved that the OOECA request that City of Ottawa cancel the proposed transfer of the uOttawa Lees campus to Rideau-Vanier Ward.

**Detailed Note with Background**

**OOECA Board Meeting - January 12, 2021**

**Ward Boundary Change - Removal of uOttawa Lees Campus from Capital Ward**

**Issue:** The uOttawa Lees campus has been removed from Capital Ward boundaries without consultation or sound justification. The change will be injurious to the Old Ottawa East community.

***Background:***

- Ward boundaries must be reviewed periodically to balance population numbers and achieve other components of “effective representation,” as established by the Supreme Court of Canada and Ontario’s Local Planning Appeal Tribunal. The Council-approved ward boundary review process is aimed at addressing issues relating to “effective representation” and certain wards being outside of generally acceptable population variances.
- “Ultimately, wards and their boundaries are about the right to vote provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The principle of the right to vote is often lost in the day-to-day discussion of ward reviews.” Recommended Ward Boundaries Final Report - November 13, 2020

- Because of greater population growth in some parts of the city a study was conducted to determine if boundary changes were warranted and what they should be.
- The ward boundary changes were recommended by the Finance and Economic Development Committee December 1, 2020 then approved by City Council December 9. A bylaw establishing the new boundaries is scheduled for January 27, 2021.
- Included in changes to the ward boundaries was a second round of consultation request of unknown origin to “Move the Gee-Gees sports field from W6-19 (Capital) to W6-17 (Rideau-Vanier). The reasons given refer to a better boundary (the River rather than Highway 417) and the area’s association with sports facilities directly to the north in Rideau-Vanier. In the recommended ward boundary configuration, “the Gee-Gees sports field is moved from W6-19 to W6-17. There are no residents in this area.” The report later says: “At Robinson Park and Gee Gees Field, #417 is not a big boundary; use the River instead.”
- At no point during the consultation process was this request brought to the attention of the OOE community and when on December 1 Councillor Shawn Menard’s office was questioned about the change it seemed to come as a surprise to them as well. At the OOECA Board meeting of December 8 (the day before the Council vote) , Councillor Menard noted that “the field is part of the uOttawa - no residents there.” But there was [to my recollection - needs to be double-checked] no further discussion or questions at the meeting.
- In a recent follow-up email (January 7, 2012) Councillor Menard wrote:

*“I had major concerns with how council handled the independent consultant’s reports. I ended up voting against the final outcome at Council (there was too much gerrymandering in the east end in my view, among other things).*

*“We were aware late in the game of what was described as a U-Ottawa field change, as well as another area of Capital Ward (a parking lot near the site where the new hospital will be located). The consultants decided that this parking lot area near the new hospital made sense to be added to another ward so the new hospital would be entirely in river ward and they applied the same logic with the University of Ottawa property.*

*“I asked (in public) for updated maps at FEDCO to review these changes and there were none available.*

*“I suspect these changes came directly from councillor requests and to be honest, I understood some of the logic re: congruent facility boundaries. That being said, the recommended changes should have been better communicated by the city to the areas directly affected, with maps for committee, even if they were seen as small changes. We likely own some of this oversight, despite the process.”*

- Councillor Mathieu Fleury has been asked for his perspective on the boundary change but as of this writing no responses has been received.
- The actual change to the ward boundaries is not just the “Gee-Gees sports field” but, as the accompanying map shows, it is all of the Lees uOttawa campus, thus the recommendation that went to Councillors was misleading.
- The change has nothing to do with the primary objective of establishing new ward boundaries, i.e., addressing “effective representation.’
- It is not known who made the request for the boundary change nor is it known how or if the consultants who conducted the study evaluated the request. They certainly didn’t seek opinions of the Old Ottawa East community.

***Implications:***

- Any issues pertaining to the Lees campus become the responsibility of the Councillor of Rideau-Vanier, meaning the OOECA will now have two councillors to work with.
- The OOE community’s influence on the critical development of the uOttawa Lees lands will be diminished by the change - we’ll have to work with a councillor who isn’t elected by us and, conversely, we won’t have a councillor who is likely to enthusiastically listen to us and act accordingly. This flies in the face of good democratic principles that the ward boundary changes are supposed to support.
- Rideau-Vanier Ward already has a larger population than Capital (Rideau-Vanier =49,632 in 2018 vs Capital = 38,322) and is expected to grow more rapidly, even without the expected population of the TOD. The City will be moving potential population growth into a ward that is already growing more rapidly. This may require a subsequent ward boundary revision to move the area back into Capital ward.
- The Lees campus area has for more than a century been a part of Ottawa East - not part of Sandy Hill. Before the Queensway separated the area from Sandy Hill, several rail lines did. The city’s report says “#417 is not a big boundary; use the River instead,” which is both false and ludicrous.
- Issues arising from operations and plans of uOttawa on the Lees campus fundamentally affect OOE and Capital Ward residents - not those of Sandy Hill. So the university should be dealing with the Capital Ward councillor, not the Sandy Hill (Rideau-Vanier) councillor.
- Over the last decade, numerous issues have arisen on or near the campus - it’s always been the OOECA - not Action Sandy Hill - that has been involved. Examples include the location of the river pathway (the university did not want it to go along the river), and the proposed parking lot on the Springhurst greenspace (the city and the university wanted it there - the community did not).
- The Lees Station area - including all of the Lees campus - will be massively redeveloped over the next two decades (Attachment 2). This development must be in the context of OOE and Capital Ward, not of Sandy Hill and Rideau-Vanier Ward. New residents will be using OOE amenities not Sandy Hill’s so it is important that the Lees campus area remain within Capital Ward
- OOE prides itself on having two universities: we do not want one of them removed from our boundaries.

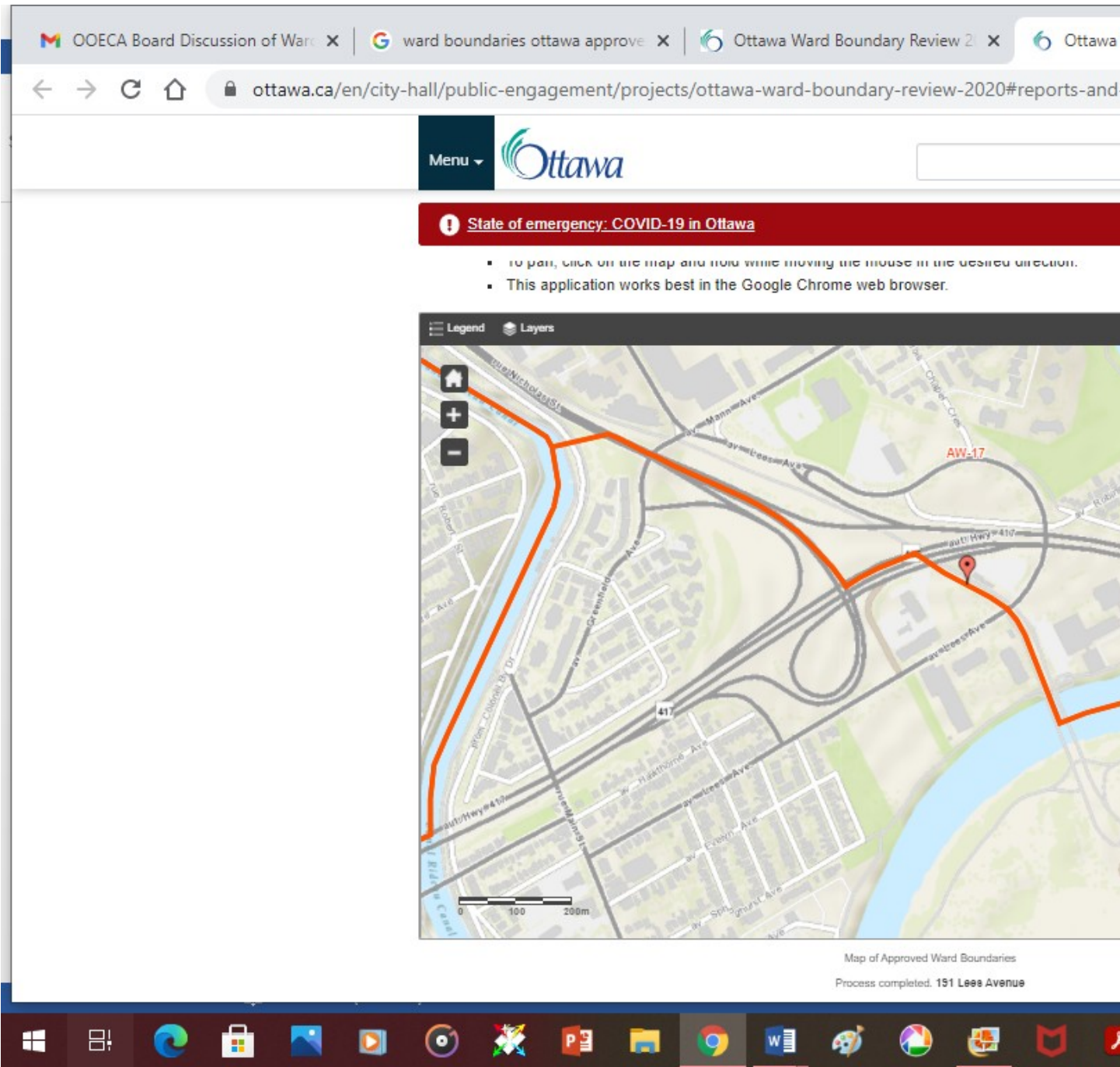
- The new draft OP stresses the importance of 15-minute neighbourhoods and complete communities. Removing the uOttawa Lees campus from OOE is contrary to these ideas.

**Recommendation / Motion**

- Moved that the OOECA request that City of Ottawa cancel the proposed transfer of the uOttawa Lees campus to Rideau-Vanier Ward.

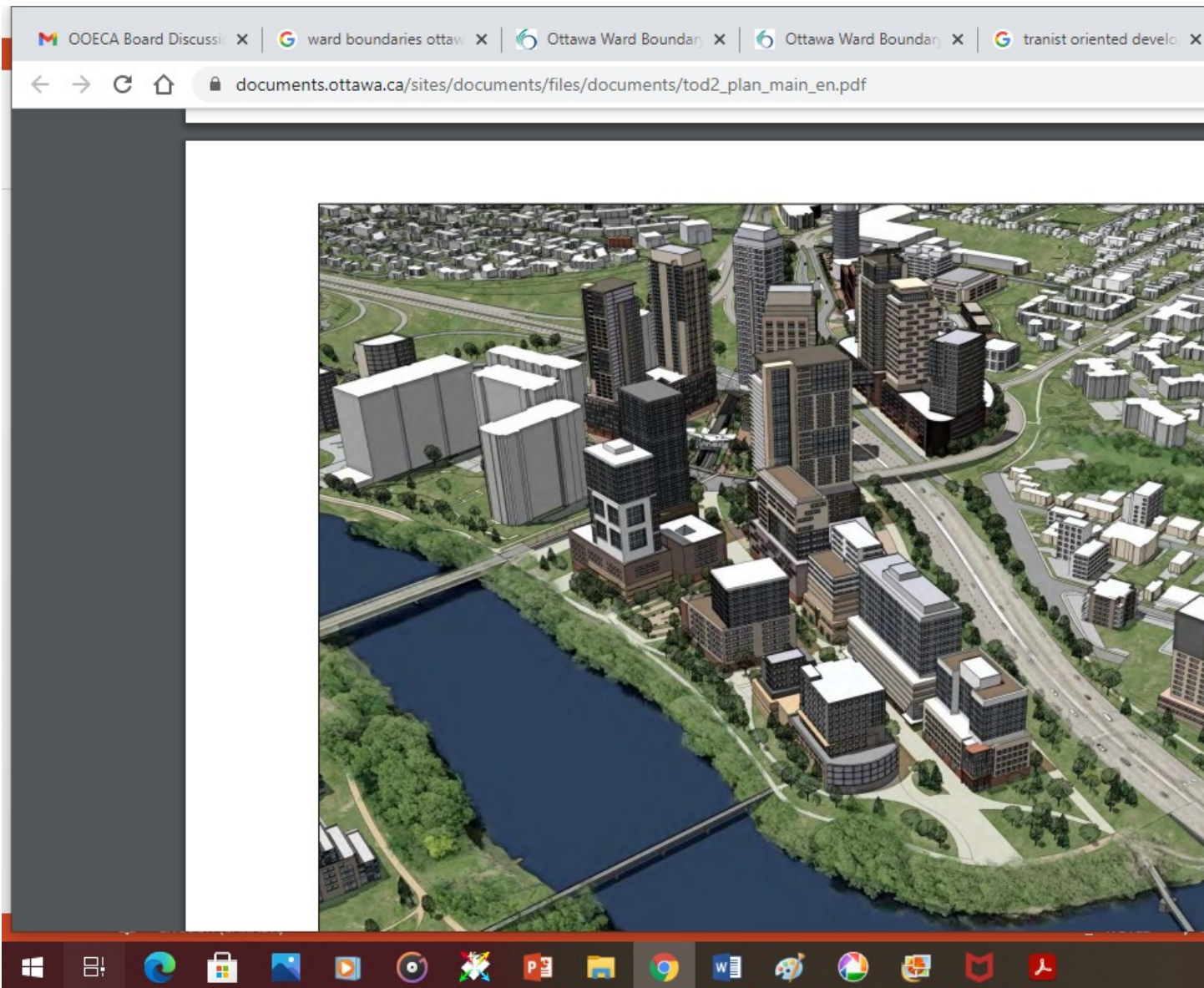
+++++

**Attachment 1 - Map Showing "New" Boundary**



**Attachment 2: Rending of Lees Transit Oriented Development Showing Total Redevelopment of uOttawa property in OOE (City 2014)**





Attachments:

Email sent from Bob Gordon to Carole Legault (City of Ottawa), Councillor Menard, Mayor Watson on November 30, 2020, in advance of FEDCO meeting re: community centre at Deschâtelets Building

Ottawa East  
Community  
Association



Old Town Hall

November 30, 2020

**Deschâtelets Building – Community Centre, Old Ottawa East (FEDCO December 9, 2020)**

The Old Ottawa East Community Association supports the recommendations of the staff report on the above-noted subject. If approved, the recommendations will result in progress towards Old Ottawa East finally having a community centre that meets City standards and can provide the required municipal amenities that OOE requires as it rapidly grows as a result of the approved secondary plan and the approved Lees Station transit oriented development plan.

Old Ottawa East, the community bisected in a north-south direction by Main Street and in an east-west direction by Hawthorne-Lees, currently has Old Town Hall as its community centre. This lovely heritage structure is important for the community but is hopelessly inadequate as a community centre and compares unfavorably to community centers in comparably sized communities. Only the ground floor meets accessibility requirements and it has just one general purpose room which is about the size of a large living room.

At Planning Committee several months ago OOECA did not oppose the demolition of the chapel wing of the Deschâtelets Building but this was on the condition that a community centre, the CECCE school and affordable housing would be in the repurposed main portion of Deschâtelets. We see the staff's recommendations contributing to ensuring that this condition is met.

Finally, the community association and its sister organization, the Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East, expect to be consulted as the project moves forward.

The hard work on this file by City staff and Councillor Menard is appreciated.

Bob Gordon  
President  
Old Ottawa East Community Association

**Committee reports:**

**Greystone / Corners on Main:**

Regional has installed a bright plaque along the 30 metre River Path just



south of Springhurst. The plaque is multi-coloured, informative and measures about 1m. by 0.5m.

The Transitional Care Unit at the GV Retirement Residence under the direction of Bruyere, is operational. Staff seem to be using on street parking.

Domicile has the convent up for sale. A price tag of \$18 million has been rumoured but not confirmed. There is a lock box on the blue fence near the Springhurst parking area adjacent to Corners Phase 1.

### **Lees Garden – 2020 financial statement**

Here is our 2020 annual wrap up.

#### **Revenue:**

\$2069.67 Carry over 2019 (\$1925.22 with OECA, \$144.45 petty cash with me)  
\$150 - Membership fees

Revenue total: \$2219.67

#### **Expenditures:**

Apartment gift 2019 - \$15  
Apartment gift 2020 - \$15

Expenditures total: \$30

Year end total: \$2189.67 (\$1925.22 with OECA, \$149.45 petty cash with me, \$115 petty cash with Bob Whitelaw)

Lansdowne Committee:

### **Lansdowne Park Update (OOECA Board Meeting, December 8, 2020)**

It's been a busy month on the Lansdowne front. Three things to report:

#### ***OOECA Lansdowne Committee***

Ron Rose, Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, Doug Macaulay and I have formed the association's informal Lansdowne committee. This committee will review proposals relating to Lansdowne with a view to

offering advice as to what would be best for users and residents at large, particularly those from OOE. Both Ron and I represent OOE on the Lansdowne Community Consultation Group (LCCG), the Councillor-created advisory group that meets occasionally to offer advice on Lansdowne operations and initiatives of the City and Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group

We welcome others who may wish to join. We specifically need a member who lives across the Canal from Lansdowne and may be affected by Park noise.

### ***Proposed Changes to help OSEG with Pandemic and Other Financial Challenges***

As per emails in November, at the City's Finance and Economic Development Committee (FEDCO), OOECA presented the attached position (Attachment 1) regarding the City's recommended changes to the partnership agreement. Specifically, the city staff recommended short-term relief through allowing OSEG to access a capital reserve, changes to rental revenues for the City and a 10-year extension to the 30-year deal. The association supports the short-term relief but opposes the other provisions. FEDCO approved all of the staff recommendations which, at this writing, were to be considered at City Council December 9 (i.e. the date of the OOECA Board meeting).

Two weeks after the FEDCO meeting the City's Audit Committee received an audit on the so-called Lansdowne Waterfall agreement which sets out the distribution of revenues from the Lansdowne partnership's operations. Numerous deficiencies were cited in the audit. The OOECA Lansdowne Committee is of the view that until such time as these deficiencies are remedied there should be no consideration of extending the term of the partnership agreement.

### ***Proposed Changes to Aberdeen Square***

In August OSEG outlined to the LCCG the improvements it would like to make to Aberdeen Square, now to be known as Plaza Lac-Lemay Casino as a result of a sponsorship deal. The improvements include moveable stage components that would double as seating; entrance and stage towers; and bollards that would demarcate the square while maintaining through traffic on the northern side of the square.

Community representatives asked that before any decisions were taken that there be a consultation session open to all. This occurred via Zoom on October 19 and the general sense was that the proposed changes should not proceed as proposed. OSEG responded by rewriting their report, however, none of the recommended changes was modified.

The rewritten report was discussed at a meeting of LCCG November 30 and OSEG was adamant that they did not want to change their plans. Councillor Shawn Menard requested that the plans be changed to reflect the consultation, including that the stage be smaller, the towers be scaled down, and electricity be installed to allow events, and permanent seating be created. OSEG responded to this request that the proposed changes had already been agreed to by Casino Lac-Lemay and the Ontario Heritage Trust and if they didn't proceed as proposed it's possible the Casino wouldn't provide the funding for the changes. Ron and I have written to Councillor Menard expressing support for the changes he proposed (Attachment 2). So we'll see what happens next.

---

**Attachment 1**

**OOECA Presentation to FEDCO, November 12, 2020**

We support the thoughtful position of GCA [below] as outlined many hours ago by June Creelman.

Most of us - residents, businesses, and City staff - can agree on two things: these are tough days and Lansdowne is a very important park for all Ottawans

But what has been thrust upon us with very short notice and no consultation are recommendations to extend for a decade a massive OSEG subsidy in the form of free rent in the heart of Ottawa. I suspect that a lot of non-millionaire Ottawans would also like to have free rent for 40 years.

The basis for staff's recommendations seems to be that the extension would save the City from having to operate the stadium and arena.

Yet no investigation has been done to see what other options exist to manage the stadium and arena after the end of the 30 year deal.

What's before FEDCO is evidence that the deal approved in 2012 is a bad deal.

Taxpayers were led to believe the massive investment by the city would result in a fully restored stadium and arena and that the City would receive a real financial return on its investment. Both appear to be false.

Yes, allow OSEG short-term relief in this difficult pandemic period through use of the capital reserve but, at this point, don't give away the arena and stadium for another 10 years and don't make the rental arrangements even more favorable to OSEG.

One final point: The city and OSEG should better engage with neighbouring communities.

- We had no heads-up on the recommendations before you
- Proposed improvements to Aberdeen Square have had inadequate consultation
- There was no consultation on the renaming of Aberdeen Square
- Last year at this time there was a rushed, no-consultation proposal before FEDCO to give OSEG control over the urban park portion of Lansdowne.
- There has been no community engagement with the strategic review that OSEG has had underway for more than a year.

This is no way to run a park or a city. Let's have some good governance.

---

### **Glebe Community Association Position**

Whereas:

\* Lansdowne is one of Ottawa's most important public spaces and is well used by residents of the neighbourhood and the city as a whole.

\* A 30-year private public partnership agreement was signed in 2012 setting out financial and operating arrangements for the site; this agreement still has 22 years left in it.

\* The City has invested \$210 Million in Lansdowne, which is more capital than OSEG has contributed. The City has also provided publicly-owned land for virtually free rather than charging market value rents.

\* OSEG's operations were in financial difficulty pre-COVID, and have never achieved expectations.

\* COVID has hit Lansdowne particularly hard since mass gatherings and sporting events are cancelled indefinitely.

\* Eight years into the 30-year agreement, OSEG approached the City asking for financial assistance and changes to the terms of the agreement.

\* The City has prepared a report recommending short and long-term assistance for OSEG, including changes to the terms of the agreement and an extension for 10 years.

\* The City report is incomplete and does not contain detailed financial analysis, a business plan or analysis of the financial implications for taxpayers over the long term.

\* The City has had no return on its investment on its equity investment and the proposed changes to the agreement further weaken any potential benefit to the city and taxpayers, while increasing profits for OSEG.

\* Audits of the Lansdowne Partnership Plan are underway and have not been completed.

\* Many other businesses and non-profits in Ottawa, working in similar spheres, are in financial difficulty due to COVID, and are not receiving City financial support.

Be it resolved that the GCA:

\* Supports emergency short-term financial assistance for OSEG such as a loan, a city guarantee on a loan or, access to the reserve fund, whichever option has less financial risk for City taxpayers.

\* Encourages the City to provide similar emergency short-term financial assistance to other city partners and to sports, retail and entertainment venues across the City

\* Recommends that as a condition for the emergency short-term financial support, OSEG be required to make a legal commitment to keep its sports teams at Lansdowne beyond 2021 (as stated in the current agreement) until at least 2025

\* Opposes any long-term changes to the current Lansdowne Partnership Agreement until after City Audits are completed, and made public, in a post-COVID environment when the long-term situation is better understood.

\* Recommends that any changes to the LPP long-term agreement be undertaken through a rigorous and public planning process based on full financial transparency, including the audited financial reports of the sub-components of the LPP master agreement, an evaluation by a third-party, a detailed business plan, public consultations and the involvement of a public advisory committee with representatives of neighbouring communities as full partners at the table.

\*Believes strongly that changes to the LPP, if any, should not be driven by short-term circumstances, but need to be made in the interests of a better and more successful Lansdowne that works for the public good in the long-term.

Attachment 2

**Email: Follow-up to Lansdowne Community Consultation Group meeting of November 30, 2020 - Improvements to Aberdeen Square / Casino Lac-Lemay Plaza**

Tue, Dec 1, 6:58 PM (13 hours ago)

to councillor, Mark, Ottawa, Ron, Richard, Jonathan, GCA, June, Bob, bcc: Lorne, bcc: Alexandra, bcc: Doug

Dear Councillor Shawn Menard, Mark Goudie and Dan Chenier:

We wish to express our support for the compromise position that Councillor Menard proposed at yesterday's meeting of the Lansdowne Community Consultation Group regarding improvements to Aberdeen Square.

Despite the public consultation of October 19, 2020, OSEG has not substantially changed its proposed plan for improvements.

The recent consultation results were clear that the OSEG proposals did not adequately address what had been sought when the communities were originally consulted on the future of Aberdeen Square back in 2019.

In our view changes should primarily improve the day-to-day attraction of the square, rather than be primarily to improve the square to host events.

Specifically, we recommend that a small stage, electrical infrastructure to support stage events, permanent seating and thriving trees should be funded through this initial phase of square improvement work. The proposed towers need to be reduced in number, scaled down and should complement rather than detract from the Aberdeen Pavilion architecture. Consideration should be given to delaying them until a subsequent phase.

We also will continue to push for the closure of Marché Way through the square. We see the need for emergency vehicles to have access through the square but this can be readily provided without allowing access for all.

We look forward to seeing what the City and OSEG have in mind for subsequent phases of improvements.

Ron Rose & John Dance, OOECA Representatives, Lansdowne Community Consultation Group

The Planning Committee has acquired two new members. Paul Bannerjee, who lives on Hawthorne Avenue and volunteered during the AGM; as well as Oliver Basset, who lives on Glenora.

Individual members have maintained watching briefs for ongoing issues; such as the various planning discussions surrounding the evolution of the Deschaelet building, possible developments at the old Royal Canadian legion building at 99 Greenfield, and proposed parking changes at the rear of the condo building at 140 Springhurst. As John Dance has reported, Developments at Lansdowne, while not within the Planning Committee's responsibilities, have, as John Dance reported, consumed a considerable amount of our time. The committee will be meeting on December 15th to review recent developments in the evolution of Ottawa's new Official Plan. One aspect of the OP that has concerned members of the community is the fact that the City has split our community at the 417 highway, with the area north of the highway included in a "Downtown Transect" while the area south of the highway are included within the "Inner Urban Transect. (Transects are specific areas within the City of Ottawa which will be used for planning purposes under the new OP). Consequently, it is possible that our community will be subject to two separate types of zoning. A second development arising from the proposed OP is that the City has unilaterally changed the Old Ottawa East Secondary Plan, the plan that consumed so many community resources only 10-15 years ago.

The FCA continues to focus on the development of the Official Plan, and the promotion of the "15 minute neighbourhood". The Planning Committee of the FCA had a brief discussion of a proposal from an organization called "Walkable Ottawa", and has circulated a document promoting a set of principles for adoption by the City to promote walkability. The document is attached to this report. Walkable Ottawa also has a website, [www.walkableottawa.ca](http://www.walkableottawa.ca) which provides additional details, as well as a video, on the concepts behind the proposal. Walkable Ottawa is seeking endorsements from Community Associations for their proposals. As these proposals touch on areas covered by many of our standing committees, I plan to give board members time to review and comment, and to propose a motion at our January meeting.

Ron Rose

## Transportation Committee Report

A number of matters of interest have arisen since the last virtual meeting:

1. The PXO standards with functioning solar panels and flashing lights have been restored at the Greenfield and North Concord intersection. The south-east standard had been sheared off and crushed by a transport truck backing up southbound from Concord across Greenfield (northbound ends at a one-way street exit for Echo), and the rest of the array was temporarily replaced by metal signs on steel pickets. Greenfield Avenue is now also fully signed for 40 km./hr.
2. The City designated the neighbourhoods west of Main to Echo from Graham down to Riverdale (but excluding Riverdale itself) as a gateway where speed limits would be posted at the entrances to these neighbourhoods at 30 km./hr.

and additional traffic calming measures would be added as scheduling and weather permit. The first signs were posted this month.

3. The City held a virtual meeting of the Public Advisory Committee for the ongoing planning and design phases of the Greenfield/Main/Hawthorne reconstruction project on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 with at times as many as 35 attendees. The project consultants presented updated and revised plans and schedules. A number of design adjustments were noted especially at intersections, to try and improve pedestrian and cyclist safety. Overhead utilities are to be buried along North Main and Greenfield. The schedule, which has already been delayed a year, is now put off one more year and the order of construction has been reversed: south of the Queensway (Hawthorne, Echo and parts of Main) will now commence first in 2021 along with necessary adjustments to natural-gas lines and gas mains, and then north of the Queensway down to King Edward in 2022 with final landscaping, signage and other adjustments into 2023.

Additional background from within the Transportation Committee and a proposed motion related to the PAC outcomes are attached.

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 25, 2020, 12:33:10 p.m. EST

**Subject:** Re: Last night's GMH consultation - delay required?

Good afternoon John [Dance]

I also saw Alexandra's comments back to you. I too was really hoping for more integration of issues and solutions in the project design after this long delay. Instead we got a statement that this project's permit is primarily to replace ageing (and failing) water and sewer infrastructure and to more fully provide separation of what are now combined storm and domestic sewer lines. Improvements in the surface infrastructure appear to be secondary to the buried infrastructure in both priority and funding.

Funding is a matter of affordability choice. City staff chooses what to recommend and Council chooses what to fund, but there is no magic in fully costing what is basically a construction project. Do the design and planning well, cost out the required materials and labour, and then present the project budget to decision-makers for approval. City staff would never recommend paving only the left half of Greenfield to save money.

Why then would a design be accepted that only half-protected the main cycling route through Old Ottawa East? Jonathan [McLeod] clearly made the point that if additional costs need to be incurred for a fully realized project, then now is the time to identify those costs and secure funding, not five years from now when all the primary infrastructure work is completed and incremental tasks become even more disruptive and costly.

The conflict areas identified in last night's slide show were exactly those identified in the Main Complete Street Safety Audit, and were left undone in the City's response to its own consultant's recommendations; City staff at that time also clearly pointed to what was then this up-and-coming project to find solutions. Those on the PAC will equally clearly recall that this project accepted the responsibility to deal with the outstanding (that is, incomplete) recommendations from the Safety Audit: most notably the safety gap in the Main cycling route from Harvey to Graham, and the turn from Graham to Colonel By Drive, but also the turning radius issue at the SW corner of Main and Hawthorne. That there is no money for these represents a failure in planning and design and a failure of the City to recognize the safety and security needs of active transport (pedestrians and cyclists) over motorists.

Discussions with MTO and NCC needed, and need, to be more active, transparent and timely. There is only one taxpayer and both of these senior-level-of-government agencies carry the same responsibilities for public health and safety, as do the City staffers, on behalf of their respective Ministers.

It is likely that having to find design solutions to these issues would in itself cause further delays in a project now more than two years behind; however, COVID-19 impacts on the City budget and cash-flows may have staff out looking for projects to defer anyway. What we could recommend is: take the time, get the designs right, get better integration of the buried infrastructure needs with the surface infrastructure planning, get the Ministers for both MTO and NCC onside for their shares; and then, seriously disrupt Old Ottawa East once and for good with a project that makes sense. If that takes another year, then so be it.

As a measure of integration, or lack thereof, there is an item in the water supply system plan to link the high pressure main under Hawthorne, down Greenfield and looping around to the Hurdman pumping station. This could also serve new developments to the south and east of the LRT stations at both Lees and Hurdman. It is not in the permit of this GMH project at this time - when there was a schedule pause announced, I had questioned the project management: if we are going to completely dig up Greenfield and N Main at this time, bury utilities and shift gas mains, then why not build in the high-pressure watermain at this time so that in the next few decades or so we don't have to dig up Greenfield again? That was in someone else's plan and budget sphere was the answer and not part of the project scope. My comment that buried infrastructure was supposed to be the priority got no further traction.

I remain to be convinced that using this time but still not planning to bury utilities on Hawthorne is short-sighted. Taking the poles away serves a large number of purposes, including, among others, allowing trees to be replanted and flourish on both sides of Hawthorne, allowing greater ease and efficiency of snow clearing, protecting lines from storm damage and service loss thereby increasing Climate Change resilience, and



improving the esthetics and design continuity of the entranceway to Old Ottawa East from the Elgin corridor.

I guess that my expectations were unduly raised that we would see more solutions and fewer issue-identification slides after the pause in public consultations. As your OOECA Transportation representative, please know that I raised all these concerns and proposed solutions with the project manager and his design teams well in advance of this latest PAC meeting, so I remain more than a bit at a loss of where to turn to next. I don't think that I could yet take a resolution to our Community Association to support this updated design prior to the proposed Public Information Session.

**Sent:** Sunday, December 6, 2020, 02:14:10 p.m. EST  
Good afternoon Transportation Committee members

Further to your note this morning. I sent this message (noted above) out to the members of the virtual Transportation Committee but so far you and Alexandra are the only ones to answer. Ariela [Summit] acknowledged receipt. There was also a parallel discussion going on with you and Barbara that touched on many of these points.

If I send my note out as a report to the rest of the board members, I think then that I need a plan of action: I don't know if you share the same view, but I think that we are beyond just talking to the City project manager and his consultants because they are already in a box, perhaps in part of their own making. Nevertheless, we also need to keep our lines of communication open and friendly with that manager and Novatech.

Our ends of the east-side canal and Main "mainstreet" bikeways still go from nowhere to nowhere without a safe crossing at Smyth and another at Main and CBD - the Graham design is turning out to be a disaster and the whole thing needs to be re-thought if we are going to get pedestrians and cyclist safely over to Pretoria and onto the canal MUPs. At the other end, Rideau at Sussex is getting repainted but how to get safely from the end of CBD in that congested block then over to Mackenzie? We seem to want to keep building dedicated bike lanes that do nothing more than dump cyclists into conflict intersections. I'm not clear on why two segregated tracks on Hawthorne is not a more likely answer except that the west side on Main from Harvey to Graham remains the bottle neck. Speaking to MTO about the use of the property from the Main-417 Bridge to Hawthorne seems to be just too much for the project. The cat is already well out of the bag for expropriations so why the great secrecy?

Speaking of Hawthorne, the project manager appears to be up against a wall for removing overhead utility lines and someone needs to give clearer direction to Hydro Ottawa, as the Mayor was pleased to note just recently in his Elgin Street address. Besides the multi-faceted rationale that we have already presented, burying the utilities at this time would also get them out of the way for MTO when the Queensway's Main and Rideau Canal bridges have to be replaced. What MTO's construction phase would

do to newly reconstructed City streets, cycling paths and sidewalks, with associated accessories and signage, remains to be seen.

The Nicholas overpass replacement project is also way behind its original schedule so that may not bode well for the Queensway downtown-bridges replacement projects' scheduling. The projects marching in from the west towards Bronson and Percy seem to be chugging along but are still in the planning and property-grab phase (see this weekend's Citizen) so the big spending is still a few years down the road, so to speak.

I have to think that, at this time with what we have seen, we need to be on the record with the Councillor and Mayor of **not** supporting just the limited adjustments, and that prior to the Public Information Session, more of this design needs to be shared more broadly with affected communities. If someone is looking for a candidate to reduce cash-flow demand by a project deferral until the City gets back on its fiscal feet after COVID-19/20/21, then this should be one to be seriously considered - and then use the time to come up with a more rational design and plan with a better chance of consensus acceptance. It also needs to stop shrugging off the safety issues raised in the Main Street audit report, for which it accepted responsibility, but are now deemed to be beyond its scope.

Given the concerns raised above

Moved that the Old Ottawa East Community Association **not** support the amended project designs and plans, as presented at the third PAC meeting for the Greenfield Main Hawthorne (GMH) project. OOECA requests that the Mayor and Councillor take more positive action to provide for a full scope and budget for this project necessary to meet both infrastructure and transportation requirements in equal balance with identified safety concerns and to more fully incorporate the objectives of the Official Plan renewal, especially for facilitating fifteen-minute neighbourhoods, for improving Climate Change resilience and for setting a stronger priority on active transport.

Tom Scott  
OOECA Transportation

Parks and Greenspace Report - Dec 2020

### Springhurst Park

There are a number of much-anticipated projects slated to go forward in the new year, including a beach volleyball court, a permanent ping pong table, new exercise equipment, a basketball courtside bench, as well as a replacement children's play structure.

The play structure is ready for renewal under the city's lifecycle replacement fund. Funds for this replacement have been tentatively confirmed in the city's 2021 budget, for construction next spring.

As for the new recreational equipment mentioned above, the councillor has committed Cash-in-lieu of Parkland (CiLP) funds to cover the entire cost of these projects, which is estimated to be \$122,100. It was hoped that construction on these projects would begin by fall of this year, however they are now expected to go ahead alongside the replacement of the playground structure next year. This will help reduce costs overall.

The \$122,100 estimate is an increase from February 2020, where the total cost of the new recreational infrastructure was estimated at \$95,000. The reasons given for this increase are a “contingency” factor, inflation cost owing to the delay, as well as a 10% additional charge that gets added to CiLP projects over \$100,000. Clarification on these reasons is being sought from city planning staff.

We will await the release of the tender package for these projects, which is expected to go out sometime this winter.

### Adopt-a-Park

The Adopt-a-Park agreement for Brantwood Park and the Rideau River Trail Park expired this year. An application to renew was sent in mid-November, which will extend the agreements for 5 years.

Under this agreement, the Parks and Greenspace Committee organizes a spring and fall parks clean-up.

### Grand Allée Park

Erin O'Connor of Regional has called a meeting between members of SLOE, Parks and Greenspace, and a few other community members to discuss future plans for the Grand Allée park and the timing of construction. The meeting will take place on Dec 15, 2020.

### Establishment of a Committee

I am looking to establish a formal committee that will meet roughly four times a year to discuss our community greenspaces and work towards improvements. If you are interested in taking part, please email me at [brendan.w.okelly@gmail.com](mailto:brendan.w.okelly@gmail.com)

December 7th, 2020

Old Ottawa East Community Association

Membership Report Suzanne Johnston

The membership drive for 2021 is now finished and all membership kits have been returned. Last year the membership drive brought in a record number of members. This year, despite an amazing

army of canvassers, COVID dented our returns by almost 50%. Our current total is 481 members and although significantly lower than last year, it is much better than what we imagined might happen.

Wendy did an amazing job of tallying up the membership kits again this year – thanks again, Wendy.

We will start planning for next year early in 2021. Although we hope that the worst of COVID will be behind us next fall, there are many changes that COVID has brought to the membership drive – some good and some bad. 10 changes to the membership drive: 1. We will be able to pay for memberships on line

2. The cost of membership was finally increased to \$5.00.

3. The Singing Pebble was an amazing and enthusiast partner helping to collect membership fees and distribute cards

4. We will explore other community commercial involvement for upcoming years 5. More streets were canvassed than previous years as it is faster to drop off flyers without having to collect money.

6. We had more canvassers participate than in the past

7. Unfortunately, less money was collected

8. More people were made aware of the AGM and the Old Ottawa East Community Association

9. We learned it was hard to canvass Greystone as they do not have individual mailboxes, but Heather and her team delivered notices with the Mainstreeter 10. We learned that many people look forward to the Membership drive and are eager to support the OOECA. Memberships are still trickling in.

As always, we are looking for new canvassers and as our community continues to grow, so does the need for additional canvassers. If your street or building has not been canvassed, it is most likely that either the canvasser came when you were not home, or your street or building may be one of the few that does not have a canvasser. If you or anyone you know would like to get involved, please contact myself, Suzanne Johnston at [suzanne.johnston@sympatico.ca](mailto:suzanne.johnston@sympatico.ca)

Although canvassing in Condo or apartment buildings continues to be a challenge, we have had some luck in a few of the buildings this year thanks to dedicated residents. We invite residents of the OOE who live in apartments or Condos to get involved and help us spread the word about community involvement within your apartment building or Condo.