

# NOTL NEWS

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF *Niagara-On-The-Lake*

Issue # 177 – September 16, 2009

## **HILTON GARDEN INN SIGN VARIANCE**

Following a deputation from representatives of the Hilton Garden Inn on York Road, the Corporate Services Advisory Committee modified the report's recommendations to replace the electronically energized sign with a 'readograph' sign on the existing ground sign. Limitations on the type and frequency of display for the message will also be provided. Submission of the final design specifications is required prior to consideration by Council next week.

## **UPGRADES TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The Corporate Services Advisory Committee endorsed a staff recommendation to establish a financial management system task force, including the hiring of a consultant, to review options and make recommendations regarding the best service to manage the Town's financial system. The task force will be made up of staff representatives, the Lord Mayor and Chair of the Corporate Services Committee, and the consultant. The task force will report back to Council providing a recommendation on the preferred option for the Town to consider as part of the 2010 Capital Budget deliberations.

## **EAST AND WEST LINE BRIDGE**

The Public Works Advisory Committee endorsed a staff recommendation to accept the low tender of \$448,020 from Rankin Construction Inc. for the rehabilitation of the East and West Line Bridge over Four Mile Creek Road. Engineering costs will add \$133,965 to the project, and the Region has confirmed it will provide \$173,000 in bike lane funding. Committee was advised that one lane will be maintained for vehicle travel during the reconstruction of the bridge.

## **NIAGARA STONE ROAD TRAIL**

The Public Works Advisory Committee endorsed a staff report to move forward with the design, approvals, and public participation for construction of the final phase of the Niagara Stone Road Multi-Use Trail, which will extend from Concession 4 Road to Line 1 Road. The cost of the design work is \$24,850, and Committee was advised there will be ongoing discussions with Regional Public Works and the abutting landowners as the design evolves.

## **APRICOT GLEN CONDOMINIUM**

Following a public meeting, the Planning Advisory Committee endorsed a staff recommendation to provide approvals for a 59-unit residential condominium, including the appropriate zoning provisions, to be located in Phase 3 of the Apricot Glen development in the village of St. Davids. The development provides for the townhouse units to front on a private road. The staff report notes the design of the units will be subject to review in accordance with the St. Davids Urban Design Guidelines. No one appeared in opposition at the public meeting.

## **GLENDALE URBAN DESIGN STUDY AND SECONDARY PLAN**

The Planning Advisory Committee received a presentation from Urban Strategies Inc., a planning consulting firm engaged to develop a secondary plan for the Glendale Area. The presentation to Committee touched on a number of policies to guide the long term development of the Glendale Area, including policies related to design, land use, road patterns, pedestrian connections, residential development, and building height. The staff report summarized the discussions with various land owners, agencies, and residents, and provided details of the approval procedure, including a required public meeting, adoption as an amendment to the Town's Official Plan, and Regional approval. Following Regional approval, a zoning by-law amendment will be prepared to implement the provisions of the Secondary Plan.

## **NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

Committee of the Whole provided direction on items raised under New Business, including the appointment of a Councillor to sit on the board for the Riverbrink Home of the Weir Collection. A request was also made for staff to investigate a facilities partnership with DSBN at NDSS, and direction was given to contact the school board to meet in a workshop session with Council to discuss opportunities for NDSS. Furthermore, Committee endorsed a request to extend the irrigation season for the Harrison Irrigation System to October 16, 2009.

## **COUNCIL SUMMARY – AUGUST 31, 2009**

A representative from Harmony Niagara made a deputation to Council regarding the Project Niagara Traffic Study.

In review of the Committee of the Whole recommendations, the matter of a community survey proposed by the NDSS Planning Committee was considered by Council. Due to concerns regarding the possible effectiveness of the initial survey, a motion was presented to modify the initial survey proposal to provide for an on-line survey designed and conducted by OEB Communications. It was suggested this would more accurately gauge the public position and have more impact with the DSBN. Costs were estimated not to exceed \$20,000. Council members expressed concern with the effectiveness and timing of the survey. Council indicated they felt the community strongly supports NDSS and the efforts should be directed at meeting with trustees and Board representatives to further the Town's position to keep NDSS open. Later in the meeting, the Lord Mayor and CAO were requested to pursue discussions with DSBN, trustees, and the Director.

The balance of the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole were adopted without change.

Council endorsed a staff recommendation to support the 'Niagara Airport Study' prepared by Jacobs Consultancy Canada for the Region. The report's key recommendations include: Niagara Region should take ownership of Niagara District Airport, the Region should provide matching funding under the terms of the Infrastructure Stimulus Funding, and the Region should consider continued funding participation by the airport's current funding municipalities. It was noted the Town currently participates in funding operation costs with the Cities of Niagara Falls and St. Catharines. The Town's share is approximately \$16,000 per year.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. This NOTL Newsletter, as well as additional information on meeting schedules and deputation procedures, is available on the Town's website at [www.notl.org](http://www.notl.org). Further questions may be directed to the Clerk's Department at 905-468-3266.

**Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs, Councillors: Jim Collard, Dennis Dick, Terry Flynn,  
Andrea Kaiser, Jack Lowrey, Martin Mazza, Art Viola, Gary Zalepa**