



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **Cynthia Fletcher**
Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services

Meeting Date: **September 7, 2021**

Subject: **Report IPSCOM21-002**
Downtown Built Environment – Proposed 2021 Response to
the impacts of COVID-19 Follow up

Purpose

To provide an update on delegated authority decisions of staff related to the Downtown Built Environment Plan, as a follow up to Report IPSCOM21-001.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report IPSCOM21-002 dated September 7, 2021, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services, as follows:

That Report IPSCOM21-002 be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget and financial implications related to the recommendation in this report.

Background

At the General Committee meeting of April 6, 2021, staff presented IPSCOM21-001 Downtown Built Environment-Proposed 2021 Response to the Impacts of COVID-19. The report provided an update on the temporary changes to the shared public spaces in 2020, the consultation and debrief process that occurred and proposed temporary changes to the shared public spaces in the downtown for 2021.

At that meeting, Council approved the following staff recommendations:

- a) That Council approve the temporary modifications to the downtown built environment for 2021 as per the layout in Appendix A of Report IPSCOM21-001, as part of the COVID-19 Re-Opening Ontario Health and Safety Measures;
- b) That the on-street pick up zones be continued, along with regular enforcement of the two-hour parking limit and the continuation of fees for on-street parking in the downtown; and
- c) That a by-law be passed delegating the Chief Administrative Officer and the Commissioner of IPS certain authority respecting highways within the downtown to implement Council's direction in response to Report IPSCOM21-001 Downtown Built Environment - Proposed 2021 Response to the Impacts of COVID-19 for the period April 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 in the form of by-law comprising Appendix C to the said Report.

Council, also, added an item d) as follows;

- d) That staff provide an update report to Council on any delegated authority decisions of staff related to the Downtown Built Environment Plan at General Committee in September 2021.

To react efficiently to the needs of downtown businesses and their customers, staff recommended a level of delegated authority to allow for required modifications to be implemented in a timely manner. This report provides an update on the decisions made via the delegated authority, related to the temporary changes and the proposed Downtown Built Environment Plan.

Ongoing Monitoring

Through consultation with the downtown businesses in early 2021, thirty-eight indicated an intention to acquire a permit for the use of outdoor operating space, as reported in IPSCOM21-001. In total, 39 businesses acquired a license for patio space.

The working sub-group of the City's Emergency Control Group met regularly throughout the spring and summer to monitor the community health status and the requirements to provide safe access to public spaces in the downtown. In 2021, the following adjustments were made to the original layout and plan:

- Re-allocation of 3 parking spaces in the Chambers Street lot to accommodate outdoor operating space.
- Re-allocation of the curb-side pick up spaces to regular parking spaces when indoor dining/shopping was allowed.
- Implementation of 40 km/h speed limit on George Street and portion of Water Street and a 30 km/h speed limit on portions of Hunter Street and Charlotte Street through the downtown.
- Minor adjustments to locations of designated loading zones and parking spaces impacted by outdoor patio spaces.
- Installation of an additional outdoor patio space.

The intention is to remove temporary changes to the Downtown Built Environment starting the week of October 18th, as per the end date patio permits and in advance of winter maintenance activities.

In early fall, the working group will re-convene to conduct a debrief and review of the temporary changes to the shared public spaces in the downtown for 2021. The results of this review will be presented to Council in a future report, prior to spring 2022.

Summary

This report provides an update on the decisions made via the delegated authority, related to the 2021 Temporary Changes to the Downtown Built Environment Plan, which was approved by Council on April 26, 2021.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Fletcher
Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services

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