



Minutes of Committee of the Whole Meeting

July 8, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Guelph City Hall, 1 Carden Street

- Council:**
- Mayor C. Guthrie
 - Councillor P. Allt
 - Councillor C. Billings
 - Councillor L. Busuttil
 - Councillor L. Caron
 - Councillor E. Caton
 - Councillor K. Chew
 - Councillor D. Gibson
 - Councillor R. Goller
 - Councillor M. Richardson
- Absent:**
- Councillor C. Downer
 - Councillor C. Klassen
- Staff:**
- T. Baker, Chief Administrative Officer
 - C. Clack-Bush, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services
 - J. Holmes, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Environment
 - G. Matthews, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
 - D. Evans, General Manager, Culture & Recreation
 - T. Gayman, General Manager, Engineering and Transportation Services
 - J. Goodram, General Manager, Economic Development & Tourism
 - S. O'Brien, General Manager, City Clerk's Office/City Clerk
 - J. Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services
 - R. Russwurm, Manager, Design and Construction

S. Laughlin, Downtown Revitalization Advisor
G. Brennan, Council and Committee Coordinator
S. Osborn, Administrative Coordinator
A. Sandor, Council and Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order - Mayor

Mayor Guthrie called the meeting to order (12:04 p.m.).

1.1 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Councillor Caron declared a pecuniary interest for item 2.5, 601 Scottsdale Drive Phase 2 – Development Charges Complaint - 2025-348, as the project land is owned by her employer.

2. Authority to move into closed meeting

Moved By Councillor Busuttil
Seconded By Councillor Caton

That the Council of the City of Guelph now hold a meeting that is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 239(2)(c)(d) and (f) of the Municipal Act, regarding a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board; labour relations or employee negotiations; and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

2.1 Call to Order (closed meeting)

2.2 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof (closed items)

2.3 Guelph Paramedic Station Lease Renewal at 34 Gordon Street - 2025-335

2.4 Centralization of Back-Office Support Functions Review - 2025-356

2.5 601 Scottsdale Drive Phase 2 – Development Charges Complaint - 2025-348

3. Closed Meeting Summary

Mayor Guthrie called the meeting to order (2:04 p.m.).

Mayor Guthrie noted the following:

Guelph Paramedic Station Lease Renewal at 34 Gordon Street - 2025-335

Council received information and gave direction to staff.

Centralization of Back-Office Support Functions Review - 2025-356

Council received information and gave direction to staff.

601 Scottsdale Drive Phase 2 – Development Charges Complaint - 2025-348

Council received information and gave direction to staff.

4. Open Meeting - 2:00 p.m.

4.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Councillor Caron declared a pecuniary interest for item 2.5, 601 Scottsdale Drive Phase 2 – Development Charges Complaint - 2025-348, as the project land is owned by her employer.

5. Staff Recognitions

5.1 2025 AMCTO E.A. Danby Award, Certificate of Merit

Councillor Caron recognized the City of Guelph for its achievements.

5.2 HUB (Heroes Underpinning Brownfields), Award for Emerging Leader

Mayor Guthrie recognized Kyle VanderMeer for their achievements.

5.3 City of Guelph achieves accreditation of their ISO 14001 Environmental Management System

Mayor Guthrie recognized environmental services staff for their achievements.

5.4 President of the Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals

Mayor Guthrie recognized Liraz Fridman for their achievements.

6. Service Area - Corporate Services and Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor Guthrie assumed the Chair.

7. Consent Agenda - Corporate Services and Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

7.1 Administrative Penalty System for Automated Speed Enforcement and Red Light Camera Violations - 2025-270

Moved By Councillor Chew

Seconded By Councillor Allt

1. That report number 2025-270 entitled Administrative Penalty System for Automated Speed Enforcement and Red Light Camera Violations, be received.
2. That Council approve the transition of Automated Speed Enforcement and Red Light Camera violations to an administrative penalty system, under and in accordance with the requirements of Ontario Regulation 355/22 made under the *Highway Traffic Act*, R.S.O. 1990, to take effect on or about January 1, 2026.
3. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any necessary agreements with the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Transportation, and any other government agency that may be required to transition Automated Speed Enforcement and Red Light Camera violations to an administrative penalty system.
4. That a new Administrative Penalty By-law for Contraventions Detected Using Camera Systems, substantially in the form attached as Attachment-1, be approved.
5. That a by-law to amend By-law Number (2025)-21056, being the Screening and Hearing Officer By-law, substantially in the form attached as Attachment-2, be approved.
6. That the City Solicitor be directed to update the policies, guidelines and procedures that apply to the administrative penalty system, as needed to give effect to the transition of Automated Speed Enforcement and Red Light Camera violations to an administrative penalty system, and make them publicly available on the City's website.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

8. Items for Discussion - Corporate Services and Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

8.1 Temporary Accessible Ramps in the City of Guelph

The following delegates spoke:

James Nowak

Kinnery Chaparrel

First Motion

Moved By Councillor Goller

Seconded By Councillor Richardson

1. That Council direct staff to consult with the Accessibility Advisory Committee and the "StopGap Foundation" to develop a recommended level of annual funding and implementation plan for a three-year project to increase the number of temporary accessible ramps at the entrances of businesses across the City of Guelph with a goal of improving access for people of all abilities, and
2. That staff examine opportunities for local sponsorship opportunities for the initiative.

Second Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Billings

That the following motions be referred to the July 2025 Council meeting:

1. That Council direct staff to consult with the Accessibility Advisory Committee and the "StopGap Foundation" to develop a recommended level of annual funding and implementation plan for a three-year project to increase the number of temporary accessible ramps at the entrances of businesses across the City of Guelph with a goal of improving access for people of all abilities, and

2. That staff examine opportunities for local sponsorship opportunities for the initiative.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttill, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

10. Service Area - Infrastructure, Development and Environment

Mayor Guthrie assumed the Chair.

11. Items for Discussion - Infrastructure, Development and Environment

11.1 Wyndham Street North and St. George's Square - Preparing for and mitigating construction (DTIRP Phase 1) - 2025-303

The following staff presented on Wyndham Street North and St. George's Square - Preparing for and mitigating construction (DTIRP Phase 1):

Jayne Holmes, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Environment

Reg Russwurm, Manager, Design and Construction

Stacey Laughlin, Downtown Revitalization Advisor

The following delegates spoke:

Barb Minett

Kevin Polach

Charles Nash

Council recessed (4:02 p.m.). Council reconvened (4:19 p.m.).

Authority to move into closed meeting

Moved By Councillor Caron

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. That the Council of the City of Guelph now hold a meeting that is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 239(2)(c) of the Municipal Act, regarding a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Closed Meeting Summary

Mayor Guthrie called the meeting to order (4:51 p.m.).

Mayor Guthrie noted the following:

Wyndham Street North and St. George's Square - Preparing for and mitigating construction (DTIRP Phase 1) - 2025-303

Council gave direction to staff.

Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program Capital Implementation Plan, 2025, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
2. That the sequencing plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction including extended working hours, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
3. That the recommended Concept Plan for St. George's Square, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
4. That the construction mitigation plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
5. That the delegation of authority by-law, By-law (2024) – 20994, be amended to delegate authority to the DCAO of Infrastructure, Development and Environment, with written approval from the City Treasurer, to modify the following user fees at various times as needed for the duration of the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program, with lost revenue being funded through the construction mitigation budget for the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program:- Seasonal patio program parking stall rental fees- Downtown hourly parking

fees- Encroachment agreement fees related to the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program

6. And that an amending by-law be brought forward for approval at the July 22, 2025, City Council meeting.

Amendments to clause 3 of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Goller

Seconded By Councillor Richardson

1. That staff be directed to include flexibility in the design of St. George's square to allow for present and future seasonal patios and community events, including but not limited to:

a) Consider that site furniture such as benches, chairs, and waste receptacles are designed and located to allow for easy reconfiguration or temporary removal to accommodate different uses and events.

2. That staff be directed to integrate more natural materials and design elements that reflect the heritage and character of our downtown into the final design of St. George's Square including but not limited to:

a) Use of stone, wood, or other natural finishes where feasible; including the use of the limestone in the city's salvaged material storage,

b) Incorporation of heritage-inspired features such as: signage or art that shares local history and indigenous stories, gateway features such as low stone walls, or planters that tie the space to the downtown's historical context, planting and landscaping with native species and that soften hard surfaces, brick or stone paving patterns that reflect traditional streetscape.

3. That staff provide council with final design updates (including a new main design image that can be used when sharing and telling the good news story about the redesign of our downtown) and present design details through future public engagement and online resources before the end of 2025.

4. That staff report back on budget impacts, if applicable, associated with clauses 1 and 2, via either the 2026 budget monitoring process or the 2027 budget update.

Councillor Gibson called a Point of Order, regarding the use of the word 'directed' in Councillor Goller's motion to amend clause three of the main motion. Mayor Guthrie acknowledged Councillor Gibson and encouraged discussion to continue.

Amendments to clauses 1 and 2 of the Amendment of clause 3 of the Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Gibson

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That clauses 1 and 2 of the amendment to clause 3 of the main motion be revised to replace the word 'directed' with 'encouraged'.

Voting in Favour: (9): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (1): Councillor Goller

Carried (9 to 1)

Amendments to clause 3 of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Goller

Seconded By Councillor Richardson

1. That staff be encouraged to include flexibility in the design of St. George's square to allow for present and future seasonal patios and community events, including but not limited to:
 - a) Consider that site furniture such as benches, chairs, and waste receptacles are designed and located to allow for easy reconfiguration or temporary removal to accommodate different uses and events.
2. That staff be encouraged to integrate more natural materials and design elements that reflect the heritage and character of our downtown into the final design of St. George's Square including but not limited to:
 - a) Use of stone, wood, or other natural finishes where feasible; including the use of the limestone in the city's salvaged material storage,
 - b) Incorporation of heritage-inspired features such as: signage or art that shares local history and indigenous stories,

gateway features such as low stone walls, or planters that tie the space to the downtown's historical context, planting and landscaping with native species and that soften hard surfaces, brick or stone paving patterns that reflect traditional streetscape.

3. That staff provide council with final design updates (including a new main design image that can be used when sharing and telling the good news story about the redesign of our downtown) and present design details through future public engagement and online resources before the end of 2025.

4. That staff report back on budget impacts, if applicable, associated with clauses 1 and 2, via either the 2026 budget monitoring process or the 2027 budget update.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Main Motion as amended

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program Capital Implementation Plan, 2025, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
2. That the sequencing plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction including extended working hours, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
3. That the recommended Concept Plan for St. George's Square, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved including the following:
 - i. That staff be encouraged to include flexibility in the design of St. George's square to allow for present and future seasonal patios and community events, including but not limited to:
 - Consider that site furniture such as benches, chairs, and waste receptacles are designed and located to allow for

east reconfiguration or temporary removal to accommodate different uses and events.

- ii. That staff be encouraged to integrate more natural materials and design elements that reflect the heritage and character of our downtown into the final design of St. George's Square including but not limited to:
 - Use of stone, wood, or other natural finishes where feasible; including the use of the limestone in the city's salvaged material storage,
 - Incorporation of heritage-inspired features such as: signage or art that shares local history and indigenous stories, gateway features such as low stone walls, or planters that tie the space to the downtown's historical context, planting and landscaping with native species and that soften hard surfaces, brick or stone paving patterns that reflect traditional streetscape.
 - iii. That staff provide council with final design updates (including a new main design image that can be used when sharing and telling the good news story about the redesign of our downtown) and present design details through future public engagement and online resources before the end of 2025.
 - iv. That staff report back on budget impacts, if applicable, associated with clauses 1 and 2, via either the 2026 budget monitoring process or the 2027 budget update.
4. That the construction mitigation plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.
 5. That the delegation of authority by-law, By-law (2024) – 20994, be amended to delegate authority to the DCAO of Infrastructure, Development and Environment, with written approval from the City Treasurer, to modify the following user fees at various times as needed for the duration of the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program, with lost revenue being funded through the construction mitigation budget for the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program:
 - i. Seasonal patio program parking stall rental fees
 - ii. Downtown hourly parking fees

- iii. Encroachment agreement fees related to the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program
6. And that an amending by-law be brought forward for approval at the July 22, 2025, City Council meeting.

This motion was requested to be voted on separately.

First Clause of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program Capital Implementation Plan, 2025, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Second Clause of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

2. That the sequencing plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction including extended working hours, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Third Clause of Main Motion, as amended

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

3. That the recommended Concept Plan for St. George's Square, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved including the following:

- i. That staff be encouraged to include flexibility in the design of St. George's square to allow for present and future seasonal patios and community events, including but not limited to:
 - Consider that site furniture such as benches, chairs, and waste receptacles are designed and located to allow for easy reconfiguration or temporary removal to accommodate different uses and events.
- ii. That staff be encouraged to integrate more natural materials and design elements that reflect the heritage and character of our downtown into the final design of St. George's Square including but not limited to:
 - Use of stone, wood, or other natural finishes where feasible; including the use of the limestone in the city's salvaged material storage,
 - Incorporation of heritage-inspired features such as: signage or art that shares local history and indigenous stories, gateway features such as low stone walls, or planters that tie the space to the downtown's historical context, planting and landscaping with native species and that soften hard surfaces, brick or stone paving patterns that reflect traditional streetscape.
- iii. That staff provide council with final design updates (including a new main design image that can be used when sharing and telling the good news story about the redesign of our downtown) and present design details through future public engagement and online resources before the end of 2025.
- iv. That staff report back on budget impacts, if applicable, associated with clauses 1 and 2, via either the 2026 budget monitoring process or the 2027 budget update.

Voting in Favour: (9): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Busuttill, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (1): Councillor Billings

Carried (9 to 1)

Fourth Clause of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

4. That the construction mitigation plan for Phase 1: Wyndham Street North Reconstruction, as outlined in report 2025-303, dated July 8, 2025, be approved.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Fifth Clause of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

5. That the delegation of authority by-law, By-law (2024) – 20994, be amended to delegate authority to the DCAO of Infrastructure, Development and Environment, with written approval from the City Treasurer, to modify the following user fees at various times as needed for the duration of the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program, with lost revenue being funded through the construction mitigation budget for the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program:

- Seasonal patio program parking stall rental fees
- Downtown hourly parking fees
- Encroachment agreement fees related to the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Sixth Clause of Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

6. And that an amending by-law be brought forward for approval at the July 22, 2025, City Council meeting.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

Second Motion

Moved By Councillor Caton
Seconded By Councillor Allt

1. Wherever possible, the sidewalk height and slope should be raised to increase front door accessibility to buildings.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

12. Service Area Chair and Staff Announcements

Council recessed (6:04 p.m.). Council reconvened (6:10 p.m.).

13. Service Area - Public Services

Councillor Alt assumed the Chair.

14. Consent Agenda - Public Services

14.1 Guelph Storm 2027 Memorial Cup Bid - 2025-320

This item was requested to be pulled from consent.

15. Items for Discussion - Public Services

15.1 Guelph Storm 2027 Memorial Cup Bid - 2025-320

Moved By Mayor Guthrie
Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That a one-time grant of \$600,000 be approved for 2027 as financial investment towards Guelph Storm Limited, contingent

on a successful bid in securing the 2027 Memorial Cup in Guelph.

2. That a commitment of up to \$100,000 of in-kind fees at Sleeman Centre associated with facility ice rental, licensing fees, and facility staff be approved for 2027, contingent on a successful bid in securing the 2027 Memorial Cup in Guelph.
3. That the one-time grant of \$600,000 and the in-kind commitment of up to \$100,000 in facility costs for Sleeman Centre be funded from the Municipal Accommodation Tax Reserve (184) in 2027, if the Guelph Storm bid is successful for the 2027 Memorial Cup.
4. That the Chief Administrative Office be directed to include a letter in the bid package confirming the 2027 financial investment and in-kind commitment at Sleeman Centre.
5. That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to formalize and execute an agreement, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, with Guelph Storm Limited that includes the particulars noted above and as outlined within the staff report entitled Guelph Storm 2027 Memorial Cup Bid, dated July 8, 2025.

Voting in Favour: (7): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Chew, Councillor Gibson, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (3): Councillor Allt, Councillor Caron, and Councillor Caton

Carried (7 to 3)

17. Adjournment

Moved By Mayor Guthrie

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That the meeting be adjourned (6:27 p.m.).

Carried

Mayor Guthrie

Stephen O'Brien, City Clerk