Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

Report

1st Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
December 9, 2025

PRESENT: Councillors S. Lewis (Chair), H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Peloza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, Mayor J. Morgan

ABSENT: A. Hopkins

ALSO PRESENT: S. Datars Bere, A. Abraham, A. Barbon, S. Corman, K. Dickins, C. Green, P. Ladouceur, S. Mathers, J. Paradis, T. Pollitt, A. Rammeloo, M. Schulthess, E. Skalski, C. Smith

Remote Attendance: V. Arora, E. Bennett, C. Cooper, P. Lupa

The meeting is called to order at 1:01 PM; it being noted that Councillor E. Peloza was in remote attendance.

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Consent

2.1 Micro-Modular Shelter Site Update

Moved by: P. Cuddy
Seconded by: H. McAlister

That, on the recommendation of the City Manager, the report on the Micro-Modular Shelter Site Update BE RECEIVED for information;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee heard delegations from C. Lazenby, Executive Director, Unity Project, G. Brumitt and R. Klemm with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (11): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Nays: (1): S. Trosow

Absent: (3): A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (11 to 1)

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: P. Cuddy
Seconded by: H. McAlister

That the delegation requests from C. Lazenby, Executive Director, Unity Project, G. Brumitt and R. Klemm BE APPROVED to be heard at this time.

Yeas: (13): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Peloza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (2): S. Trosow, and A. Hopkins

Motion Passed (13 to 0)

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the motion be amended to include new parts that read as follows:

b) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with the London Transit Commission and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee regarding the improvement of transit options serving the MicroModular Shelter Site and associated costs, including the rerouting of service to include a stop in or in close proximity to the facility, to prioritize snow and ice clearing, and to ensure there is adequate lighting at the stop and along any access path;

c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with all service providers who will be providing services to the MicroModular Shelter Site (either on-site or off-site) regarding their roles, responsibilities and associated costs and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee;

d) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with first responders including Middlesex-London Paramedic Services, London Police Services and the London Fire Department regarding the provision of emergency services to the MicroModular Shelter Site and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee;

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That part b) of the motion be approved:

b) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with the London Transit Commission and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee regarding the improvement of transit options serving the MicroModular Shelter Site and associated costs, including the rerouting of service to include a stop in or in close proximity to the facility, to prioritize snow and ice clearing, and to ensure there is adequate lighting at the stop and along any access path;

Yeas: (5): S. Trosow, S. Franke, E. Peloza, D. Ferreira, and S. Hillier

Nays: (9): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): A. Hopkins

Motion Failed (5 to 9)

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That part c) of the motion be approved:

c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with all service providers who will be providing services to the MicroModular Shelter Site (either on-site or off-site) regarding their roles, responsibilities and associated costs and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee;

Yeas: (5): S. Stevenson, S. Trosow, S. Franke, E. Peloza, and D. Ferreira

Nays: (9): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): A. Hopkins

Motion Failed (5 to 9)

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That part d) of the motion be approved:

d) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with first responders including Middlesex-London Paramedic Services, London Police Services and the London Fire Department regarding the provision of emergency services to the MicroModular Shelter Site and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee;

Yeas: (5): S. Stevenson, S. Trosow, S. Franke, E. Peloza, and D. Ferreira

Nays: (9): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): A. Hopkins

Motion Failed (5 to 9)

3. Scheduled Items

3.1 Delegation - Chief Thai Truong, Chief of Police

Moved by: D. Ferreira
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That it BE NOTED the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a presentation and heard a verbal update from Chief T. Truong, Chief of Police with respect to Organizational Performance Metrics.

Yeas: (14): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Peloza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (1): A. Hopkins

Motion Passed (14 to 0)

4. Items for Direction

4.1 London Hydro Affiliate

Moved by: C. Rahman
Seconded by: P. Cuddy

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Legal Services with the concurrence of the City Manager and the Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports, the following actions be taken with respect to the London Hydro Affiliate:

a) the proposed by-law, as appended to the staff report dated December 9, 2025 as Appendix “A”, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council Meeting to be held on December 16, 2025 to:

i) AUTHORIZE the application to revive London Hydro Holdings Inc. with the Corporation of the City of London as the sole shareholder;

ii) AUTHORIZE the incorporation of a new corporation under section 142 of the Electricity Act to be established as a numbered company, with a long-term name to be determined at a later point in time;

iii) AUTHORIZE the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute all necessary documents in connection with the above;

b) the Shareholder Declaration appended as Schedule “A” to the staff report titled “London Hydro Affiliate” and dated December 9, 2025, BE APPROVED; and

c) the above-noted staff report BE RECEIVED;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee heard a verbal delegation from Y. Semsedini, CEO, London Hydro and received a communication from A. Palimaka, VP Legal, General Counsel, London Hydro with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (12): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (3): S. Trosow, A. Hopkins, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

4.2 Request to Explore Opportunities for Committee of Adjustment Meetings - Councillor S. Franke

Moved by: S. Franke
Seconded by: H. McAlister

That the following actions be taken with respect to exploring opportunities for Committee of Adjustment meetings:

a) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee on the feasibility of livestreaming the video recording Committee of Adjustment meetings and posting them publicly afterwards on YouTube to increase transparency and accessibility for the public;

b) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee with options to ensure that the Committee of Adjustment agendas and packages are posted publicly in advance of meetings with all application details with the exclusion of personal information;

i) explore, if submitted, Application Materials could be posted online on the City's Planapps website (www.london.ca/planapps) as a way to inform residents of active applications;

c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee with options to ensure that the Committee of Adjustment decisions and minutes are posted publicly in a timely and accessible manner following meetings; and

d) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee to ensure that information is easily accessible on the city’s website and in Committee of Adjustment documentation regarding the complaint mechanism for Committee of Adjustment matters (file an anonymous complaint through the city’s Integrity Commissioner);

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated November 12, 2025 from Councillor S. Franke, with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (12): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (3): S. Trosow, A. Hopkins, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

4.3 3rd Report of the Governance Working Group

Moved by: S. Hillier
Seconded by: P. Cuddy

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 3rd Report of the Governance Working Group from its meeting held on November 14, 2025:

a) the following actions be taken with respect to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards:

i) the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards BE REFERRED to a future meeting of the Governance Working Group after provincial legislation with respect to this matter has been passed; and,

ii) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to implement the use of the Formal Complaint Forms as appended to Schedule A of the staff report dated August 14, 2025 with respect to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards;

it being noted that communications from Councillor S. Stevenson, as appended to the Agenda and the Added Agenda, with respect to this matter, were received;

it being further noted that the Governance Working Group received a verbal delegation from J. Mascarin, Aird & Berlis, with respect to this matter;

b) clauses 1.1, 2.1 and 4.1 BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (12): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (3): S. Trosow, A. Hopkins, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

4.4 Confirmation of Appointments to London Downtown Business Association (LDBA)

Moved by: S. Hillier
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the following actions be taken with respect to the London Downtown Business Association (LDBA):

a) the resignations from K. Brett – ANN Dining, M. Vecchio – Farhi Holdings, M. Giroux – Fanshawe College, M. Hathaway – Stache Fabric & Notions and S. Pellarin – London Small Business Centre, from London Downtown Business Association BE ACCEPTED; and

b) the following BE APPOINTED for the term ending November 15, 2026:

- Natalie Boot – Renaissance Massage
- Mario Circelli – London Music Hall of Fame

- Brian Dempsey – Scotiabank
- Greg Harris – CBRE
- Andrew McClenaghan – London Bicycle Café;

it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated November 27, 2025 from V. Smith, Interim Executive Director, London Downtown Business Association with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (12): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Absent: (3): S. Trosow, A. Hopkins, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (12 to 0)

5. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

5.1 (ADDED) Request to Declare State of Emergency regarding the Community Safety and Humanitarian Crisis - Councillor C. Rahman

Moved by: C. Rahman
Seconded by: H. McAlister

That the following actions BE ADOPTED with respect to the communication dated December 8, 2025, from Councillor C. Rahman regarding support for the Ontario's Big City Mayors Update on their Solve the Crisis Campaign and Request that the Government of Ontario Declare a State of Emergency:

Whereas approximately one year ago, Ontario’s Big City Mayors unanimously endorsed the Solve the Crisis Campaign and its associated asks of the province to provide additional supports to address the growing impacts of homelessness, addictions and mental health crises and to support municipal interventions; and

Whereas the province has instituted various interventions, including the launch of 28 HART Hubs, increasing funding to the homelessness prevention program, and other investments in the mental health and addictions sector; and

Whereas these interventions are welcome, yet they remain insufficient to address this growing community safety and humanitarian crisis. Further interventions are needed.

Therefore it be resolved that Ontario’s Big City Mayors (OBCM) urgently request the Government of Ontario to declare a state of emergency to address homelessness caused by addictions and mental health that has created a community safety and humanitarian crisis across the province.

And that the province provides municipalities at both levels with the necessary assistance and funds to address combined challenges of the ongoing addictions, mental health and homelessness crisis occurring across our province;

And that the province engages with OBCM and relative partners to fulfil the Solve The Crisis campaign action steps presented unanimously by the caucus in August 2024.

Yeas: (10): S. Lewis, H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier, and J. Morgan

Nays: (2): S. Stevenson, and J. Pribil

Absent: (3): S. Trosow, A. Hopkins, and E. Peloza

Motion Passed (10 to 2)

6. Confidential

None.

7. Adjournment

Moved by: P. Van Meerbergen
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the meeting BE ADJOURNED.

Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.