



**DRAFT
GCA Board Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

Glebe Community Centre, Preschool Room

Chair: John Crump

Secretary and Timekeeper: Janet Sutherland

7:00-7:05	Welcome and Introductions	John Crump President
7:05-7:10	Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approval of Agenda ● Approval of draft minutes, October 24, 2023 	
7:10-7:30	City Councillor Report / Update	Shawn Menard/ Jonathan McLeod
7:30-8:15 (45 minutes)	Committee Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active Transportation Study - presentation of results by Momentum (consultant firm) 	James Stuewe Transportation Committee
8:15-8:25 (10 minutes)	Draft 2024-2025 Budget – preliminary discussion (see Annex C)	David Kelly Treasurer
8:25-8:40 (5 minutes)	Motions: 1. Lansdowne 2.0 Be it resolved that the GCA Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Support retaining legal advice to determine the basis for, requirements of, and any risks, to filing an appeal of either or both the OPA and rezoning as above (<i>see full motion</i>); 2) Authorise the GCA Executive to take a decision regarding next steps of a potential appeal; and 3) Authorise spending of up to \$5,000.00 for advice as per 1), and preparation/submission for 2), if approved by GCA Executive. 	June Creelman Lansdowne Cttee

2. Response to Mental Health, Addiction and Homelessness in the Glebe

(10 minutes)

Part 1:

Be it resolved:

That the GCA, in partnership with the BIA and GNAG, provides resources, training and education for the community on how to respond to mental health crises. This includes, but is not limited to, a workshop in Spring 2024.

Part 2:

Be it resolved that the GCA write to the City of Ottawa urging them to:

1. Commit at least \$40 million in Budget 2024 of City funding, over and above federal and provincial grants, to build new affordable housing and reduce the Centralized Waiting List for affordable housing substantially;
2. Commit additional funding to Ottawa Public Health to expand the Needle Clean-up program to increase safety and improve wait times for clean up when a needle is found;
3. Commit at least \$500,000 to expand the Safer Alternate Response for Mental Health and Substance Use Crisis Response Group to more neighbourhoods in central Ottawa, including the Glebe.
4. Ensure that all available government-owned land developed for housing is allocated for deeply affordable, non-profit or co-op housing.

Dan Chook Reid/
Deborah Long
Health, Housing &
Social Services

3. Emergency Shelters

Be it resolved that:

The GCA write a letter to the Federal Government, specifically Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada and Infrastructure Canada, urging them to give \$30 million to the City of Ottawa to address the shelter crisis.

Dan Chook Reid/
Deborah Long
Health, Housing &
Services

8:40-8:50

(10 minutes)

Items for Discussion:

- Update from Membership Committee – scope of ONCA changes, timing, data management, campaign

Maggie Gorman
Velez
Membership Cttee

8:50-8:55

Issues from the Community – for future discussion

ANNEX A - REPORTS

Education

Environment

1) Garden Angels, a group of GCA members under the Environment Committee, plant and maintain a number of planters and garden beds on city of Ottawa right of ways within the neighbourhood. As a result of a new garden located at Imperial Ave and Renfrew Ave, the City has requested a formal agreement outlining roles and responsibilities for Garden Angels and City workers. A draft agreement has been prepared by Katie Pate from the City and amended by Della Wilkinson and Garden Angel, Jim Louter. The agreement should be reviewed by the GCA Board and then a final version signed. The City has imposed new requirements for insurance for volunteers.

2) The CEPGP Contribution Agreement for Coffee Houses on Sustainability is ready to be signed by two members of the GCA Board executive. The City of Ottawa will then transfer funds (just under \$10K) for the Coffee Houses on Sustainability. The main point is that GCA Board members/Committee Chairs should be aware that any grants or combination of grants over \$10K within one fiscal year mean the GCA automatically requires an audit.

Federation of Citizens Associations

Great Glebe Garage Sale

Health, Housing & Social Services – see two Motions for approval (Annex B)

In response to concerns from the community about public safety in the Glebe a meeting was organised by Councillor Menard to discuss these concerns with his office, Ottawa Police Services, City of Ottawa Parking, Centretown Community Health Centre, the BIA, GNAG, GCA and members of the community. Concerns included increasing reports of people panhandling and sleeping rough in our area, occasionally disrupting businesses or community members.

Unfortunately, resources are heavily underserved in Ottawa and the situation continues to deteriorate as the numbers of people who require them increase. A community police officer explained that when the police are called to an incident with a homeless individual they likely have nowhere to take them. The shelters are over capacity. If people are moved out of one area of the city, they relocate in another. The Salvation Army Outreach Van can be called to help out with a homeless person who needs help. The team will try to get them appropriate care, however the lack of resources is the same.

Another concern is needles found in the neighbourhood. Needles are picked up by the City (call 311). However, wait times may be longer than optimal.

The Safer Alternative Response for Mental Health and substance use Crisis team is a pilot project that will be launched in Somerset Ward in the spring. This team will send social workers to respond to mental health crises, an approach that is known to have better outcomes than calling the police as a first step. Councillor Menard will push to have this expanded and to include the Glebe.

Safety issues in the Parking Garage were addressed. The City now has a new contract with the Commissionaires to guard the garage from 6am to 10pm. Other measures are being looked at to ensure safety as well.

Much of our discussion highlighted the lack of affordable housing and shelter spaces. The situation continues to worsen even though the City declared an affordable housing and homelessness emergency in 2020. There are over 10,000 people on the waitlist with wait times of up to 5 years. For those who need supportive housing for mental health or addiction problems, the wait times

are double that. Even the emergency wait time is 2-3 years. Ottawa is in desperate need of more affordable housing. The City has launched a task force to address the unprecedented demand on the shelter system. There is an increase of 10% in the need for spaces over last year. Access to shelters particularly in the winter is critical.

Follow up actions from this meeting for the Councillor's office included, improving security for the parking garage, trying to increase the range of the Safer Alternate Response team and continuing to work with Community Services.

The GCA had a follow up meeting with the BIA and GNAG to partner in providing resources, training and education for the community on how to respond to mental health crises including a workshop in the spring.

Heritage

Lansdowne – see Motion for approval (Annex B)

Membership – oral report

Parks

Transportation – PDF report of Active Transportation Study circulated; online presentation; plus the following two updates from Barbara Popel, Chair of the DLRA Traffic Committee:

TOH Transportation Monitoring Strategy - On August 8, Sharon Lefroy, the DLRA's representative on The Ottawa Hospital's (TOH's) New Civic Development Advisory Council, and Errol Mendes, a member of the DLRA Traffic Committee, met with Austin Shih from Parsons, the consulting firm working for TOH. Shih agreed to all of their requests concerning TOH's Traffic Monitoring Strategy (TMS) and the execution of the TMS that they made on behalf of the DLRA. The DLRA's requests included:

- That all DLRA streets are included in the TMS
 - These streets will be included in the baseline measurements of traffic and parking that will be done in advance of the opening of the new hospital.
 - These streets will be included in the ongoing monitoring of traffic and parking.
- Subject to both parties' approval, the City, not TOH, will have oversight and control of the monitoring data.

Sharon Lefroy has applied to be the DLRA's representative on the Traffic Monitoring Committee which TOH will be establishing once it is time to do the baseline measurements.

On August 8, Shih sent [TOH NCD - TMS-Aug2023-Final.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u2coTTZ6h3viw4Z8Vp4Gj9hrEBcCO_Zf/view?usp=sharing) to Stream Shen, the city planner responsible for the new Civic campus. You can read TOH NCD - TMS-Aug2023-Final document at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u2coTTZ6h3viw4Z8Vp4Gj9hrEBcCO_Zf/view?usp=sharing

Thanks are due to Councillor Menard; on August 8 he reiterated the points to Shen that Lefroy and Mendes raised with Shih. In summary, our work on the Traffic Monitoring Strategy has been a big success for the DLRA. Prior to the August 8 meeting, there was no commitment to include the Dow's Lake (DL) neighbourhood in the TMS. Now the entire DL neighbourhood will be included in the baseline measurements and the monitoring which begins after the hospital is opened. The city's oversight and control of the monitoring data should ensure that the DLRA is on the city's radar and that we can have access to objective data which we can then use to request traffic calming and parking amelioration measures. We strongly encourage the **GCA's Transportation Committee** to become familiar with the TMS, as the traffic impacts of the new Civic campus on the Glebe will not be limited to its DL neighbourhood.

The Bronson Team – 3 members from the DLRA (Catherine Shields, Cathy Simons, Barb Popel), 1 from the GACA (Sue Stefko), and 2 from the GCA (Spencer Sloan and James Stuewe) – have made steady progress since the team was first formed in January 2023. We have:

- Consulted with John Dance for guidance based on the success of the Main Street Redevelopment. We adopted his slogan “the street should be shaped to meet the needs of the immediate community, rather than those who drive through it twice a day”.
- Written a draft potential solutions document containing 16 solutions to Bronson’s traffic safety issues which the city could implement immediately (our “NOW” solutions) and 17 potential solutions which the City could incorporate into its Bronson Redevelopment Project (our “BRP” solutions). The current objectives of the City’s project are to rehabilitate the road’s water mains, sewers, sidewalks and curbs. We want it to do much more.
 - One of our “NOW” potential solutions is to emulate the Main Street redevelopment by getting City traffic planner support for the “BRP” solutions. City support would include facilitating community involvement, establishing baseline traffic metrics and measurable improvement goals, and performing post-project measurement and reporting.
 - We recently incorporated recommendations for Bronson from the draft Glebe Active Transportation Study Report into our document. We asked that the authors reciprocate by referencing the Bronson Team’s similar but more detailed solutions for Bronson traffic issues.
- Introduced ourselves to the community in an article in the September issue of the Glebe Report.
- Told Jonathan McLeod in Shawn Menard’s office about our team’s work, though we haven’t yet shared any details of the potential solutions with him. He gave us some information about the Bronson Redevelopment Project’s potential timing.
- Communicated with Roxanne Tubb, the City’s project manager for the Bronson Redevelopment Project. The project’s timeframe is tentative, though the redesign work might begin in 2024. (The original design was done in the mid-2010s. Then the project was postponed indefinitely; hence the term “redesign work”.) The first of two construction phases (the Canal to Carling) may begin as early as 2026, followed by the second construction phase (Carling to the Queensway). Tubb is eager to see what we are proposing be incorporated into the Bronson Redevelopment Project.
- Preparing to survey residents of the Glebe (including the Dow’s Lake neighbourhood) and the Glebe Annex in early January. This survey will evaluate residents’ reactions to our “NOW” solutions. We have:
 - Drafted the questionnaire and tested it with 3 residents;
 - Selected SurveyPlanet Pro from a list of 4 online survey tools (SurveyMonkey, SurveyPlanet, Jotform and Google Form);
 - Obtained funding from the DLRA to purchase a subscription to SurveyPlanet Pro;
 - Obtained a generic email account - "bronson@glebeca.ca" - for use with SurveyPlanet.
 - Agreed on the questionnaire’s recipients – all those residents who receive emails from the GCA, the DLRA or the GACA;
 - Agreed on the questionnaire’s distribution date: January 8.

Our next steps are:

- “Package” the questionnaire, distribute it to residents, analyse the results and, if necessary, adjust the “NOW” potential solutions;
- Ask for Shawn Menard’s support and assistance in approaching the appropriate city staff with the “NOW” solutions. Share the “NOW” potential solutions with Roxanne Tubb.
- Share the “BRP” solutions with Shawn Menard and with Tubb as soon as possible in 2024.

ANNEX B - MOTIONS

1. Lansdowne 2.0

Whereas City Council has approved both the Official Plan Amendment and the Rezoning application in support of Lansdowne 2.0 to allow for building of a new arena/event centre and 2 mixed-use towers;

Whereas the proposed area for the arena/event centre is currently green/parkspace, that will be lost to the community, a community already underserved according to the City's own greenspace standards;

Whereas the rezoning provides for two mixed-use towers of up to 40 storeys;

Whereas the GCA has previously provided comments to the City opposing the OPA and rezoning given loss of greenspace and detrimental impact on the public realm/gathering space at Lansdowne Park, as well as expressing concerns about the impact of the large towers on the public realm and increased traffic congestion given transportation/transit constraints;

Whereas the City's own Urban Design Review Panel has also expressed strong concerns about the impact of both the arena/centre and of two tall towers on the public realm, including impact on heritage assets including the Aberdeen Pavillion; and

Whereas any appeal to the rezoning or OPA must be submitted by December 14, 2023:

Therefore be it resolved that the GCA Board

1) Support retaining legal advice to determine the basis for, requirements of, and any risks, to filing an appeal of either or both the OPA and rezoning as above;

2) Authorise the GCA Executive to take a decision regarding next steps of a potential appeal;

3) Authorise spending of up to \$5,000.00 for advice as per 1), and preparation/ submission for 2), if approved by GCA Executive.

2. Response to Mental Health, Addiction and Homelessness in the Glebe (in partnership with the BIA and GNAG)

Whereas some Glebe businesses have reported cases of aggressive panhandling (Glebe BIA Security Meeting);

Whereas there have been reported incidents of people sleeping rough in the Glebe and occasionally disrupting businesses or community members (Glebe BIA Security Meeting);

Whereas Ottawa declared an affordable housing and homelessness emergency in January 2020 and since then the situation has only worsened (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/homeless-emergency-ottawa>);

Whereas we are seeing an increase in newcomers to Canada needing to access the shelter system due to our affordable housing crisis (https://www.startswithhome.ca/ottawa_s_homeless_shelter_crisis); and

Whereas the [Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa](#) has launched a letter-writing campaign asking the Federal Government for \$30 million to address the issue:

Be it resolved:

That the GCA support the Alliance to End Homelessness initiative by writing a letter to the Federal Government, specifically Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada and Infrastructure Canada, urging them to give \$30 million to the City of Ottawa to address the shelter crisis.

ANNEX C PROPOSED GCA BUDGET - MAY 2023-APRIL 2024

	Main Account		
REVENUE			
	Membership to date		\$ 13,001
	TOTAL REVENUE		
EXPENSES			
	COMMITTEE EXPENSES		
	Lansdowne	\$ 3,000	
	Environment	200	
	Transportation	200	
	Heritage	200	
	Parks	200	
	Planning	200	
	Membership	1,100	5,100
	OPERATING EXPENSES		
	Admin	\$ 1,000	
	AGM	800	
	Insurance	2,000	
	Website/Media	1,600	
	Retreat	-	5,400
	DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES		
	Audit	-	
	Legal	7,000	
	Great Glebe	1,000	
	Garden Angels	100	
	Mutchmor Rink	-	8,100
	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 18,600
SURPLUS/DEFICIT)			\$ (5,599)
GRANTS			
	Traffic Study		\$ 50,000
	Environmental Workshops		\$ 9,000
	Current Funds available		
	Opening Bank Balance- May 1,2023	\$ 46,894	
	Membership Revenue to date	13,001	
	Budgeted Expenses	(18,600)	
	Traffic Study remaining funds	(8,712)	
		\$ 32,583	