



GCA Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

Preschool Room – Glebe Community Centre

Chair: John Crump, GCA President
Secretary and Timekeeper: Janet Sutherland

7:00-7:05	Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Opening Remarks	John Crump President
7:05-7:10	Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of Agenda• Approval of draft minutes, January 23, 2024	
7:10-7:30	City Councillor Report / Update from Shawn Menard's Office	
7:30-8:45	Committee Reports and Motions:	
(75 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Membership – request for funding <p>MOTION: (see details in Annex B)</p> <p>Be it resolved that the Board of the Glebe Community Association authorize the Membership Committee to spend up to \$700 for the 2024 membership campaign.</p>	Maggie Gorman Velez Carol MacLeod
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment – renewal of CAFES Ottawa membership <p>MOTION: (see full text in Annex B)</p> <p>Be it resolved that the GCA approve \$100.00 to renew our annual membership in CAFES Ottawa (Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability) for the period March 2024 to February 2024.</p>	Della Wilkinson
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Housing & Social Services - update• Lansdowne - update• Heritage – 160 Clemow and 102 First Avenue• Transportation – Active Transportation Action Plan <p>MOTION: (see full text in Annex B)</p>	Deborah Long June Creelman William Price James Stuewe

Be it resolved that the GCA adopts the [Glebe Active Transportation Study Action Plan](#) prepared by Momentum as a framework for future planning and consultation.

- Transportation – Bronson Avenue Traffic Calming

James Stuewe

MOTION: (see full text in Annex B)

Be it resolved that the GCA President email Councillor Menard supporting his efforts to have the City install traffic calming measures, including permanent photo radar and red light camera, on Bronson Avenue.

- Parks – Endorsement of OOECA initiative

Angus McCabe

MOTION: (see full text in Annex B)

Be it resolved that the GCA offers its endorsement of the Old Ottawa East Community Association's efforts to establish Hurdman Park as a national park (and/or part of a larger urban national park).

- Planning Committee – 617 Bank Street

Bob Brocklebank

MOTION: (see full text in Annex B)

Be it resolved that:

The GCA write to the City to indicate strong interest in promoting vibrant Mainstreet Corridors that are part of developing and maintaining 15 minute Neighbourhoods, and accordingly, have a clear interest in the success of all Mainstreet Corridor landlords and tenants.

The GCA seeks to work with the development community and the City to develop solutions to challenges faced by Mainstreet landlords/tenants. However, the GCA submits that the CZBLR currently underway is the appropriate venue to consider the issues raised by this application. This is due to the fact that they have applicability to all Mainstreet Corridors across the City, there is no apparent urgency, and permission should not be granted on an exception basis.

Further, that the GCA propose that the following elements be considered regarding any review of potential office use on Mainstreets:

- Increased % glazing beyond 50% currently required – BUT, language must enable the by-law to actually be enforced. Otherwise, the requirement is essentially meaningless and

does not address key concerns regarding office use. To note, transparent glazing rendered non-transparent resulting from posters, films, window coverings, etc. are a perennial issue that needs to be addressed as it applies to all Mainstreet Corridor uses.

- Allow office use for a prescribed maximum percentage (50%?) of storefronts, to address concerns that office uses may become dominant tenant in future and put Mainstreet vibrancy at risk.
- Allow office use on a temporary basis: For example, permission for a 10 year period, in keeping with typical 5 yr. initial lease + 5 yr. option period, with City review at year 8/9 for decision within 90 days, review to be based on achievement of agreed density thresholds being met in surrounding area (ie. a verifiable metric rather than qualitative assessment that could be seen as arbitrary).

8:45-8:55 (10 minutes)	Issues from the Community	John Crump
8:55	Chair/President's Report / Closing Remarks	John Crump
9:00	Adjournment	
Next Meeting:	7:00 p.m. Tuesday March 26, 2024 via ZOOM	

ANNEX A – COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education

Environment

Climate Change: Idling Control By-Law Survey

Since 2019, the GCA Environment Committee has been urging a review of the City's 2007 idling control by-law. Then, in 2022, the three-week-long Convoy occupation, which resulted in vehicle exhaust fumes at a level significantly higher than the city average (wafting well beyond central Ottawa), we began a collaboration with four other urban core community associations to push for a quick by-law review and to propose substantial changes.

A City survey is out now, and it's a big part of the review process. **Please take time to respond to the survey. The deadline is Friday, March 15.** See: <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/city-news/newsroom/help-us-clear-air-share-your-feedback-vehicle-idling>

Keep in mind that the old by-law was written before the climate emergency was fully recognized, and before the extent of impacts of GHG emissions on human health were known. It allows for 3 minutes of idling in a 60-minute period (which is generally not needed to “warm up” an engine) and allows unlimited idling between 5°C and 27°C. By comparison, only 1 minute of idling in 60 minutes is allowed in many cities across North America. In Edmonton, idling is not allowed when the temperature is above 0°C, and in Montreal, when the temp is above -10°.

The GCA and partner associations are urging more stringent thresholds and fewer exemptions – for example, eliminating exemptions for city buses and police vehicles. We are asking for better enforcement, including online reporting as in New York City's Citizen Air Complaint Program. Coupled with the new by-law, we are urging a promotion/education campaign and signage around schools and other public spaces. For background, see:

<https://ottawa.ca/en/living-ottawa/laws-licences-and-permits/reducing-idling-ottawa#section-30c00373-419e-4fa7-914a-5e362d7df7a8>
<https://glebereport.ca/articles/clear-the-air-please/>
<https://glebereport.ca/articles/after-the-convoy-advocating-for-cleaner-air/>

Sustainability Events

The first two 'Coffee Houses on Sustainability' were a resounding success attracting over 350 residents from across Ottawa. They are 'bring your own cup' events with several Bank Street business sponsors providing refreshments. The remaining four are scheduled as follows:

Glebe Community Centre from 9:30- to 11:30 am:

- Greenspace & Water (Sunday, Mar 24, 2024)
- Transportation (Saturday, Apr 27, 2024)
- Zero-Waste Living (Sunday, May 5, 2024)

Jim Durrell Recreation Centre from 9:30 to 11:30 am:

- Climate Risk of Basement Flooding (Saturday, June 8, 2024)

Registration for these free events is via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/coffee-houses-on-sustainability-2828129>.

Funded by Community Environment Project Grant Program (CEPGP) & CAFES Ottawa and supported by the following sponsors: Bridgehead, McKeen Metro, Starbucks, Wild Oat, Happy Goat, Second Cup. If you are interested in getting involved in one or more of these events, then please send an email to environment@glebeca.ca.

Greenspace:

The GCA motion asking City of Ottawa to implement automatic tree-planting on city-owned land in front of residential properties (approved May 23, 2023) continues to attract interest from other Ottawa community associations. Some other CAs have also written letters to Mayor Sutcliffe in support of this pro-active approach. Manor Park CA have also expressed interest in seeking a councillor to bring forward a motion for automatic tree-planting based on the intensification with 4-units by right coming soon across the city with new Housing Accelerator Funding.

An example of how intensification can impact the neighbourhood tree canopy is 290 Holmwood Avenue where a single residence is scheduled for demolition so that 2 new properties with 2 dwellings each can be constructed. In the process 10 mature trees will be removed with 5-6 replacement saplings being planted on the new site plan and 14-16 saplings to be planted elsewhere. The GCA has sent a letter to the Mayor requesting that City staff amend the Tree Protection By-Law so that replacement trees are planted within the neighbourhood that has experienced tree removal.

A Community Association Maintenance Agreement is being developed between the GCA and the City of Ottawa so that GCA Garden Angels can work on gardens and planters located on city-owned land for the beautification of the neighbourhood. This resulted from the creation of a new garden between Imperial and Renfrew Avenues.

Federation of Citizens Associations

Great Glebe Garage Sale

Health, Housing and Social Services – verbal update

Heritage – verbal update

Lansdowne – verbal update

Membership – see Motion for funds for 2024 Membership Campaign

Parks – see Motion supporting OOECA on Hurdman Park

Planning – see Motion re: 617 Bank Street

Transportation – see Motions on *Glebe Active Transportation Study Action Plan* and **Bronson Avenue Traffic Calming**



ANNEX B - MOTIONS

1. Membership Committee

Whereas the proposed Budget for 2024 Membership Campaign includes:

- Printing ink, paper for block sheets \$200
- Publicity, printing, posters, President's letter, canvas instructions \$200
- An ad in the Glebe Report \$200
- Online membership system (excluding per use fee) \$100
- For a total of \$700;

Be it resolved that the GCA Board authorize the Membership Committee to spend up to \$700 for the 2024 membership campaign.

2. Environment Committee

Whereas Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability (CAFES Ottawa) works to reduce waste, protect parks and greenspace, increase our urban forests and promotes 15-minute neighbourhoods; and

Whereas membership in CAFES Ottawa benefits the GCA by providing a network that supports effective environmental action at the municipal level towards creating and safeguarding a healthier and more livable city; therefore

Be it resolved that the GCA approve \$100.00 to renew our annual membership in CAFES Ottawa (Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability) for the period March 2024 to February 2024.

3. Transportation Committee

Whereas the GCA Transportation Committee has a mandate to promote active transportation safety within the Glebe; and

Whereas the Committee obtained an Infrastructure Canada grant to permit the GCA to engage a professional consulting firm, Momentum Transport Consultancy, to complete a study on opportunities to improve active transportation within the Glebe; and

Whereas Momentum Transport Consultancy conducted the study, incorporating input obtained through a public survey, a public open house, a stakeholders' consultation and neighbourhood walkabouts that engaged a wide range of different constituencies within the Glebe; and

Whereas Momentum produced a report dated October 31, 2023 entitled "Glebe Active Transportation Study Action Plan", which is based on the various inputs obtained through its consultation process and identifies a series of potential active transportation projects that may be pursued by the GCA; and

Whereas the GCA Transportation Committee plans to use the Action Plan to inform future positions on any specified projects;

Be it resolved that the GCA adopts the Glebe Active Transportation Study Action Plan prepared by Momentum as a framework for future planning and consultation.

4. Transportation Committee - to support traffic improvements on Bronson

Whereas the tripartite Bronson Team has identified a number of potential solutions to Bronson traffic safety issues that the City could implement immediately, and

Whereas two of these potential solutions are the installation of permanent photo radar, and permanent red light cameras, and

Whereas the Bronson Team's recent survey of the level of community agreement with potential immediate solutions indicated a high level of agreement with these potential solutions, and

Whereas we understand Councillor Shawn Menard has recently requested that the City install permanent photo radar and a permanent red light camera on Bronson when the City is considering the next iteration of such installations,

Be it resolved that the GCA President email Councillor Menard supporting his efforts to have the City install traffic calming measures, including permanent photo radar and red light camera, on Bronson Avenue.

5. Parks Committee - *Endorsing Old Ottawa East Community Association's efforts to establish Hurdman Park as a national park*

Whereas urban parks and other greenspaces provide joy, peace, health, and wonder for all community residents; and

Whereas the creation, protection, and stewardship of such precious amenities contribute to the achievement of other meaningful goals like natural habitat preservation, restorative healing forests and reconciliation, and meeting the City of Ottawa and Canada's goal of a Carbon Neutral 2050; and

Whereas the Glebe Community Association (GCA) is supportive of any efforts to preserve and enhance green spaces in the city, particularly those within or close to the inner urban and downtown core, where parkland per capita is already in a deficit vis-a-vis the City of Ottawa's Official Plan target of 4.0 ha of total green space (i.e., natural land and open space and leisure land) for every 1000 residents; and

Whereas the National Capital Commission (NCC) is looking to establish a new urban park in Ottawa, and the federal government, through Parks Canada, launched in 2021 a \$130 million project to create a network of national urban parks, and is now searching for a proper location on NCC land in Ottawa; and

Whereas a local effort is being undertaken by the Old Ottawa East Community Association, to advocate to establish Hurdman Park (on the east side of the Rideau River, south of

the 417 Highway and north of the George McIlraith Bridge (Main St. to Smyth Rd)) as an urban national park (and/or part of a larger urban national park) and has sent a letter to the GCA asking it to support this effort; and

Whereas the unique nature of this forested park, with its depth from the river, could be part of a broader vision to connect other existing greenspaces all along the north-south Rideau River corridor and east-west linkages from Flora Bridge to Alta Vista, similar to the Rouge National Urban Park in the GTA;

Therefore be it resolved that the GCA offers its endorsement of the Old Ottawa East Community Association's efforts to establish Hurdman Park as a national park (and/or part of a larger urban national park) as it moves forward with this initiative.

6. Planning Committee re: permission to allow office use in 617-625 street front units

Whereas an existing 4-storey mixed use building with 4 commercial/retail units at grade and residential in upper 3 storeys is located at 617-625 Bank St (between Patterson and Strathcona on the east side of the street).

Whereas the City has received a **proposal to permit "office use" within 6 metres of front wall of the existing mixed-use building**, where the ground/street front units have direct access to Traditional Mainstreet.

Whereas Bank Street's "Traditional Mainstreet" zoning allows uses that are intended to ensure active streetfronts, to encourage pedestrian traffic and a vibrant streetscape.

Whereas the prohibition against office use in the streetfront reflects a concern that such a use will reduce street level interest and animation.

Whereas the by-law also includes the requirement for 50% of street/front wall to be transparent glazing, so that passersby are able to see into storefronts, and yet the City appears unable to enforce the intent of the by-law when windows are simply covered up/over.

Whereas the rationale provided by the applicant is based on assumptions in relation to the existing condition of the street (insufficient pedestrian traffic), rather than planned future intent (a more intensified street with more foot traffic), granting "permanent" permission for this use, on this basis, is not appropriate.

Whereas the GCA understands that the City is inclined to grant the permission for the office use to Domicile, with a requirement that for window glazing be increased from 50% to 100%.

Whereas Planning staff acknowledge that the City is unable to enforce the intent of windows being transparent/unobstructed given current wording of the by-law when tenants cover windows in posters, drapes/blinds, etc. rendering the 100% requirement essentially "toothless".

Whereas the City is currently undertaking a Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review (CZBLR), a first draft being expected in March 2024, with a final version for Council approval expected in Q4 2025, which will include zoning considerations for Mainstreet Corridors.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

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