Present: Councillor Rino Bortolin, Chair
Councillor Chris Holt
Councillor Irek Kusmierczyk
Councillor Ed Sleiman

Regrets Received from: Councillor Bill Marra
Councillor Hilary Payne

Your Committee submits the following recommendation:

Moved by: Councillor Holt
Seconded by: Councillor Sleiman

That the memo from the Planning and Building Services Department dated December 12, 2016 entitled “Update on Downtown Windsor Planning Study”, and the presentation provided outlining details regarding the process and the status of the Study BE RECEIVED for information.
Carried.

Clerk's Note: The memo dated December 12, 2016 entitled “Update on Downtown Windsor Planning Study” is attached.

SIGNATURE

CHAIRPERSON

SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES

NOTIFICATION

Members of the Downtown Windsor Planning Study Steering Committee (including resource personnel)
Purpose
The purpose of this memo to accompany a staff presentation aimed to provide the Windsor Planning Study Steering Committee a summary of the work conducted to date, upcoming public consultations and next steps on the Downtown Windsor Planning Study.

Background
On March 2, 2015, Council directed the Planning Division to initiate a Downtown Windsor Planning Study (the ‘Study’). The purpose of the Study is to update the vision for downtown Windsor, and develop a strategy and plan that will guide future growth and development towards this vision.

The outcome of this effort is a plan for downtown Windsor that will develop and implement a framework for revitalization and ongoing investment for the defined project area. The plan will include recommendations for Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, other revitalization initiatives, design guidelines, and financial and other incentive programs offered by a Community Improvement Plan.

Public Involvement to Date
Planning staff have been working through the Scope of Work items outlined in the Council-adopted Terms of Reference. Additionally, staff have conducted or participated in a number of public and stakeholder consultations aimed at spreading the word about the study and to gather feedback about some of the challenges that need to be addressed. Specifically, staff has participating in the following events:

- Public Open House
- Jane’s Walk
- Windsor 180 Summit

In addition to these events, staff has met with the following downtown specific organizations representing the residential community, business community and major institutions:

- University of Windsor (downtown campus specific representatives);
- St. Clair College (downtown campus specific representatives);
- Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association;
• **Neighbourhoods and Districts:** divides the larger project area into smaller neighbourhoods and districts that will allow more detailed analysis and area-specific recommendations. It will also help to identify development opportunities on a neighbourhood basis;

• **Public Realm Improvements:** recommendations about how the public realm (the area between buildings, including streets) can be improved and investments made to leverage private investment;

• **Incentive Programs:** a range of financial incentive programs aimed at making downtown a feasible option for investment by overcoming some of the financial barriers to development. These incentive programs will have to be implemented through a Council adopted Community Improvement Plan (which will form part of the overall plan);

• **Summary of Recommendations:** a summary of all of the recommendations included throughout the plan. Will begin to prioritize and organize the recommendations to take the form of an action plan for implementation;

• **Plan Monitoring:** the plan will also include a series of metrics that will be used to evaluate the progress of implementation and the impact of the implemented recommendations. This will allow for informed future adjustments to the plan.

Additional details about the plan will be covered in the staff presentation at the December 12, 2016 DWPS Steering Committee meeting.

**Next Steps**
The next steps in the process of developing the plan will be:

• Public and stakeholder consultations occurring in January and February;
• Draft of the plan tabled with the DWPS Steering Committee in April 2017;
• DWPS Steering Committee recommendation to Council;
• Council adoption of the plan; and,
• Implementation of the plan.

Staff will be available to answer any questions arising from this memo or the presentation made at the DWPS Steering Committee on December 12, 2016.

Laura Diotte  
Planner III – Special Projects

Thom Hunt  
City Planner / Executive Director  
Planning & Building