



**General Meeting – Wednesday, October 21, 2020 – 7pm**  
**Electronic Teleconference via Google Meet**  
**Draft Agenda**

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|--|----|
| 1. Call to order; welcome to participants -  | 2  |
| 2. Approval of agenda  | 2  |
| 3. Greetings from newly-elected Councillor Catherine Kitts (ward 19 Cumberland)  | 5  |
| 4. Guest speaker: Council Liaison for Anti-Racism & Ethnocultural Relations, and Councillor for ward 13 (Rideau-Rockcliffe) Rawlson King<br><b>“Combating Systemic Racism in Ottawa”</b> followed by Q+A | 25 |
| 5. Networking break  | 5  |
| 6. Open Mike – Local issues  | 10 |
| 7. Minutes of previous meetings<br>June 17 (for approval)  | 2  |
| 8. Treasurer’s report  | 2  |
| 9. Committee Reports<br>Planning & Zoning<br>Transportation  | 6  |
| 10. New Business   |    |
| a) City Budget   | 5  |
| b) Requests for FCA endorsement  |    |
| Healthy Transportation Coalition – funding for housing   | 5  |
| CAFES – support for Energy Evolution Strategy  | 5  |
| GottaGo Campaign – letter of support   | 5  |
| c) Other   |    |
| 11. Adjournment  |    |

Next FCA-FAC General Meeting – Wednesday, November 18

**How to participate in the October 21 electronic meeting**

To take part in the October 21 meeting you must register in advance. To do so, send a message to [rsvp@fca-fac.ca](mailto:rsvp@fca-fac.ca). You will receive a confirmation of your registration, and prior to the meeting, you will be provided with instructions on how to join the meeting on your device.

If you cannot participate in the October 21 meeting, please look over the agenda background information, and if you have comments please share them on our members discussion group. You can join the group by sending a message to [members@fca-fac.ca](mailto:members@fca-fac.ca)

Note that at FCA-FAC General Meetings, if a vote is held, each paid-up member association has one vote (regardless the number of participants from each association).

Meeting Etiquette - The chair may introduce a moderator. The moderator will ask any participants on telephone to identify themselves.

Use of the Chat window - We suggest that a text phrase be agreed on by everyone to make it obvious to the moderator that someone wants to speak, pose a question, etc. Suggestions include

- “QUESTION” – text question for the current presenter (the chair can read this question)
- “SPEAK” – requester wants to make a verbal comment

Video/Audio - Please stay muted unless speaking. You might be asked to turn off your video when speaking if it impacts the audio. You can turn audio (your microphone) on and off with <Ctrl> D on most keyboards.

**Agenda item 3 – Greeting from newly-elected Councillor Catherine Kitts**

Councillor Kitts can be reached at [Catherine.Kitts@ottawa.ca](mailto:Catherine.Kitts@ottawa.ca)

**Agenda item 4 – Combatting Systemic Racism in Ottawa**

A transcript of Councillor King’s appointment is found at <https://ottawa.ca/en/video-transcript-councillor-kings-council-liaison-appointment-presentation>

**Agenda item 10 – City Budget**

Information on the 2021 City Budget, including Councillor-organized consultations and committee meeting dates, is found at <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/budget/detailed-information-2021-budget> [Note that some of the Councillor-organized consultations are held prior to October 21.]

**Agenda item 10 – Healthy Transportation Coalition**

The coalition website is [healthytransportation.ca](http://healthytransportation.ca). Support is sought for the following letter:

To: Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson,

Research from Carleton University indicates that Canada lost 322,600 affordable rental units between 2011 and 2016 in the private market. In same period, government investments in affordable housing built only 20,000 units. We are losing 15 affordable units for every one being built.

Despite significant investments of City money to build new affordable housing in both Budgets 2019, and 2020, there are still more than 12,000 households on the Centralized Waiting List for affordable housing.

We are losing ground. The number of family units accessing an emergency overnight shelter increased by 70.1% since 2014. The staff report on the updated 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan detailed what is at stake:

“It is well documented that poor housing conditions and high housing costs leads to stress for individuals and families, affecting their physical and mental health and resulting in increased use of health and social services. Children who experience housing insecurity due to frequent moves have been found to under-perform in school with lasting consequences on their capacity to participate in the labour market.”

Much more needs to be done. Budget 2021 is an important opportunity to make progress on the Housing and Homelessness Emergency, and to build a city for all.

We ask that the City of Ottawa:

1. Commit at least \$20 million in Budget 2021 of City funding, over and above federal and provincial grants, to build new affordable housing near rapid transit stations;
2. Pass a strong citywide inclusionary zoning by-law that ensures 25% of new development is dedicated to affordable housing and places a special emphasis on deeply affordable housing within 1 km of rapid transit stations; and
3. Ensure that all available government-owned land within 1 km of current & future rapid transit stations is used for non-profit and co-op housing (and that the City provide land to the newly established Land Trust in Ottawa specifically for affordable housing near rapid transit).

Please ensure City Council follows through on the commitments made through the Interdepartmental Task Force for Affordable Housing Near Transit Stations.

We would appreciate it if you can please respond to the specific asks above (items 1, 2, 3).

### **Agenda item 10 – CAFES**

CAFES – Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability – is an allied group drawn from environmental committees of community associations. The City’s Climate Change Master Plan is [here](#) and the Energy Evolution Strategy is [here](#).

CAFES seeks support for the following statement:

To: Mayor Watson, Environment Committee Chair Moffatt, and City Council

RE: Support for Energy Evolution Strategy

Thank you for your consideration of the Energy Evolution Strategy. We are happy you are taking this step towards implementation of important actions that will protect our environment and our economy in the coming decades.

Realizing the greenhouse gas reduction targets you set in January, 2020 will require collaboration across many sectors of Ottawa, as is well explained in the Energy Evolution Strategy.

On behalf of the Federation of Citizens Associations, we see that we can play a role in that collaborative approach to success.

Our members represent communities across all of Ottawa. We see that there are opportunities outlined in Energy Evolution Strategy that will improve the quality of life in our neighbourhoods and create a net positive financial return to the community as a whole.

As such, we support the initiatives that will support homeowners in reducing their energy consumption, will reduce traffic and improve sustainable transportation options, and will make our communities more resilient to extreme weather events to come.

### **Agenda item 10 – GottaGo Campaign**

Information on the campaign is found at [ottawapublictoilets.ca](http://ottawapublictoilets.ca) Support is sought for the following letter:

Mayor Jim Watson and Councillors

Re: public toilets as essential public health infrastructure

The GottaGo! team, in partnership with the undersigned organizations, is asking the City of Ottawa Mayor and Councillors to adopt a policy to include a network of safe, clean and accessible public toilets as part of essential public health infrastructure. The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear that public toilets are fundamentally a public health issue while highlighting the highly inadequate situation of public toilets in Ottawa. Other cities in Canada (Edmonton, Vancouver, Montreal, Nelson, Smithers and Victoria) offer models for how to do this.

## Our Proposal

### Signage for existing public toilets

There are a few toilets open to the public in the city core (parks, public and commercial buildings) but there is no signage. The cost of putting up signs would be relatively modest – either as permanent signs or street level ‘sandwich signs’ when open. All city parks need to include information about the availability of toilets in print, signboards and websites. At present, information about public toilets in all parks listed on the city’s website is difficult to find.

### Subsidies to existing businesses

Many businesses may be willing to open their toilets to the public with a small subsidy from the city. The subsidy will support businesses in supplying and maintaining clean, hygienic toilets with signage. Currently, most limit usage of toilets to ‘customers only’ (except a few de-facto public toilet providers).

Examples of some successful subsidized public toilet programs include:

- Nette Toilette, Germany.
- Community Toilet Scheme, UK.
- Highland Comfort Scheme, Scotland.

### Permanent public toilets

Ottawa urgently needs to install stand alone public toilets in strategic locations where there are no nearby public toilets (for example: parks; Park and Ride locations; and high pedestrian traffic areas). The cost could be offset with advertising. For instance, Victoria, Smithers and Nelson in British Columbia have installed Portland Loo toilets that are operational year round at \$150,000 each, with the cost partially offset by advertising (on the outside walls). They are accessible, easy to install and clean, and it comes with safety features. Other examples include Pierrefonds, a suburb of Montreal, has installed 3 composting toilets at approximately \$50,000 each. Edmonton is currently developing a city wide public toilet strategy.

### Cost of NOT having accessible, clean and safe public toilets

There is also the cost of not having public toilets. People with medical conditions or who are unhoused need ready access to public toilets. Many people hesitate to go outdoors risking their physical and mental wellbeing because of the lack of public toilets. There are also the ongoing financial costs of cleaning human waste in alleyways, streets and parking garages.

We urge you to take a much needed leadership role in making a network of public toilets part of our essential public health infrastructure. Such a policy is a most tangible way to show that Ottawa is indeed a world class, liveable city.

## **Reminder regarding membership in FCA-FAC**

Associations which have not renewed their membership in FCA-FAC for 2020 are invited to do so and become legitimate voting members of the Federation.