



Compass Kitchener Advisory Committee

Committee Minutes

November 5, 2025, 4:00 p.m.

Schmalz Room - Second Floor City Hall

City of Kitchener

200 King Street W, Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7

Present J. Stephens-Wells, Member
 C. Abarca, Member
 J. Young, Vice Chair
 K. Brabazon, Member
 L. Thompson, Member
 L. Terry, Member
 L. Trumper, Member
 R. Gill, Member
 T. Glover, Chair

Staff: S. Sweazey, Senior Policy Advisor
 A. Remillard, Committee Administrator

Additional Staff: T. Donegani
 N. Goss

- 1. Commencement**
- 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
- 3. Delegations**
- 4. Discussion Items**
- 4.1 Completed Project Presentation - Downtown Energy District**

Tim Donegani shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Downtown District Energy project.

Compass Kitchener Members asked T. Donegani a variety of questions they had about the project as it related to their evaluation criteria. Questions pertained to engagement with stakeholders, project timeline and project location.

4.2 Debrief and Review of Downtown Energy District Project Presentation

Compass Kitchener members reviewed and debriefed on the Downtown Energy District Project presentation using the four Evaluation Criteria categories.

Responsible Project Delivery

Compass Kitchener members noted that the city received a grant for the project, and while it went over budget and over their timeline, there were valid reasons for the overruns. It was agreed that the project 'Meets Expectations'.

Impact / Public Value

Compass Kitchener members noted that this project has made a good first step as it is poised and ready to go, should the right conditions exist. It was also noted that the project is best suited for new development. The project was completed with the downtown in mind but can be applied outside of downtown. Compass Kitchener members agreed under Impact / Public Value, that the project Meets Expectations as it is good for rate payors if the right environment exists.

Transparency & Communication

Compass Kitchener members discussed whether details about the project were shared with the general public; recognizing and understanding the restrictions around transparency and communication that a project like this one poses.

Compass Kitchener members agreed that under 'Transparency and Communication' the project 'Meets Expectations'.

Public Engagement

Compass Kitchener members agreed the project 'Meets Expectations' under the 'Public Engagement' category as engagement was only viable with stakeholders involved in the business case.

For next steps, T. Glover asked if members agreed to have a member volunteer to do the write-up / draft of future projects evaluations to be ready for review at the following Compass Kitchener meeting. Members agreed.

4.3 Review Presentation for All-Advisory Committee Meeting

Our presentation slides for the All-Advisory Committee meeting were reviewed and approved by Compass Kitchener members with the following edits:

- on slide 6: change language for clarity from ' During our first term' to 'During the first half of our term'.
- on slide 8: name a few projects as examples.
- on slide 8: for the second bullet point include: 'Offer reflections on progress towards strategic plan goals or implementation of specific strategic plan actions'.
- remove S. Kandala from list of Compass Kitchener Advisory Committee members.

4.4 Review Previous Minutes

Compass Kitchener members reviewed the October 1st meeting minutes.

5. Information Items

5.1 Compass Kitchener Project Evaluation - Downtown District Energy

5.2 Compass Kitchener Draft Presentation - Fall 2025 All Advisory Committee Meeting

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.