

General Meeting

Wednesday October 16, 2024

Hosted virtually via Google Meet

Approved Agenda

1	Call to order; welcome to participants, land acknowledgement	2 min
2	Approval of Agenda	2 min
3	Presentation: New Zoning By-law Polling Members on specific zoning issues; breakout rooms	40 min
	Break	10 min
4	Approval of the Minutes of the last General Meeting – September 19, 2024	5 min
5	Chair's Report – Paul Johanis a. FCA Letter to the City re: Proposed Official Plan amendment regarding delegation of minor zoning changes to City staff.	5 min
6	Treasurer's Report – Lorne Cutler	5 min
7	Committees Reports and Status a. Planning & Zoning b. Transportation c. External Relations d. Communications e. Governance f. Membership g. Funding	20 min
9	Working Group Report a. Zoning b. Insurance	10 min
11	Other Business	10 min
12	Adjournment	

Upcoming Meetings:

Transportation Committee: TBD

Planning and Zoning Committee: November 6, 2024

FCA General Meeting: November 20, 2024

Agenda Item 3

Question for Members

General meeting zoning survey questions: to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Strongly agree Agree Undecided Disagree Strongly disagree

1. Livability & density

Zoning reforms that increase density generate tax revenue for investments in social infrastructure (such as parks, schools, and community centers) to maintain or improve neighborhood livability in your community.

2. Environmental Sustainability

Increasing urban density through zoning reforms will support climate goals by reducing car dependency and promoting efficient land use in your community.

3. Infrastructure Efficiency

Higher density resulting from new zoning regulations will lead to more efficient use of infrastructure services (such as water, sewers, and roads) in your community.

4. Economic growth

Simplifying zoning regulations to accelerate development will contribute to local economic growth in your community.

5. Housing supply and affordability

Reforming zoning to allow for higher density and more diverse housing types (such as duplexes, townhomes, and low-rise apartments) in traditionally single-family neighborhoods will improve housing affordability and supply in your community.

6. Traffic

Zoning reforms that increase housing density would improve your community's traffic flow.

7. Community Character

Allowing a greater density, mix of housing types and mixed-use developments in your community would enhance its overall character and vibrancy.

8. FCA Action

Should the FCA push back on the methodology and assumptions used by the City for the calculation of permitted densities in Neighbourhood zones? The methodology produces excessive lot level densities to compensate for apprehended low densities elsewhere in the neighborhood. This is not really a tested hypothesis. An alternative position might be to start lower (for example by right 3 or 4 unit per lot), evaluate after the first 5 year period and adjust as required.'

For general information about the new zoning by-law project and links to documents, go to

<https://engage.ottawa.ca/zoning>

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/8a6d5bfc8ff040958b22aeaba4c272a5>

Background information

Agenda item 3 – New Zoning By-law

Main Themes and Issues raised at FCA-FAC workshop September 7

1. Communication and Understanding

- Zoning concepts are complicated and hard for laypeople to understand
- Need for better communication from the city about zoning changes
- Lack of clarity on targets and how zoning relates to other city plans

2. Density and Growth Concerns

- Questions about the rush to increase density given current housing approvals
- Worries about the impact of increased density on neighbourhood character
- Concerns about infrastructure keeping pace with density increases

3. Livability and Community Needs

- Lack of focus on social infrastructure (schools, parks, safety) in zoning plans
- Questions about how zoning will support the goal of making Ottawa the most livable mid-sized city
- Concerns about green space, tree canopy, and environmental issues

4. Transportation and Parking

- Worries about increased traffic and parking issues with higher density
- Questions about transit plans aligning with zoning changes
- Desire for better active transportation options

5. Long-term Planning and Vision

- Skepticism about planning 25 years ahead
- Need for a more coherent city strategy with clear outcomes and performance indicators
- Questions about the overall vision for the city

6. Community Engagement and Trust

- Desire for more community involvement in the zoning process
- Lack of trust in the city's decision-making process
- Concerns about developer influence vs. community needs