

Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery

Proposed Solutions (Bucket List) - May 6, 2020

Advocacy

for consideration by provincial and federal governments

- Robust relief packages & support programs for employees (CERB & EI)
- Funding grants and/or loans for small businesses
- Improved alignment & clarity re: available benefits for businesses/individuals and timelines & parameters for reopening
- Guidance for arts & culture sectors on rescheduling events
- Support for tourism industry
- Access to local mental health support programs
- Tax deferral programs & flexible relief measures
- Rent relief programs
- Reduced or interest-free utility/energy costs

Municipal Action

for consideration by City staff and Council

- Easing of City RFP procedures to allow local businesses to bid on City contracts/projects
- Property tax deferrals for businesses
- Waive licensing fees and charges for patios and business signage
- Maintain transit service to Hanlon Business Park
- Waive late fees and NSF charges for property taxes and water/wastewater bills
- Identify and promote new or reimagined municipal funding streams
- Re-evaluate municipal expenditures

Community-Led Solutions

from local businesses and support organizations

- Streamlining production, procurement and distribution of PPE for local businesses
- Identify community protocols for safe working practices and timelines/parameters for reopening with support agencies and WDG Public Health
- Identify and promote "Made-in-Guelph-for-Guelph" solutions (i.e. "Amazon Guelph", shop local campaign, business-to-business mentoring program) to help our community get back to business