



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 17, 2018**

PRESENT: Eliza Jackson, Chair
Ella Dodson
Paul Berry (Ian Watt)
Jillian Banfield
Peter Fritz
Emily Miller
Ben Buckwold
Kelsey Lane
Councillor Sam Austin
Councillor Lindell Smith

REGRETS: David Jackson, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Pugh
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: David MacIsaac, Active Transportation Program Supervisor
Sharon Chase, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 19, 2018

Jillian Banfield had asked David Maclsaac to attend future Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings to provide them with updates on work being done.

MOVED by Ella Dodson, seconded by Peter Fritz

THAT the minutes of April 19, 2018 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

MOVED by Ben Buckwold, seconded by Ella Dodson

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

7.1.1 Correspondence received from Colin May, dated May 14, 2018

7.2 Petitions- None

7.3 Presentations- None

8. REPORTS/ UPDATES/ DISCUSSION

8.1 Discussion

8.1.1 Ghost Bikes

Kelsey Lane asked for the Committee's feedback on the subject of Ghost Bikes in HRM. Lane has been receiving quite a bit of correspondence about this sensitive issue. There are questions around: what to do, who is responsible for the upkeep, how long should they remain. David Maclsaac, AT Program Supervisor, explained that this is a right of way issue and Public Works would be the HRM contact for this matter. The Committee looked at the number of ghost bikes in HRM, five (5) were identified; who had installed them; who was presently maintaining them and the condition they were in. There seemed to be an overall lack of information. Lane noted that Ottawa had done a comprehensive review while some other Canadian Municipalities had done none. They asked how HRM might approach this. The Committee discussed how this is similar to the flowers and crosses that are used as commemoration as well. They noted that while needing to be sensitive to the families there were also health and safety concerns about the condition of the bikes and if they were an impediment to traffic. The Committee endorsed the idea of the Halifax Cycling Coalition creating a web page to share and memorialize these sites and to create a database which would include key pieces of information around their installation.

8.1.2 AT Route through Dartmouth Common

The Committee discussed the challenges for bikes and pedestrians safely sharing the paths on the Dartmouth Common. An Active Transportation Route is planned for the Dartmouth Common with a multi-use pathway being installed, paving is scheduled to take place this summer. The Committee discussed the use of signage and education around the use of bells and right of way. Dave MacIsaac informed members that there is user etiquette signage, with 4 key messages, being installed elsewhere in HRM which could be used there as well, the area can also be monitored for safety. Suggestions for the use of signs, arrows and directional markings on the greenways were provided as additional options for consideration. There are also opportunities when designing new trails to create safer sharing. The Committee discussed the urban design challenges in creating a functional network moving toward a long-term solution and the importance of education in the short term. They looked at the limited effectiveness of signs in changing behavior and agreed that a Public Service Announcement approach for educating all trail users could be an effective way to address this issue. Dave MacIsaac agreed to talk with the HRM Communications Team.

The Committee encouraged a focused look at the Dartmouth Common as what works in one space may not translate to this space. The Committee considered the correspondence received. Dave MacIsaac noted that the intent is to improve the shared pathway beginning with the paving project and that they will investigate the concerns brought up and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

8.2 Updates:

8.2.1 Staff:

David MacIsaac, Active Transportation Program Supervisor, provided an update on the work being done by his department:

Current AT PPD staff activities include:

- Evaluation of HRTA maintenance budget submissions and final agreement negotiation with HRTA
- Prepare and sign HRTA Capital agreement
- Maintenance project applications review
- Templates for proposals and budget for next year
- Internal planning procedure development
- Preparing Community Development Model Council report.
- Planning co-ordination for HRTA Community group capital and planning projects: e.g. Gaetzbrook Greenway; Bissett Phase III; Sackville Greenway; East Preston; Lucasville Rd.;
- Functional planning, property agreement processes, detailed design of Dartmouth Harbourfront segments (e.g.: Parker St. to Old ferry Rd.)
- Support to HRM-delivered Greenway projects in detailed design (e.g. Penhorn Greenway)
- Participation in IMP implementation projects (e.g.: multi-modal level of service study; indicators; project evaluation framework; corridor functional plans)
- Joint provincial projects (e.g. co-ordination on AT facilities/connections and new provincial infrastructure; input to MVA changes; Blue route)
- Lead the development and distribution of 2018 Bike and Greenway Map (with Corporation Communications and ICT)
- Support Local Street Bikeway detailed design. Initiate North End and West End local street bikeway functional planning processes.
- New Sidewalks assessments
- Halifax Urban Greenway functional planning process. Public engagement June 7.
- Herring Cove Road pedestrian facility Council report and support for planning/design process
- Support detailed design for South Park bike lane upgrade and enhancement
- Conclude Downtown Bikeway functional plan and begin Council report.

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- Project charter and reference development for Peninsula South functional planning (e.g. University, Bells Rd, intersection changes)
 - Bike rack program- new supplier.
 - Almon Street planning. Concluding design and will report to Council in 2018.
 - Support design for Wyse, North and Fall River bike lanes.
 - Advise Cogswell District planning process
 - Project manager for Macdonald Bridge Bikeway Connectors project will start work in June.
 - Bike Week 2018 planning very active. CEU is contracted to co-ordinate. Great sponsor supports this year.
 - In the process of hiring two term AT Planners and one Planning and Design Intern. Will have full staff by June/July.
 - Working on updated multi-use pathway etiquette signs for a few locations.
 - Starting to consider capital 2019-10 program
 - Preparing Council report on advancing AAA bikeway implementation

8.2.2 Committee Member Updates:

The Chair shared an email from member Elizabeth Pugh. They advised the Committee that public engagement on the Traffic Safety Act is now open. They encouraged Committee members to visit <https://novascotia.ca/trafficsafetyact/> and leave their comments regarding bicycling.

Kelsey Lane introduced Meghan Doucette who will attend the next few meetings on behalf of the Halifax Cycling Coalition while Kelsey is away.

Ben Buckwold noted that Bike Nova Scotia is promoting a bike friendly certification program and the website is live <http://rarebird.ca/work/bike-friendly-certification/>. There is also a cycling event in Mahone Bay this coming Saturday with 25 spots left.

9. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING –June 21, 2018

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 a.m.

Sharon Chase
Legislative Assistant