



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 15, 2018**

PRESENT: David Jackson, Acting Chair  
Ella Dodson  
Ian Watt  
Peter Fritz  
Jillian Banfield  
Sarah Manchon  
Elizabeth Pugh  
Councillor Sam Austin

REGRETS: Ben Buckwold  
Emily Miller  
Kelsey Lane  
Councillor Lindell Smith  
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Eliza Jackson, Active Transportation Planner  
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](http://halifax.ca).*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 18, 2018**

Wording was changed to better reflect the discussion around pedestrian mobility.

MOVED by Ella Dodson, seconded by Peter Fritz

**THAT the minutes of October 18, 2018 be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Addition: Heads Up Campaign discussion

MOVED by Ella Dodson, seconded by Elizabeth Pugh

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**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- None

7.2 Petitions- None

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Distracted Driver's Impacts on Active Transportation- Scott MacDonald and James Butler

James Butler, Inspector Halifax Regional Police, reviewed the October 2018 Vehicle Pedestrian Collisions monthly report. A copy of this presentation is on file. These statistics are used to look for trends such as behaviors and weather. Maps showing various divisions and districts were shared. Types of collisions and peak collision times were noted. Injury statistics are compiled at the scene and represent that specific point in time. Driver and Pedestrian characteristics were also reviewed.

Staff Sergeant Scott MacDonald outlined Halifax Regional Police's programs and initiatives to curb distracted driving. Enforcement and education are key ways this is accomplished. HRP's in uniform patrol division has a dedicated traffic unit of 8 officers each day. The top three observations are: cell phone usage behind the wheel, stop sign violations and traffic light violations. Crosswalk violations are not included here. HRP schedule monthly road safety themes with February and June dedicated to distracted driving. Email broadcasts and signage are used internally to encourage support of all officers. Education and public outreach is achieved through social media and working with community partners. HRP reports electronically to the Province where statistics are compiled and feedback to initiatives are provided. MacDonald noted that crosswalk safety awareness day is next week, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

MacDonald and Butler answered questions and provided the Committee with some additional information on specific topics of interest. Having cell phones out is an infraction, it was noted that the new Provincial Safety Act will simplify enforcement by providing clarification on mobile devices. Observations by officers and citizens reporting their observations and concerns will assist in creating a culture change. Monthly statistics along with citizen complaints are reviewed at divisional priority meetings where hot spot areas and issues are discussed. Intersection safety will be the safety themes for October and January. Medical reporting is not presently factored in, the only information gathered is at the scene. Technology such as dash cams and GPS can be distractions for drivers. Butler will follow up on why disability is listed as a contributing factor on the Provincial form used to report incidents. HRM's approaching zero goals are supported by HRP with their role in enforcement as well as their focus on safe practices with education helping to change perspectives. Visibility of police helps in the prevention piece. Everyone has a role and shared responsibility for community safety. Safer streets can be the result of a combination of: education, engineering and enforcement.

## **8. REPORTS/ UPDATES/ DISCUSSION**

### **8.1 Staff Update**

#### 8.1.1 Active Transportation Group Update

Eliza Jackson provided several updates on work being done by the Active Transportation Team.

#### Downtown Bikeways Clarification

- Staff reviewed the analysis of results from the Downtown Bikeways engagement. To clarify from last month's presentation, there was a clear preference for Option D, though almost as many people who selected Option D as their first choice also selected Option D as their last choice. This analysis was tested and found to be statistically significant.
- Staff thanked committee member Jillian for supporting further analysis.

#### Africville AT Connector

- Planning is getting underway for the Africville AT Connector project.

#### Midtown AAA Connector

- Staff is looking at Bell, Quinpool, Welsford, Quingate, etc. and how to make AAA connections between several planned or existing facilities in the area

#### Bedford Highway public engagement

- The Bedford Highway online public engagement is underway at Shape Your City.

#### Construction of Phase One of the Vernon-Seymour LSB is underway

- Segment between Quinpool and Watt St
- Curb extensions, turn restrictions, sharrows, centre painted bike lane at Quinpool
- Construction should be wrapping up in the next few weeks
- Phase 2 includes the Coburg intersection. Staff needs to wait for the construction encroachment at the corner of Coburg and Seymour to finish up before we can install ped-bike actuated half signals, implement turn restrictions, add the centre painted bike lanes, and paint the 4 crosswalks.

#### Construction of Phase One of the Allan-Oak LSB that was supposed to be this fall was bumped to spring 2019

- Phase One includes the segment of Allan between Windsor and Harvard (not including Harvard intersection)
- Detailed design and tendering happened late in the season
- Successful proponent was presented with option for fall construction (risk of snow/frost on them) or spring construction. They opted for spring.
- Phase Two (Harvard and Oxford) is on hold for now, but we hope to build in 2019 or 2020.

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**Halifax Urban Greenway**

- Staff is still waiting on final report and designs from WSP, and should receive it shortly.

**North End West End Bikeways**

- Four public engagement sessions were held in late October. Around 300 people attended.
- Staff engaged the public very early in the process.
- Staff presented three design options for each route to start the conversation around routing, facility type, intersection treatments, and traffic calming measures.
- Another important issue for both North End and West End routes is parking. Staff helped people visualize the impacts using approximate percentages. Staff does not know the which specific parking stalls can be kept and which would be lost based on each option as the designs are still conceptual.
- Shape Your City survey closes on Friday. Results will be posted online in WWHR in early December.
- Staff hopes to present some preferred designs and rationale to ATAC at the January meeting

Jackson also provided an update from Mark Nener to provide more clarity on the Hollis Street Bikeway survey results. The options were broken out and ranked with a clear preference for Option D being identified. The What We Heard Report from Shape Your City will be shared with the Committee. An update on the North End Bikeway project will also come to the Committee at the January meeting.

It was confirmed that construction on South Park Street has been tendered and should start in the spring. Ahern Drive is under construction now as well as the multi-use path on Mount Hope Avenue. It was suggested that a cyclist path and not a multi-purpose path would be preferable on Ahern Drive and they wondered about the rationale there. Jackson will follow up with Dave MacIsaac and report back. A question was asked about construction mitigation guidelines and how they are enforced.

**8.2 Committee Members- None****9. ADDED ITEMS****9.1 Heads Up Campaign**

It was noted that at the recent Committee of the Whole meeting staff stated that there would be a shift from the original Heads Up campaign in how public engagement and future funding would be sought. This was of interest and the Committee would like to learn more about this new initiative. Future pilot projects for active transit as part of HRM safe streets was also of interest.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 20, 2018****11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Sharon Chase  
Legislative Assistant