



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 28, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Chair
Councillor Tim Outhit, Vice Chair
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Sam Austin

REGRETS: Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Lindell Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor David Hendsbee

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation and Public Works
Colin Taylor, Solicitor
Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant

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

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 1:13 p.m., and the Standing Committee adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 25, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the minutes of February 25, 2019 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Committee agreed to a request to consider item 10.3.1 before deferred business.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – February 25, 2019

8.1 December 13, 2018 - Information report from the Director of Transportation and Public Works dated October 12, 2018 re: Feasibility of Red Light Cameras and Electronic Speed Detection Services

The following was before Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated October 12, 2018

Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management responded to questions of clarification, noting that the municipality does not have the authority to issue tickets using red light camera technology. If the new Traffic Safety Act is proclaimed, the municipality will have that authority. Koutroulakis advised that there are different models for back end processing, for example Ontario has a central processing facility.

Responding to a question regarding whether the municipality would receive the full funds resulting from tickets issued using red light cameras, Colin Taylor, Solicitor advised that the municipality would be required to use surplus fine revenue to enhance road safety.

8.2 Sidewalk Solutions for Winter Street and Crown Drive

The following was before Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated December 6, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct staff to undertake data collection and an assessment of Winter Street under the new Tactical Urbanism Program in order to consider potential treatments that may be appropriate for the street.

A brief discussion ensued with Councillors expressing interest in receiving additional data to determine appropriate next steps. Brad Anguish, Director of Transportation and Public Works indicated that the motion would give priority to an assessment of Winter Street among other projects.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received regarding item 12.1.2, and this correspondence was distributed to all members of the Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Feasibility Study on Operating a Fixed Transit Route from Porters Lake to Cole Harbour – Jessie Greenough, MusGo Rider Cooperative Ltd

The following was before Transportation Standing Committee:

- A handout entitled “Feasibility Study”
- A presentation dated March 28, 2019

Jessie Greenough, Executive Director of MusGo Rider Cooperative introduced Jamie Stewart of Four Points Business Consulting, the consultant, who presented on the feasibility study for a fixed route community-based transportation service that would connect Halifax Transit’s Porters Lake terminal to the Portland Hills terminal through Route #207.

Stewart responded to questions of clarification from the committee, noting that due to limited funding options it would be challenging to operate the route for a subsidy of less than 50 cents per kilometre.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee refer the presentation from MusGo Rider Cooperative Ltd dated March 28, 2019 to staff for a report.

The Committee requested that the report address issues including but not limited to feasibility and sustainability of the proposed route, rural transit funding allocation and budget implications, fare recognition (transfers) to and from Halifax Transit, and safety impacts of utilizing Halifax Transit bus loops versus dedicated space in the parking lot.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Addition of Candidate Routes to Active Transportation Priorities Plan: Willow Street Local Street Bikeway and Cole Harbour Open Space Plan Corridors

The following was before Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 8, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

That the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council amend the Active Transportation Priorities Plan by designating the corridors related to the Willow Street Local Street Bikeway and the specified elements of the Cole Harbour Basin Open Space Plan as “candidate routes” in the Active Transportation Priorities Plan as described in the report dated January 8, 2018.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 Spring Garden Road Functional Design (South Park Street and Queen Street)

The following was before Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 11, 2019
- A staff presentation dated March 28, 2019
- Correspondence dated March 27, 2019 from Darrel Pink, Acting Executive Director of the Spring Garden Area Business Association

Hanita Koblents, Principal Planner, provided the staff presentation regarding the Spring Garden Road Functional Design from South Park Street to Queen Street, highlighting alignment with current Regional Council priorities. Koblents provided additional detail regarding Options 3 and 4 outlined in the staff report.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Proceed with the design and construction of streetscaping improvements for the segment of Spring Garden Road between South Park Street and Queen Street, based on the built form and traffic operational approach described as Option 4 in the discussion section of the staff report dated February 11, 2019; and**
- 2. Gather data during construction on how loading is accommodated and how diverted traffic impacts other streets, and return to Council with further analysis of the impacts of a daytime transit priority corridor, including consideration of the feasibility of a temporary pilot project.**

Staff responded to questions of clarification, noting the following:

- Accessibility is high on the list of priorities guiding the function plan;
- Enforcement will be key to ensuring that vehicles do not block transit stops;
- A mitigation strategy will be implemented to address construction impacts.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Julie Gorman-Steele, Harvard Street spoke to issues related to the diversion of traffic to Harvard Street from the Allan Street bikeway and traffic calming measures. Gorman-Steele noted that there is considerable traffic in the morning and vehicles parked on both sides of the street and expressed concern with a lack of consultation and how the project will change the character of the neighbourhood.

Graham Doyle, Harvard Street reiterated concerns raised by the previous speaker, noting that they participated in a traffic study in the area that was completed in 2006 and resulted in traffic calming not going forward for Allan Street. Doyle noted that it will take much longer for fire trucks to arrive at their property in an emergency and indicated that there should have been better communication with area residents.

The Chair called three times for additional speakers and there were none.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 23, 2019, Halifax City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax – 1:00 p.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Phoebe Rai
Legislative Assistant