



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 26, 2019**

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

REGRETS: Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Lindell Smith

**OTHERS
PRESENT:** Councillor Whitman

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation and Public Works
Colin Taylor, Solicitor
David Perusse, 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 1:02 p.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 1:50 p.m., reconvened in public session at 3:09 p.m., and adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 25, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Outhit

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

15.1 Councillor Austin – Art in the Right-of-Way

15.2 Councillor Austin - Crichton Avenue Candidate Bike Route

15.3 Councillor Nicoll - Integrated Mobility Plan and Infrastructure Projects

Private and Confidential Information Report for Item 14.1 LEGAL ADVICE

Councillor Austin requested that Item 11.1 Halifax Transit Moving Forward Together Plan (MFTP) Corridor Routes Review, be deferred to the next regular meeting of the Standing Committee.

Councillor Outhit requested that the Standing Committee move Item 17 Public Participation forward on the agenda to take place prior to Item 12 Reports.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Outhit

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. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received for items 12.1.1 and 12.3.1, as well as correspondence submitted by Erica Lewis dated July 23, 2019 and by Nitesh Singh dated July 28, 2019. This correspondence was circulated to members of the Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations - None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

11.1 Halifax Transit Moving Forward Together Plan (MFTP) Corridor Routes Review

This item was deferred during the setting of the Order of Business.

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Proposed Route 91 – Hemlock Ravine

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 13, 2019
- Correspondence submitted by Josh Hagle

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to monitor operations along Oceanview Drive following the implementation of Route 91 – Hemlock Ravine to identify any adjustments to bus stop locations, on-street parking and/or the installation of additional pavement markings, signage or other infrastructure, as required, resulting from the implementation of the transit route.

Responding to questions from members of the Standing Committee, Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management, noted that collector streets qualify for traffic calming measures. They added that based on current resource restraints, it would be unlikely that Oceanview would undergo a traffic calming assessment in the next year or more. With regards to parking restrictions, it was noted that municipal staff and police are on the site regularly, and under the recommendation before the Standing Committee, no-parking signs would be installed by the school zones. Responding to further questions, Koutroulakis noted that most of the traffic along the route is generated from the neighbourhood and would not be considered 'short-cutting'.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

12.3.1 Councillor Cleary – Restricting Right Turns on Red Lights

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor Request for Consideration Form

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report that assess the potential benefits to vulnerable road users of restricting right turns by all or various vehicles on red lights at either all intersections or intersection at and/or near areas of pedestrian concentration including, but not limited to, pedestrian-oriented mainstreets, schools, community and recreation centres, libraries, parks, and other significant public spaces.

Councillor Cleary spoke to the motion, noting that approximately 20% of accidents with vulnerable road users result from right-turn movements. They requested that staff be directed to examine the potential benefits of restricting right turns on red lights as a means of reducing collisions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 LEGAL ADVICE

The following item was dealt with by the Standing Committee In Camera (In Private), and no further action was required.

15. ADDED ITEMS

15.1 Councillor Austin – Art in the Right-of-Way

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor Request for Consideration Form

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report on street art that outlines and explains any legal restrictions preventing HRM from considering street art at crosswalks and furthermore, makes recommendations concerning:

- (1) A trial 3d crosswalk**
- (2) Enabling the use of art in tactical urbanism projects**
- (3) Allowing for art on sidewalks**
- (4) Allowing for placemaking on higher-volume streets**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15.2 Councillor Austin - Crichton Avenue Candidate Bike Route

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor Request for Consideration Form

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report on adding Crichton Avenue in Dartmouth to the candidate bike routes identified in the Active Transportation Priorities Plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15.3 Councillor Nicoll - Integrated Mobility Plan and Infrastructure Projects

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor Request for Consideration Form

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prioritize the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP) related projects as part of the capital budget process considering the principles and considerations outlined in the staff reports presented to the Budget Committee in July and September 2019 and return for approval to the Budget Committee for development of the 2021-2022 budget.

Speaking to the motion, Councillor Austin clarified that while Integrated Mobility Plan related projects came before the Budget Committee when they initially considered the capital budget process in July and September 2019, the motion before the Standing Committee would be asking Council to prioritize those projects.

John Traves, Municipal Solicitor, suggested that the motion be amended so as to direct the Standing Committee's recommendation to the Budget Committee, rather than Halifax Regional Council, as the Budget Committee deals with more of the details in developing the capital budget. Councillor Austin agreed with the suggestion and put forward the following amendment.

THAT the motion be amended from "...the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer..." To "...the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer..."

The amended was considered friendly by the Standing Committee.

The motion before the Standing Committee was as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prioritize the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP) related projects as part of the capital budget process considering the principles and considerations outlined in the staff reports presented to the Budget Committee in July and September 2019 and return for approval to the Budget Committee for development of the 2021-2022 budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED AS AMENDED.

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This item was moved forward on the agenda during the setting of the Order of Business to take place prior to Item 12 Reports.

The Chair called for any members of the public wishing to speak to the Standing Committee to come forward.

Josh Hagle, Bedford, expressed their concerns to the Standing Committee regarding the proposed route 91 to Hemlock Ravine. They noted that no development has occurred in the Paper Mill Lake subdivision since 2001, yet the area has experienced significant traffic issues. They noted that the main cause of this is a failed development agreement in the area under which Nine Mile Drive would have been developed into a collector street connecting to Moirs Mill Road and Oceanview Drive. This did not occur, and as a result, Nine Mile Drive and Moirs Mill Road are dead end streets, which has severely impacted the traffic flow in the area. They added that in 2014, Nine Mile Drive was connected to Larry Uteck Boulevard via Oceanview Drive, which has increased the flow of traffic beyond what was intended for these streets. They expressed their opposition to the proposal to add a transit route on Oceanview Drive when it is already operating over its design capacity. They cited several Municipal traffic assessments to support the notion that the traffic on Oceanview Drive exceeds its design capacity.

The Chair called three (3) times for any further members of the public wishing to speak to the Standing Committee to come forward; there were none.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 24, 2019

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant