



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2021**

PRESENT: Hugh Millward, Chair
Douglas Wetmore, Vice Chair
Councillor Becky Kent
Elizabeth Pugh
Alison Carlyle
Milena Khazanavicius
Myles McCormick
Peter Zimmer
Ashleigh Boers
Andrew Taylor
Paul Berry

REGRETS: Mohammad Ehsan

STAFF: Haruka Aoyama, Legislative Assistant
Alicia Wall, Legislative Support

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

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.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m., and the Committee adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 20, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Paul Berry

THAT the minutes of May 20, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Committee requested that Item 8.1.1 be dealt with following Item 6.

MOVED by Andrew Taylor, seconded by Councillor Kent

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. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received for item 7.3. This correspondence was circulated to the Committee.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

7.2 Petitions – none

7.3 Presentations – Bikeep Micromobility Solutions

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence from Barry Smith
- Presentation dated June 17, 2021

Jones Lindner, on behalf of Bikeep, presented to the Committee indicating it is a global micro-mobility enabler company that has been in operation for about eight years. They provide parking systems for bikes, e-bikes and scooters.

Drivers for developing this system include the lack of adequate and secure bike parking in most cities, as well as increasing bike costs and the need to eliminate bike theft. It was also noted that cycling is good for personal health, productivity, decreasing traffic congestion and better for the environment.

The Bikeep system has four layers of security, is designed with an accessibility lens and can be equipped with a charging station. The installation is easy, and it does not require regular maintenance. A copy of the presentation is on file.

In response to the presentation, members asked if there was a cost to users and how the systems stand up to various weather conditions. The Committee also encouraged the speaker to reach out to the Transportation Standing Committee and staff with the presentation.

Lindner indicated the recommendation is for systems to be free for users, but it is dependent on the operator. The systems can be used in a range of temperatures between -30 and +70 degrees Celsius. The racks can also be enclosed if need be.

8. REPORTS/DISCUSSION/UPDATES

8.1 STAFF UPDATES

David MacIsaac, Active Transportation Supervisor provided the following updates to the Committee:

- Updates have been made to the AAA Bikeway Network Update & Status website, the Online Bike Map, as well as the How to get Around: Cycling website and links were provided.
- Staff have gone out to assess the Chain Lake Drive crossing at Exit 0 and note the area requires pavement markings to be repainted, signage directing vehicles to yield to pedestrians when turning right, as well as adjustments to the placement of signage. A further update will be provided to the Committee.

In response, the Committee noted the importance of educating the public and drawing attention to the one-metre law and promoting cycling awareness. It was also noted that now would be a good time to paint crosswalks rather than waiting until the start of the school year, and flashing lights would be helpful at the Chain Lake Drive crossing.

8.1.1 Shannon Park Active Transportation Updates

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated June 17, 2021

Dean MacDougall, Planner II, Current Planning presented to the Committee with respect to the proposed development agreement to develop the former Shannon Park lands to allow the creation of a mixed-use community of about 7000 residents. The community would include various types housing, commercial space, park space, public streets, municipal services and a new transit facility.

Some of the active transportation infrastructure being proposed includes a main bike route and a proposed transit hub.

Public engagement has concluded, and the feedback is being analyzed. Staff are preparing a report for Community Council's consideration. A copy of the staff presentation is on file.

In response to the presentation, the Committee asked if the cycling infrastructure will be all ages and abilities (AAA), and if the development is being designed as a walkable community. It was also noted that diagonal crossings are not pedestrian friendly for those with sight impairments.

MacDougall noted that the AAA infrastructure is not proposed to reach this far, but that could change in the future and confirmed it will be a walkable community with sidewalks being proposed for both sides of the street.

The Committee further inquired as to whether or not cycling infrastructure is being proposed for the MacKay bridge and if affordable housing will be a requirement.

MacDougall noted that HRM cannot enforce affordable housing, however, funds received through the density bonusing process can be allocated to the HRM's affordable housing fund.

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David MacIsaac noted that staff have been contacted by Halifax Harbour Bridges who are looking at options to replace the MacKay Bridge. HRM staff have indicated that a new bridge would need to have pedestrian and cycling facilities.

8.1.2 Regional Plan Review Themes and Directions Report

- Staff presentation dated June 17, 2021

Kate Greene, Program Manager, Regional Policy presented to the Committee indicating that the Regional Plan was first adopted in 2006 and sets region-wide policy. A Regional Plan review is being undertaken and a public/stakeholder comment period began May 20, 2021 and will run until July 16, 2021.

Greene spoke to the review themes and growth targets indicating the Regional Plan supports accessibility and active transportation. The Regional Plan will be updated to support the Integrated Mobility Plan approach.

Functional plans for multi-modal corridors that are important for moving people, goods and vehicles are being looked. A copy of the staff presentation is on file.

In response to the presentation, the Committee would like to see as much open/green space maintained as possible and noted the importance of contacting as many organizations as possible who deal with individuals with disabilities as to ensure inclusivity in planning policy.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 15, 2021

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Alicia Wall
Legislative Support