



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
April 12, 2016**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage  
Deputy Mayor Matt Whitman  
Councillors: Barry Dalrymple  
David Hendsbee  
Lorelei Nicoll  
Gloria McCluskey  
Tony Mancini  
Waye Mason  
Jennifer Watts  
Linda Mosher  
Russell Walker  
Stephen Adams  
Reg Rankin  
Brad Johns  
Steve Craig  
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Councillor Bill Karsten

STAFF: Mr. John Traves, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Karen Brown, Acting Municipal Solicitor  
Mr. Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Cathy Collett, Legislative Assistant

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

A video recording of this meeting is available: [http://archive.isiglobal.ca/vod/halifax/archive\\_2016-04-12\\_live.mp4.html](http://archive.isiglobal.ca/vod/halifax/archive_2016-04-12_live.mp4.html)

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Council are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/160412cow-agenda.php>

*The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m., and recessed at 12:04 p.m. Committee of the Whole reconvened in at 1:01 p.m. Committee of the Whole adjourned at 2:56 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**3. Halifax Transit Moving Forward Together Plan**

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mosher

**THAT Mr. Wilson of the Amalgamated Transit Union be permitted to address the Committee of the Whole following the Staff presentation.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The following was before the Committee of the Whole:

- A Transportation Standing Committee report dated March 29, 2016 with attached Staff Report dated March 9, 2016
- A Staff Presentation dated April 12, 2016
- An Omissions/Clarifications page from Halifax Transit Staff
- Janice Evans, Allison Graham, It's More than Buses, Fusion Halifax, Ecology Action Centre, Planning and Design Centre, The Village on Main), Andrew Inch, Iman Badawi, Nathan Brett, Amina Khan, Maria Koutovenko, Leslee Mansour, Vangie Sadler, Kevin Priest, Marguerite McMillan, Gregory Murray, Shalom Mandaville, Kathryn Hull, Jim Payne, Paul MacKinnon, Azza Badawi, Joy Woolfrey, Ronald Yhap, Don and Janice Lindsay, Donna and Bruce Gaudet, Don Doiron, Dawn House and Christopher Clark, Hilda and J. Stuart Grossert, Nancy Conrad, Vancessa Fitzgerald, Centrecorp Management Services Limited, Peter Secord, and Julie Fraser,.
- A map circulated at the beginning of the meeting by Councillor Hendsbee
- A handout from Councillor Mancini "Summary of Main Street Dartmouth Issues and Proposals"

Mr. Dave Reage and Ms. Patricia Hughes provided a presentation addressing the Moving Forward Together Plan.

The Chair invited Mr. Ken Wilson, president of the ATU, to address the Council.

Mr. Wilson thanked the Council for allowing him to speak. He commented that the Moving Forward Together Plan presents a number of issues. As he explained, one of the four principles of the plan is to increase the proportion of resources to high service areas; however, this has already been done. Mr. Wilson commented that the principle of a simple, transfer-based network is a problem because there is not yet the infrastructure for this. He continued that Halifax Transit would lose ridership if the new plan goes forward and that it does not make sense to change the plan based on outdated data when the forthcoming increased technology will provide updated data in the near future. Mr. Wilson commented on the importance of including operators in the discussion regarding transit plans. He reminded Council that reducing bus service will also reduce Access A Bus service and outlined a number of other route changes that he believed were inadvisable.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Mason

**That Committee of the Whole Recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Approve the 2016/2017 Halifax Transit Annual Service Plan;**

2. **Approve the Moving Forward Together Plan as the strategic direction for the growth and development of the Halifax Transit network, with the following corrections (and as outlined in the handout entitled “Omissions/Clarifications to Plan”):**
  - a) **Amend the Route 1 Spring Garden description found in Attachment A, Appendix B, page B1 to reflect two way transit service on Gottingen Street, as shown on map in Appendix A;**
  - b) **Amend the Route 4 Lacewood description found in Attachment A, Appendix B, page B2 to reflect routing as shown on map in Appendix A;**
  - c) **Remove Table 6 Level of Service Guidelines found on Attachment A, Section 3.6, page 45; and**
  - d) **Include a new table to summarize the service spans and frequencies of ferry routes on Attachment A, Appendix D, page D-1.**
3. **Approve the Moving Forward Principles as the guiding principles for Halifax Transit over the life of the Moving Forward Together Plan;**
4. **Direct staff to prepare for implementation of the future transit network as described in the Plan and Appendix A Network Maps (attachment B of the staff report dated March 9, 2016); and**
5. **Adopt the Performance Measures, including the Ridership Guidelines, as described in Part 6 of the Moving Forward Together Plan (attachment B of the staff report dated March 9, 2016).**

The Committee of the Whole agreed that the Moving Forward Together Plan should be approved as presented and that any amendments would require a staff report before any action is taken. Committee members thanked staff for their hard work on the plan and discussed the importance of finding a balance in meeting the needs of citizens and operating an efficient and effective transit system.

Councillor Johns noted the cultural and historical importance of Lucasville and indicated that transit service should be extended to this community. He indicated that he would bring forward a motion regarding transit routes to Lucasville later on in the meeting.

Responding to questions of clarification from Councillor Adams, Ms. Hughes explained that Access A Bus services do run in parallel with conventional transit services.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on options providing the residents of Eastern Passage/Cow Bay transit service to Cole Harbour and possibly continuing to Portland Hills terminal.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on leaving the Purcell’s Cove bus route 15 service as is.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on extending one small portion of the airport route (320), to come into the community of Fall River as part of its regular route.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on considering that Route 55 be extended and that the following options be evaluated:**

- i) Extend Route 55 to the community of Waverly and return.**
- ii) Extend Route 55 through Waverly to the Fall River Park and Ride.**
- iii) Extend Route 55 through Waverly to Sackville Terminal on Cobequid Road**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the proposed link into Cole Harbour being implemented prior to 2021.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on having the route number associated with the bus routes in North Preston and Cherry Brook remain as is.**

**MOTION TO AMEND AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on considering the proposed alternative Route 370 (Porters Lake) as identified in the Map distributed by Councillor Hendsbee at the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 12, 2016.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

**The Committee of the Whole recessed at 12:04 p.m.**

**The Committee of the Whole reconvened at 1:01 p.m.**

The Committee of the Whole discussed the important role ferries play in the HRM transit network and the need for more accessible methods of transit in HRM.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Outhit

**THAT changes to conventional routes do not decrease Access A Bus services.**

Mr. Reage explained that no changes to Access A Bus will happen before the report on Access A Bus comes forward.

Mr. Traves, Acting Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), commented that it would be better to consider accessible transit as a whole at this time.

**Subsequent to this information, the mover agreed to withdraw the motion.**

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the existing 6 Quinpool route being retained as is.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on extending the Hammonds Plains Busses to Tantallon and Tantallon busses to Hammonds Plains, Peggy's Cove and Hubbards.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Craig the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the proposed route 93 (Bedford), which goes through the Nottingham Community, determine how it could be expanded to service residents in the area surrounding the Sunnyside mall and Bedford Place Mall.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

Mayor Savage vacated the Chair and addressed the Committee of the Whole. He commented that the new transit plan has been the subject of public consultation since he was elected and that the transit plan will have a huge impact on communities. He noted that both staff and Councillors are working hard towards making the plan the best it can be and that, overall, this is a positive process.

Referring to Appendix A outlining the routes which are to be removed it was MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on whether the Sambro Community Transit Route 402 could be removed.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on continuing with proposed #10 on the current route #10 on Inglis and Beaufort.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watt the motion be amended as

follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on extending local bus service, such as proposed route 24, to provide service to the Joseph Howe Manor, the seniors residence located at 5515 Victoria Road.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on considering the detailed report submitted by the Main Street BID as distributed at the COW meeting of April 12, 2016, with respect to adopting its recommendation for Route 63, 68, Route 55, and Route 401.**

**MOTION TO AMEND WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Mason the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on considering the Greater Burnside Business Association communication from April 8, 2016 to not locate the bus terminal at Wright Avenue and Akerley Blvd. and locate it at or near the Dartmouth 4 pad.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor McCluskey the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on directing staff to amend (or add) so there is a corridor route running North South in Dartmouth connecting Burnside, Highfield Terminal, Bridge Terminal, Downtown Dartmouth and Woodside, to improve regional connections to these locations and also make it easier to travel within Dartmouth.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mancini the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on extending services for routes associated with the service industry (downtown areas – Scotia Square/Alderney Gate) and Dartmouth Crossing to co-inside with working hours.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Adams the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the existing route 5 which becomes 26 Springvale Avenue continue to travel past Mumford to downtown and not terminate at the Mumford Terminal.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Craig indicated that he would like to address public engagement.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Outhit the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT a staff be directed to prepare a report on how a public engagement model could be instated for Transit that contains some form of Committee feedback.**

The Municipal Solicitor and the Acting CAO explained that this is a separate matter from the Moving Forward Together Plan and should be addressed at another time.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested that this would be better addressed at the Transportation Standing Committee.

**Based on this information, the mover agreed to withdraw the motion for the time being.**

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the history of transit services (planned and actual) to the community of Lucasville, including past budget commitments and changes to the transit boundaries, including options on how to extend conventional service to the community, present options to provide a peak time service to Lucasville community and include any financial commitments Halifax Transit could commit to provide the alternate service.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Mason the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on identifying other local routes in the proposed plan that through improved service levels or extensions may in the future provide crosstown service as part of a grid network high frequency grid [potential include the 29, the 72, the 84 from Sackville and the 32 – all numbers in the new plan].**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the proposed Rosalyn Rd route for #1 bus during afternoon peak hours that included rationale for this route, alternatives considered, options for peak hour service, options for identifying traffic calming and how this proposal relates to the Integrate Mobility Plan.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on route 32 Cowie Hill Express which becomes the Route 124 Leiblin Link continue to travel on Summer Street and not Robie Street.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason the motion be amended as follows:

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on enabling East-West routes to run across north end peninsula**

**including identifying physical improvements to roads and installation of enhanced shelters at key transfer points in order to allow more riders convenience connections from Bayers Road and Mumford terminals to Barrington Street.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor McCluskey commented that a bus shelter is needed on Baker drive,

The main motion as amended now reads:

That Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve the 2016/2017 Halifax Transit Annual Service Plan;
2. Approve the Moving Forward Together Plan as the strategic direction for the growth and development of the Halifax Transit network, with the following corrections (and as outlined in the handout entitled "Omissions/Clarifications to Plan"):
  - a) Amend the Route 1 Spring Garden description found in Attachment A, Appendix B, page B1 to reflect two way transit service on Gottingen Street, as shown on map in Appendix A;
  - b) Amend the Route 4 Lacewood description found in Attachment A, Appendix B, page B2 to reflect routing as shown on map in Appendix A;
  - c) Remove Table 6 Level of Service Guidelines found on Attachment A, Section 3.6, page 45; and
  - d) Include a new table to summarize the service spans and frequencies of ferry routes on Attachment A, Appendix D, page D-1.
3. Approve the Moving Forward Principles as the guiding principles for Halifax Transit over the life of the Moving Forward Together Plan;
4. Direct staff to prepare for implementation of the future transit network as described in the Plan and Appendix A Network Maps (attachment B of the staff report dated March 9, 2016); and
5. Adopt the Performance Measures, including the Ridership Guidelines, as described in Part 6 of the Moving Forward Together Plan (attachment B of the staff report dated March 9, 2016).
6. That staff be directed to prepare a supplemental report, outlining options, financial and operational implications on the following transit matters, identified at the Committee of the Whole meeting, on April 12, 2016:
  - a. Options providing the residents of Eastern Passage/Cow Bay transit service to Cole Harbour and possibly continuing to Portland Hills terminal.
  - b. Consider leaving the Purcell's Cove bus route 15 service as is.
  - c. Extension of a portion of the airport route (320), to service the community of Fall River as part of its regular route.
  - d. Consider that the proposed link into Cole Harbour be implemented prior to 2021.

- e. Consider that the route numbers associated with the bus routes in North Preston and Cherry Brook remain as is.
- f. Consider the proposed alternate Route 370 (Porters Lake) as identified in the Map distributed by Councillor Hendsbee at the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 12, 2016.
- g. Consider the extension of Route 55 and that the following options be evaluated:
  - i) extend Route 55 to the community of Waverley and return.
  - ii) extend Route 55 through Waverley to the Fall River Park and Ride.
  - iii) extend Route 55 through Waverley to Sackville Terminal on Cobequid Road.
- h. Existing Route 6 Quinpool be retained as is.
- i. Extend Hammonds Plains buses to Tantallon and Tantallon buses to Hammonds Plains, Peggy's Cove and Hubbards.
- j. Determine how the proposed Route 93, (Bedford), which goes through the Nottingham Community, could be expanded to service residents in the area surrounding the Sunnyside Mall and Bedford Place Mall.
- k. Determine whether the Sambro Community Transit Route 402 could be removed.
- l. Examine continuing with proposed #10 on the current route #10 on Inglis and Beaufort.
- m. Extending local bus service, such as proposed route 24, to provide service to the Joseph Howe Manor, the seniors residence located at 5515 Victoria Road.
- n. Consider the detailed report submitted by the Main Street BID as distributed at the COW meeting of April 12, 2016, with respect to adopting its recommendation for Route 63, 68, Route 55, and Route 401.
- o. Consider the Greater Burnside Business Association communication April 8, 2016 to not locate the bus terminal at Wright Avenue and Akerley Blvd. and locate it at or near the Dartmouth 4 Pad.
- p. Consider an amendment (or addition ) of a bus corridor route running North South in Dartmouth connecting Burnside, Highfield Terminal, Bridge Terminal, Downtown Dartmouth and Woodside, to improve regional connections to these locations and also make it easier to travel within Dartmouth.
- q. Consider extending service for routes associated with the service industry Downtown areas – Scotia Square/Alderney Gate and Dartmouth Crossing to coincide with working hours.
- r. Consider extending existing Route 5 (which becomes 26 Springvale Avenue) continue beyond Mumford to downtown and not terminate at the Mumford Terminal.
- s. Provide a history of transit services (planned and actual) to the community of Lucasville, including past budget commitments and changes to the transit boundaries, including options on how to extend conventional service to the community, present options to provide a peak time service to Lucasville community and include any financial commitments Halifax Transit could commit to provide the alternate service.
- t. Identify other local routes in the proposed plan that through improved service levels or extensions may in the future provide crosstown service as part of a grid network high frequency grid [Potentials include the 29, the 72, the 84 from Sackville and the 32 – all numbers in the new plan].
- u. Implications of the proposed Roslyn Rd route for #1 bus during afternoon peak hours that included rationale for this route, alternatives considered, options for peak hour service, options for identifying traffic calming and how this proposal relates to the Integrated Mobility Plan.

- v. Extension of Route 32 Cowie Hill Express (which becomes the Route 124 Leiblin Link) continue to travel on Summer Street and not on Robie Street.
- w. Consider enabling East-West routes to run across north end peninsula including identifying physical improvements to roads and installation of enhanced shelters at key transfer points in order to allow more riders convenient connections from Bayers Road and Mumford terminals to Barrington Street.

The question on the Main Motion as amended was called.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Outhit

**THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report (recommendation) to the Transportation Standing Committee regarding a public engagement model, to allow citizens to advise Halifax Transit on public transit issues.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Kevin Arjoon  
Municipal Clerk