



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
April 27, 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Outhit, Chair  
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Wayne Mason  
Councillor Lindell Smith  
Councillor Shawn Cleary  
Councillor Richard Zurawski

STAFF: Dave Reage, Director of Halifax Transit  
Sara Knight, Solicitor  
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

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

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to are available online:  
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCtransp/170427tsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. and adjourned at 2:23 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Outhit, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 23, 2017**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the minutes of March 23, 2017 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT PASSED.**

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

Additions: None

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**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 – NONE**

**10.2 Petitions – NONE**

**10.3 Presentation**

**10.3.1 Ben Wedge – Rethinking HRM's parking "problem" with parking benefit districts**

Ben Wedge provided a presentation with respect to Parking Benefit Districts. Councillor Outhit thanked Ben Wedge for the presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

In response to questions of clarification, Wedge noted the following:

- Wedge advised that the municipality should consider time-limited parking meters in evenings and on weekends. He further noted that a staff report could be generated by the committee to answer questions respecting evening and weekend parking within proposed parking benefit districts in more detail.

- Most of the universities and colleges in HRM are located outside of the Business Improvement Districts. However, Dalhousie and Saint Mary's University would be good partners in creating a parking benefit district to alleviate parking concerns around those institutions.
- The creation of parking benefit districts in HRM is dependent on the buy-in from the Business Improvement Districts (BID). Further, the municipality should consider a blanket policy which would allow BID's to opt-in to the program, to share a portion of the parking revenue, and provide a say in determining the price.

### **10.3.2 Jeff Blair, It's More than Busses – Designing for Ridership: Integrating Wayfinding, Information, Maps and Signage into public spaces**

Jeff Blair, of It's More than Busses provided a presentation with respect to Designing for Ridership: Integrating Wayfinding, Information, Maps and Signage into public spaces. Councillor Outhit thanked Jeff Blair for the presentation and request questions of clarification from members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

In response to questions of clarification, Blair noted the following:

- Wayfinding is about using the built environment to get around and only intervening when necessary. Wedge further noted that Airports are a good example of how to effectively use wayfinding infrastructure to get around.
- To effectively utilize wayfinding in HRM, the number one thing that is needed is a better transit map. In addition to this, frequency, speed, reliability and ease of use for Transit is also important.
- Increasing the prominence of wayfinding infrastructure ends up being the best marketing tool for a city's transit system.
- There is an opportunity for groups such as It's more than Busses to obtain funding under the Connect 2 project Grant administered by the provincial Department of Energy to further develop wayfinding integration in the municipality. It's More than Busses is currently working with staff to on this matter.

## **11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **12. REPORTS**

### **12.1 STAFF**

#### **12.1.1 Alternate Side of the Street Parking**

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 31, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Regional Council:**

- 1. Direct the CAO to instruct staff to begin removal of overnight parking restrictions related to street cleaning activities in those areas where daytime parking is minimal and switch to daytime sweeping operation in those areas;**
- 2. Direct the CAO to instruct staff to continue overnight sweeping operations in those areas where high-demand daytime parking exists using the new, quieter sweeper equipment to determine if operations would still impact residents as it pertains to noise; and,**

- 3. Direct the CAO to instruct staff to continue to assess street sweeping routes on an on-going basis to identify any further areas that could be moved to daytime operations because of minimal daytime parking demands.**

In response to a question from the Committee, Sara knight, Solicitor expressed concern that the alternative recommendation is in opposition to the recommendation in the staff report and should not be considered as an amendment to the main motion.

Councillor Mason advised of his intention to move a deferral of the matter so that he may bring a revised motion respecting piloting an alternate side of the street parking to allow for daytime streetsweeping to be funded in 2018/19 operating budget.

In response to a question of clarification, Don Pellerine, Superintendent - Streets & Sidewalks advised that outside of peninsular Halifax, the residential areas are swept four to five times per year for curbed streets. On peninsula Halifax, curbed streets inside the core are swept weekly.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

**THAT March 31, 2017 staff report be deferred to a future meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **12.2.1 Taxi Safety**

The following was before the Committee

- A staff recommendation report dated March 21, 2017

Kevin Hindle, Regional Coordinator License Standards provided an overview of the staff report dated March 21, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to:**

- 1. Draft amendments to Administrative Order #39 so that; Licensing Decals are displayed inside the front passenger and back passenger areas of a vehicle for hire to identify the license number of a vehicle.**
- 2. Create an Request for Proposal (RFP) toward an in-depth industry review and jurisdictional scan including recommendations not limited to the following:**
  - **Incorporating new industry technologies, e.g., in taxi video / audio recording systems, GPS real-time tracking systems, smartphone applications; etc.**
  - **License restrictions;**
  - **Sensitivity and Safety Training;**
  - **Passenger/Driver safety measures, e.g., in car shields, emergency alarm buttons and passenger trip logs;**
  - **Standards of professional, moral and ethical conduct of license holders; and Conditions that would result in an automatic suspension or revocation of a License.**

In response to questions of clarification from members of the Transportation Standing Committee, Kevin Hindle noted the following:

- The decal was designed in concert with the Taxi/Limousine owner/operators. The code that is visible on the decal allows individuals to access the HRM information page as well as the license number of the taxi via their smartphone.
- The decal can be likened to a corporate ID card for large organization. It allows individuals who are using a taxi to identify the driver, and company.
- The proposed industry review and jurisdictional scan will bring forward recommendations which may trigger amendments to the By-law and Administrative Order respecting the Regulation of Taxis. It could include measures to mandate changes to the industry which Council has the authority to undertake.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.3 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.4 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**13. MOTIONS**

**14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

**14.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – March 23, 2017**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Smith

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee approve the In Camera Minutes of March 23, 2017 as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**16.1 Councillor Mason**

“TAKE NOTICE that at the next meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee, I will move that the committee request a staff report regarding challenges and opportunities regarding a one-time redirection of sidewalk replacement, renewal and new sidewalk funding to fund a program to improve key curb ramps at critical intersections leading to schools, institutions, hospitals, commercial areas and transit terminal and key bus stops and bring sidewalk infrastructure to the revised accessible CSA standards”.

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Councillor Outhit called three times for members of the public to address the Transportation Standing Committee. There were no speakers present.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 25, 2017**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

**Transportation Standing Committee Minutes**  
**April 27, 2017**

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Liam MacSween  
Legislative Assistant