



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 22, 2017**

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

GUESTS: Deputy Mayor Steve Craig
Councillor David Hendsbee

STAFF: Bruce Zvaniga, Director of Transportation and Public Works
Colin Taylor, Solicitor
Liam MacSween, 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 1:00 p.m. and recessed at 2:30 p.m. The Standing Committee reconvened in at 2:40 p.m. and adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

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

Additions: None

Councillor Nicoll requested that information Item 2. Memorandum from the Director of Transportation and Public Works dated April 7, 2017 re: Transportation Association of Canada Standards be brought forward for discussion at the July 27, 2017 meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

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

8.1 April 27, 2017 – Alternate Side of the Street Parking

The following documentation was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated April 27, 2017

The motion was separated for voting purposes as per Section 90 of Administrative Order One.

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.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

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.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The following alternative motion was suggested in place of recommendation number two:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request that Halifax Regional Council direct the CAO to instruct staff to include for consideration in the 2018-2019 proposed budget the cost of piloting alternate side of the street parking to allow for daytime street sweeping in the area identified in the staff report dated April 27, 2017.

ALTERNATIVE MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence – NONE

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Gerry Post –Access-a-Bus Service in HRM

The following documentation was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation dated June 22, 2017.

Gerry Post, Accessibility Advocate, provided a presentation in relation to a User's Strategic Review on Access-a-Bus Service. Councillor Outhit thanked Gerry Post for the presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee.

In response to questions of clarification, Gerry Post noted the following:

- A buddy service comprised of volunteers to assist Access-A-Bus users who can use conventional transit would be beneficial as it would take the strain off Access-A- Bus service.
- Allowing accessible taxis to advertise on roof tops will help individuals in wheel chairs identify accessible taxi's and will also provide operators with an additional income stream.
- Access-A-Bus service should be considered under the Integrated Mobility Plan and integrated with existing Land-uses.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

11.1 June 7, 2017 - Memorandum from the Director of Finance and Access Management dated June 1, 2017 re: Halifax Urban Greenway Association (HUGA) Trail License or Easement

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated June 1, 2017

In response to questions of clarification, David MacIassac, Active Transportation Supervisor noted that staff does not currently know the best alignment for the facility and are about to engage a consultant to conduct a study on the matter.

Mike Wile, Acting Manager Corporate Real Estate, advised that there has been some attempt to appraise the land. Staff will involve CN and other private property owners in the process. Wile further noted that the report from the consultant will likely be submitted by the end of the calendar year.

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Access-A-Bus Service Strategic Review

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated April 13, 2017
- A staff presentation dated June 22, 2017

David Reage, Director of Halifax Transit provided a presentation with respect to the Access-A-Bus Strategic Review. Councillor Outhit thanked Reage for the presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Reconfirm the temporal and geographic restrictions on the delivery of paratransit service approved by Council in 2010 as a baseline for future planning;**
- 2. Direct Halifax Transit to propose revisions to the current set of Eligibility Criteria for use of the Access-A-Bus service with the aim of restricting eligibility to those who cannot use the conventional transit service; and**
- 3. Direct Halifax Transit to continue charging registered Access-A-Bus users standard rates to ride the conventional transit system.**

In response to questions of clarification, Dave Reage noted the following:

- Staff does not have a plan to provide assistants to Access-A-Bus Drivers. Currently, Access-a-Bus allows attendants who are travelling with individuals to use the service without paying a fare.
- Passive restraint systems for conventional transit are currently under review by staff for installation in the existing and future fleet.
- Staff are currently rebuilding the process and software for Access-A-Bus bookings to ensure that scheduling is done more efficiently.
- Staff are investigating new vehicle types for Access-a-Bus. The vehicles may end up being smaller.
- Under the previous Council direction, the hours of operation for Access-A-Bus are set. That restriction remains in place.
- Currently there are 26 clients that fall under the temporal restriction of Access-A-Bus Service. A best estimate to continue service to those clients is for \$36,000.00 per annum.

Discussion ensued among the members with respect to service “grandfathering” as well as the costs and operational impacts associated with extending Access-A-Bus service to the full-service day.

The Standing Committee took a break at 2:30 p.m.

The Standing Committee reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

The motion was separated for voting purposes as per Section 90 of Administrative Order One.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Reconfirm the temporal and geographic restrictions on the delivery of paratransit service approved by Council in 2010 as a baseline for future planning.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

2. Direct Halifax Transit to propose revisions to the current set of Eligibility Criteria for use of the Access-A-Bus service with the aim of restricting eligibility to those who cannot use the conventional transit service.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. Direct Halifax Transit to continue charging registered Access-A-Bus users standard rates to ride the conventional transit system.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Mason suggested the following alternative motion in place of recommendation one:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request that Halifax Regional Council direct the CAO to instruct staff to:

a.) Continue to provide paratransit service to clients currently in receipt of service effective the date of the April 13, 2017 staff report.

b.) Prepare a staff report regarding the cost and operational impacts of extending Access-a-bus service to the full Access-a-bus service day regardless of hours of operation of conventional service in the area.

ALTERNATIVE MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The following additional motion was put forward for consideration by the Standing Committee:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee waive the rules of order with respect to notice of motion and request that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report that will, after consultation with the Taxi & Limousine Liaison Group, taxi operators, and dispatch companies, present options for the development of a service delivery contract or other arrangements with taxi operators and dispatch companies that will support a sustainable framework to ensure the 24 hour provision of an accessible taxi service, and further, the Transportation Standing Committee shall require monthly verbal updates on progress on this motion.

Two-Third Majority required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

**12.1.2 Halifax Transit 2016/17 Fourth Quarter Key Performance Indicator Report
(i) Information Report dated May 30, 2017
(ii) Staff presentation**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated May 30, 2017
- A staff presentation dated June 22, 2017

Patricia Hughes, Manager of Scheduling provided a presentation on Halifax Transit 2016/17 Fourth Quarter Key Performance Indicator report. Councillor Outhit thanked Patricia Hughes for the presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee/

In response to questions of clarification, Patricia Hughes noted that Halifax Transit is working diligently to expand the Low-Income Transit Pass program and have added midday service on the Woodside route.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee forward the information report and presentation to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 COMMITTEE UPDATES

12.3.1 Update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee

The following documentation was before the Standing Committee:

- An update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee dated June 22, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee as submitted.

12.3.2 Update from the Accessibility Advisory Committee

The following documentation was before the Standing Committee:

- An update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee dated June 22, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee as submitted

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – June 7, 2017

The following motion was passed in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the In Camera (In Private) Minutes of June 7, 2017 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION

16.1 Councillor Cleary

“TAKE NOTICE that at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee, I intend to move a motion to request staff report regarding the participation of the Chain of Lakes Trail in the Rum Runners Trail”.

16.2 Councillor Cleary

“TAKE NOTICE that at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee, I intended to move a motion that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report regarding the future roles and responsibilities of community associations with respect to the construction, maintenance and operation of active transportation facilities in Halifax and with respect to the relationship of such community associations with the municipality”.

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 27, 2017

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant