



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 26, 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Outhit, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Wayne Mason
Councillor Lindell Smith
Councillor Sean Cleary
Councillor Richard Zurawski

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 adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 28, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Zurawski.

THAT the minutes of June 28, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Transportation Standing Committee agreed by consensus to move public participation up on the agenda to take place after Item No. 10.3.2.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

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

The Legislative Assistant noted correspondence received by the Municipal Clerk's Office in relation to agenda item 12.1.1 which was previously distributed to members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions

10.2.1 Councillor Smith

Councillor Smith submitted a petition from the North End Business Association containing 389 signatures requesting alternative solutions for the proposed Transit Priority Corridor for Gottingen Street.

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Kiran Sachdev and Shelly Ogilvie, HRM Safe Streets for Everyone - Crosswalk Safety in HRM

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation dated July 26, 2018 entitled:

Kiran Sachdev and Shelly Ogilvie of HRM Safe Streets for Everyone respecting Crosswalk Safety in HRM. Highlights of the presentation include:

- An overview of the recommendations made by the Crosswalk Safety Task Force in 2007 and the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee in 2016.
- Actions by the HRM traffic authority to implement the recommendations of the Task Force and Committee.
- Suggestions and areas of collaboration with community groups to incorporate crosswalk safety measures into the Strategic Road Safety Plan.

10.3.2 Amber Walker, Healthy Built Environment Coordinator, Nova Scotia Health Authority – Active Transportation Indicators and Health in the Halifax Region

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation dated July 26, 2018 entitled:

Amber Walker and Evan Brown of the Nova Scotia Health Authority provided a presentation with respect to Active Transportation Indicators and Health in the Halifax Region. Highlights of the presentation include:

- The role of public health and positive health outcomes for individuals and the population as a whole.
- A review of the project approach taken, naming the groups and organizations involved in the working group and the specific data partners and sources used.
- The framework supporting the project which involves: investment, infrastructure and information.
- Outcomes of the project which found that there were 40 indicators identified for monitoring, 28 of which provided baseline data.
- Key health findings and suggestions of future work.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Transit Priority Corridor: Gottingen Street

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 21, 2018
- Correspondence received by the Municipal Clerk's Office from Bennett R. Semple, Matt Neville, Michael Allen, P. Brennean-Alpert, Don Awalt, Anne Marie Lane, Jeanne Ceau, Paul Johnson, Matthew Reichertz, Ditta Kasdan, Patricia Cuttell, Matt Neville, Don Hunt, Ross Cantwell

Tanya Davis, Strategic Transportation Planning Program Manager and Erin Blay, Supervisor, Service Design & Projects provided a presentation on Transit Priority Corridors: Gottingen Street.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve detailed design as shown in Attachment B of the staff report dated June 21, 2018.**

2. Approve the parking loss mitigation plan as described in Attachment C of the staff report dated June 21, 2018.

3. Direct staff to proceed with implementation of a peak period (7am-9am and 3pm-6pm, Monday to Friday) northbound bus lane on the Gottingen Street corridor.

4. Approve the evaluation methodology as per Attachment E of this report through which the Gottingen Street peak period northbound bus lane will be measured and evaluated one year after implementation.

In response to questions from the Transportation Standing Committee, Davis and Blay noted the following:

- Staff will engage an external consultant to study the different ways in which the bridge head could operate.
- Staff have evaluated bus and vehicular speeding on Gottingen street, and will adjust pavement markings and signage in future years.
- The average speed for the route 7 bus between 21 and 24 km per hour.
- There have been 61 transit related collisions between 2001 and 2017.
- Gottingen Street was identified as a transit priority area in the Integrated Mobility Plan.
- Gottingen Street was brought up most frequently in public engagement sessions hosted by Transit staff as an area where delays, accessibility issues, and parking hindrances are common.
- Existing crosswalks will be maintained, the plan seeks to strategically lay out the bus stops near existing intersections for accessibility.
- Staff use several tools to do analysis, such as traffic models, a macro level model that models all the municipality, travel surveys and census data; engineering assessments and planning assessments are also contemplated when determining transit priority corridors identified in the Integrated Mobility Plan.
- An overview of the public consultation sessions involved with the project.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The following addition motion was proposed:

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a supplementary report outlining the detailed design of the complete streets element and public realm for the Gottingen Street Transit Priority Corridor for consideration by Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 2017/18 Fourth Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Report

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated June 5, 2018
- A staff presentation dated July 26, 2018

Erin Blay, Supervisor of Service Design and Project provided a presentation on the 2017/18 Fourth Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Report and responded to questions from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee forward the 2017/18 Fourth Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator report dated June 5, 2018 to Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

12.2.1 Active Transportation Advisory Committee Update

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff memorandum dated July 26, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Cleary

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Deputy Mayor Mason

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request that staff include in the forthcoming update report on the Municipal Design Guidelines (the Redbook), the opportunities and challenges in establishing a maximum design speed of 40 km/h for arterial and collector streets as defined by North Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) and Integrated Mobility Plan guidelines.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lindsay May, of Dartmouth provided commentary respecting the lack of, and proper maintenance of active transportation infrastructure in the Dartmouth commons.

Bruce of North End Halifax provided commentary with respect to the proposed transit priority corridor for Gottingen Street advising that parking enforcement will be a major issue.

Patricia Cuttell, of the North End Business Association expressed concerns respecting the proposed transit priority corridor for Gottingen. Cuttell noted concerns related to pedestrian safety and the lack of a parking loss mitigation plan. Cuttell concluded by noting that Barrington and Cogswell Streets would be a more appropriate area for a transit priority corridor.

Colin May, of Dartmouth, provided commentary on the state of active transportation and recreation facilities in Dartmouth advising that further investment from HRM is necessary in this area, particularly for the benefit of young children.

Ross Cantwell, of Halifax noted involvement as a developer on Gottingen Street. Cantwell expressed support for the use of active transportation and getting more people to use public transit. Cantwell raised concern with the proposed transit priority corridor for Gottingen Street advising that the plan proposed too many busses for a small street. Cantwell concluded that HRM should consider improving access to the Macdonald Bridge ramp as an alternative.

Jessica of Halifax, reiterated points raised by previous speakers respecting improvement to the bridge ramp.

Edward Eddlestien, of Halifax expressed concern that the proposed transit priority corridor for Gottingen Street will be detrimental to the community and those that prefer to cycle. Eddlestien reiterated concerns raised by previous speakers respecting a parking mitigation strategy and traffic congestion in the area.

Amy Moonshadow, of Halifax identified as a regular transit user and walker, noting that there are many empty busses on Gottingen Street already.

Jason Joseph, of Halifax raised concern respecting lack of parking and the potential impact the transit priority corridor could have on the community.

A Resident, of Halifax raised concern that the transit priority corridor for Gottingen Street will be detrimental to the Community. The resident provided alternative solutions such as increasing the frequency of one way streets to make traffic more efficient.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 27, 2018, Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax – 1:00 p.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant