



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DRAFT MINUTES  
November 26, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Waye Mason, Chair  
Councillor Becky Kent, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Tony Mancini  
Councillor Iona Stoddard  
Councillor Paul Russell  
Deputy Mayor Tim Outhit

**STAFF:** Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation & Public Works  
Kelly Denty, Director, Planning & Development  
Dave Reage, Director, Halifax Transit  
Taylor Collin, Solicitor  
Phoebe Rai, Deputy Clerk  
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Audit and Finance Standing Committee at a future meeting.*

*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](http://halifax.ca).*

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval at a future meeting.*

**Transportation Standing Committee Minutes  
November 26, 2020**

*The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 2:21 p.m. and returned to public session at 2:54 p.m. Standing Committee adjourned at 2:55 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**1.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Councillor Mason be nominated as Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Simon Ross-Siegel called three times for further nominations for the position of Chair. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

**THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Mason was elected as Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

Councillor Mason called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Councillor Kent be nominated as Vice Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Mason called three times for further nominations for the position of Vice Chair. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Kent was elected as Vice Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 17, 2020**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT the minutes of September 17, 2020 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Kent

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

**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 – NONE**
- 9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE**
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

**11.1 Councillor Cleary – Establishing a Crosswalk Location on the Williams Porter Connector Road**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT item 11.1 Councillor Cleary – Establishing a Crosswalk Location on the Williams Porter Connector Road be deferred to the December 10, 2020 meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee to enable Councillor Cleary to speak to the item.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 STAFF**

**12.1.1 2020/21 First Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator Report**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated September 15, 2020
- A staff presentation dated November 10, 2020

Patricia Hughes, Manager of Planning & Customer Engagement, provided the Standing Committee with a presentation on 2020/21 First Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicators.

Responding to questions from members of the Standing Committee, Patricia Hughes noted that current ridership indicators show that ridership during weekends is roughly similar to pre-pandemic levels, however weekday service is currently about 55% to 57%. Staff had been aiming for 60% and will continue to do so. Details regarding next steps for the West Bedford transit project and park and ride are on track to receive an update shortly. Construction work is anticipated to begin in April and conclude before the end of the 2021 construction season.

Marc Santilli, Manager of Technical Services responded to questions related to transit delays and the service improvement plan.

Several Councillors discussed concerns regarding mask policies for transit and raised concerns from residents regarding persons using transit while not wearing masks. Dave Reage, Director of Halifax Transit, noted that voluntary compliance has been quite high and very few transit users have declined to wear masks while using transit. Regarding enforcement, Dave Reage stated that Halifax Transit continues to follow Provincial guidelines and direction from Dr. Strang which at this time emphasize education and informing transit user of mask policies.

### **12.1.2 Review of Report Requests**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated October 26, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee review the attached list of report requests, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated October 26, 2020, and bring forward any items recommended to be withdrawn.**

Standing Committee requested that the following items be brought forward to be withdrawn:

- Bus Lane and Active Transportation Infrastructure - Spryfield to Urban Core
- Barrington Street Transit Priority Measures
- Changes to Active Transportation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **12.1.3 Child Transit Fares and Housekeeping Amendments – Fees By-law**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 10, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Russell

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

- 1. Adopt By-law U-107, the purpose of which is to amend Schedule 1 of By-law U-100, the User Charges By-law, establishing a permanent fare change for children twelve years of age and under, and adopting several housekeeping changes, as set out in Attachment E of the staff report dated August 10, 2020; and**
- 2. Direct staff to prepare a staff report considering the potential for discounting bulk purchases of single transit fares (ie tickets) for both non-profit agencies, and promotional events.**

Some Councillors raised concerns regarding the timing of the motion in the context of anticipated continuing lost income for transit due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Dave Reage, Director of Halifax Transit, stated that staff recognizes that while there will be challenges associated with rebuilding transit ridership following the pandemic, staff sees this as an investment in the future.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **12.1.4 Councillor Appointments to Boards and Committees**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff memorandum

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee:**

- 1. Nominate one (1) member to the Executive Standing Committee for a term to November 2022;**
- 2. Nominate one (1) member to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee for a term to November 2022;**
- 3. Nominate one (1) member to the Canadian Urban Transit Association for a term to November 2022; and**
- 4. Nominate the Chair or Designate from the Transportation Standing Committee membership to the Community Design Advisory Committee for a term to November 30, 2022.**

Standing Committee considered the slate of candidates and considered nominations.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT Councillor Mason be nominated as a member of the Executive Standing Committee for a term to November 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Phoebe Rai, Deputy Clerk, called three times for further nominations for the position. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT nominations for the position of a member of the Executive Standing Committee be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Councillor Kent be nominated as a member of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee for a term to November 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Phoebe Rai, Deputy Clerk, called three times for further nominations for the position. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT nominations for the position of a member of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Councillor Russell be nominated as a member of the Canadian Urban Transit Association for a term to November 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Phoebe Rai, Deputy Clerk, called three times for further nominations for the position. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT nominations for the position of a member of the Canadian Urban Transit Association be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT Councillor Mason be nominated as Chair from the Transportation Standing Committee membership to the Community Design Advisory Committee for a term to November 30, 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

**THAT Councillor Stoddard be nominated as a Designate from the Transportation Standing Committee membership to the Community Design Advisory Committee for a term to November 30, 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Following the nomination of Councillor Stoddard Councillor Mason withdrew from consideration for the position.

Phoebe Rai, Deputy Clerk, called three times for further nominations for the position. There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT nominations for the position of a member of the Community Design Advisory Committee be closed.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The motion before the Standing Committee now reads:

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee:**

- 1. Nominate Mason to the Executive Standing Committee for a term to November 2022;**
- 2. Nominate Kent to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee for a term to November 2022;**
- 3. Nominate Russell to the Canadian Urban Transit Association for a term to November 2022; and**
- 4. Nominate Stoddard to the Community Design Advisory Committee for a term to November 30, 2022.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.3 BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – NONE**

**13. MOTIONS**

**13.1 Councillor Cleary – Criteria for New Marked Crosswalks**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to review and establish criteria for new marked crosswalks that shall account for:**

- 1. not just existing crossings but also projected crossing demand;**
- 2. that takes into account land uses, present and future demand;**
- 3. pedestrian compliance, speed, safety, and crash history;**
- 4. recognizes that the practice of discouraging pedestrian crossings by leaving uncontrolled crossings unmarked is not a valid safety measure; and**
- 5. prioritizes proximity to schools, school walking routes, parks, trails, and other active transportation facilities as critical pedestrian destinations.**

Several Councillors expressed a desire that the report also address options for crosswalk criteria relating to crosswalk prioritization in school zones. Other Councillors raised a desire to address options for crosswalk criteria relating to crosswalk prioritization relating to tourism destinations and localized destinations that go beyond transportation elements. Another Councillor raised a desire to address opportunities to examine options for crosswalk prioritization in several locations including on Washmill Lake Drive and Langbrae Drive. Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management, stated that staff anticipates that as part of the upcoming capital plan staff will return to Regional Council with a plan to install an overhead lights intersection on Washmill Lake Drive, and staff proposed to have a further discussion with the Councillor regarding opportunities for crosswalks on Langbrae Drive.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

**To convene to in camera to discuss the Personnel Matter.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend the slate of candidates discussed in the In Camera (In Private) session to Halifax Regional Council for consideration.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NONE**

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 10, 2020**

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval at a future meeting.*

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel  
Legislative Assistant