



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
May 22, 2025**

PRESENT: Councillor Sam Austin, Chair
Councillor Kathryn Morse, Vice Chair
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Councillor John Young

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor Laura White

STAFF: Dave Reage, Executive Director, Strategic Infrastructure & Transportation Planning
Chris Giddens, Solicitor
Krista Vining, Team Leads, Legislative Assistants

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Transportation 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.

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1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 24, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the minutes of April 24, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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

10.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for items 13.1.2 and 13.1.3.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Jen Parker, Kidical Mass Halifax – Community demand for safe streets, designed for children's independent mobility

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated March 12, 2025
- Presentation dated May 22, 2025
- Handout dated May 22, 2025

Jen Parker, Kidical Mass Halifax gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

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MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to identify opportunities to incorporate indicators on young people and active transportation (i.e., where, when, and how they are cycling) into the monitoring and evaluation programs being considered as part of the Integrated Mobility Plan and any other relevant plans or programs. The report should also respond to the requests of the Kidical Mass presentation at TSC on May 22, 2025, including suggestions of using Intercept Surveys with kids and/or families using bikeways; Ride-along Audits with kids and/or families; and Screenline counts that include perceived demographic data, to measure who is using “AAA” cycling facilities, which includes counting children on their own bikes separately from on parents’ bikes, and counting in automated counter locations near kid-focused destinations (e.g., parks, playgrounds, schools, libraries, community centres, recreation facilities, etc.).

The staff report should also address the planning and design stages of AAA cycling infrastructure with an emphasis on public engagement that welcomes and facilitates children’s participation, as well as questions about cycling with children in municipal surveys (e.g. Shape Your City, Road Safety Survey, Traveller Opinion Survey, etc.).

Councillor Austin entered the meeting and assumed the Chair and Councillor Morse took their seat.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Kevin Wilson re: HRM Parking Fees & Establishing Parking Benefit Districts

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated March 24, 2025

Kevin Wilson gave a presentation, played a video entitled How to Hack Street Parking, that outlined how street parking in Halifax and most cities was priced too low to effectively manage spaces and spoke about the importance of establishing parking benefits districts. Wilson responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peggy Cameron, Halifax spoke about concerns with the proposed widening of Robie Street for the Transit Priority Corridor and referenced the handout circulated to the Standing Committee.

Howard Epstein, Halifax spoke about concerns with the proposed widening of Robie Street for the Transit Priority Corridor. Epstein responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Angie Herman, Casino Taxi Ltd / Novalea Holdings Ltd spoke about the proposed amendments to Administrative Order 39, *Respecting Taxi and Limousine Regulations*. Herman responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Ann Overgaard, Halifax Cycling Coalition spoke about the Regional Centre “AAA” Bikeway Network Delivery report.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 Rural Transit Grant Program Review

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The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated January 22, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the CAO to:

- 1. Establish a Rural Transit Advisory Group to lead and foster strategic partnerships with key stakeholders to implement the initiatives recommended in the staff report dated January 22, 2025;**
- 2. Prepare a staff report to amend Administrative Order 2014-012-ADM Respecting Grants for Rural Transit to establish a capital grants funding subcategory with defined funding criteria, priority outcomes, and evaluation measures for consideration and approval by the Grants Committee and Regional Council;**
- 3. Establish a professional development and training support program for Rural Transit Funding Program partners that leverages existing municipal training programs;**
- 4. Develop a fare integration strategy for Regional Council's consideration to facilitate transfers from rural transit services to the Halifax Transit network;**
- 5. Support brand awareness of rural transit services through Halifax Transit's existing marketing and communications channels; and**
- 6. Develop a Microtransit Service Plan for Regional Council's consideration that prioritizes addressing gaps in rural service.**

Patricia Huges, Director, Planning & Customer Engagement responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Annual Taxi and Limousine Rate Review – Amendment to Administrative Order #39, Respecting Taxi and Limousine Regulations

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 20, 2025
- Staff presentation dated May 22, 2025
- Correspondence from Angie Herman

Peter Nightingale, Manager, License Standards gave a presentation.

As set out in section 34 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, a motion was required to extend the time of the meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee extend the time of the meeting past 3:00 p.m.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

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THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 39, *the Taxi and Limousine Regulation Administrative Order*, as set out in Attachment 2 to the staff report dated February 20, 2025.

Nightingale and Chris Giddens, Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adjust taxi rates in accordance with Option 2, an unblended rate, as set out in the staff report dated February 20, 2025; and**
- 2. Request a supplementary report on modernizing Administrative Order 39, *the Taxi and Limousine Regulation Administrative Order*.**

Councillor Cuttell proposed including By-law T-1000, *Respecting the Regulation of Taxis, Accessible Taxis and Limousines*. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adjust taxi rates in accordance with Option 2, an unblended rate, as set out in the staff report dated February 20, 2025; and**
- 2. Request a supplementary report on modernizing Administrative Order 39, *the Taxi and Limousine Regulation Administrative Order* and By-law T-1000, *Respecting the Regulation of Taxis, Accessible Taxis and Limousines*.**

As provided for in section 90 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was separated for voting purposes.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adjust taxi rates in accordance with Option 2, an unblended rate, as set out in the staff report dated February 20, 2025; and**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 2. Request a supplementary report on modernizing Administrative Order 39, *the Taxi and Limousine Regulation Administrative Order* and By-law T-1000, *Respecting the Regulation of Taxis, Accessible Taxis and Limousines*.**

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MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.3 Regional Centre “AAA” Bikeway Network Delivery Information Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated April 25, 2025
- Staff presentation dated May 22, 2025
- Correspondence from David Trueman

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the staff report dated April 25, 2025, and an accompanying staff presentation, as information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Robyn Homans, Project Management Manager, Public Works gave a presentation.

Homans and Anne Sherwood, Director, Transportation Design & Construction Services responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 12, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Krista Vining
Team Lead, Legislative Assistants