



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 9, 2026**

PRESENT: Councillor Kathryn Morse, Chair
Councillor Sam Austin, Vice Chair
Mayor Andy Fillmore, Ex-Officio
Deputy Mayor Patty Cuttell
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor John Young

REGRETS: Councillor Shawn Cleary

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor Becky Kent
Councillor Tony Mancini
Councillor Laura White
Councillor Virginia Hinch
Councillor Janet Steele
Councillor Nancy Hartling
Councillor Billy Gillis
Councillor Jean St-Amand

STAFF: Dave Reage, Executive Director, Strategic Infrastructure
Chris Giddens, Solicitor
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 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. The Chair led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 8, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuttell

THAT the minutes of December 8, 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 Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the following item be deferred to the February 26, 2026 meeting of Transportation Standing Committee:

- **Item 13.1.3 Halifax Transit 2025/26 Q2 KPI Report**

MOTION TO DEFER 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: 13.1.1 and 13.1.2.

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

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Safer Steps, Stronger Communities: Re-imagining safer, better connected communities

from Armdale to the Pennants – Laurie Batten and Helena Piccinini

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Request for presentation dated December 31, 2025
- Presentation dated February 9, 2026

Laurie Batten gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any other members of the public wishing to speak; there were none.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 Core Service Plan

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 3, 2026
- Staff presentation dated February 9, 2026
- Correspondence from Dan Kooyman, Lauren Monette, Donna McCarthy, Crystal Yeo, Lian Vroege, Jennifer MacAulay, Tanya White, Louise MacDonald, Jacob White

Patricia Hughes, Director Planning & Customer Engagement, Halifax Transit Services, Paul Maher, Project Manager, Transit Planning and Reuben Walker, Transit Planning Technician gave a presentation.

MOVED by Mayor Fillmore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuttell

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. approve the Strategic Roadmap, that is attached to the staff report dated February 3, 2026, as a planning framework to guide the growth and development of public transit services in the short term;**
- 2. approve the Core Service Plan that is attached to the staff report dated February 3, 2026; and,**
- 3. direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare for the implementation of proposed network and service changes outlined as recommendations within the Core Service Plan, subject to future budget and resource availability.**

Hughes, Maher, Walker and Phil Herritt, Director, Transit Operations responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee

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 Austin, seconded by Councillor Purdy

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The question was called on the main motion.

MOVED by Mayor Fillmore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuttell

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. approve the Strategic Roadmap, that is attached to the staff report dated February 3, 2026, as a planning framework to guide the growth and development of public transit services in the short term;**
- 2. approve the Core Service Plan that is attached to the staff report dated February 3, 2026; and,**
- 3. direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare for the implementation of proposed network and service changes outlined as recommendations within the Core Service Plan, subject to future budget and resource availability.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Microtransit Service Plan

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 3, 2026
- Staff presentation dated February 9, 2026
- Correspondence from Laurie Batten, Stephanie Kinsman, Julian Norton, Ann Bagatin, Calli Martin, Sarah Slade, Lynn Rotin, Dominique Gusset, Susan Coen, Isabel Luce, Josie Berry, Molly Pender, Brenda Conroy, Aziz Hamdy, Paul Craser, Martin Tomlinson, Vivian Howard, Stewart Lucas

Patricia Hughes, Director Planning & Customer Engagement, Halifax Transit Services and Nick Cuthbertson, Project Manager, Transit Planning gave a presentation.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Young

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. approve the *Microtransit Service Plan*, as attached to the staff report dated February 3, 2026, as a planning framework to guide the growth and development of public transit services in the short term; and**
- 2. direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare for the implementation of microtransit in Lucasville as a Proof of Concept, and bring forward detailed costs and resource requirements associated with this implementation for Regional Council's consideration as part of the 2027/28 budget process.**

Hughes and Cuthbertson responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.3 Halifax Transit 2025/26 Q2 KPI Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated December 18, 2025

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee convene into In Camera (In Private) to discuss item 15.1 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15.1 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

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

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and Confidential staff report dated January 27, 2026

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee approve the direction given In Camera (In Private).

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 26, 2026

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Krista Vining
Team Lead, Legislative Assistants