



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
June 20, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Chair  
Councillor Tim Outhit, Vice Chair  
Councillor Sam Austin  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Lindell Smith  
Councillor Shawn Cleary

OTHERS  
PRESENT: Councillor David Hendsbee

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation and Public Works  
Colin Taylor, Solicitor  
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant  
Judith Ng'ethe, 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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:40 p.m. and reconvened to public session at 3:52 p.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 3:55 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 23, 2019**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the minutes of May 23, 2019 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

15.1 Non-Accepted Streets

15.2 Strategic Road Safety Framework Annual Information Report

15.3 Transit Priority Corridors: Robie Street / Young Street

15.4 Councillor Appointments to Board/Committees

The Standing Committee agreed by consensus to consider item 15.2 – Strategic Road Safety Framework Annual Information Report before item 12 – Reports.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, 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 – 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**

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received regarding item 12.2.2 and this correspondence had been distributed to all members of the Standing Committee.

**10.2 Petitions – None**

**10.3 Presentations**

**10.3.1 Catherine Drosbeck, United Way Halifax and Tammy Ewing re: Active Transportation Plan for East Preston**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A presentation dated June 20, 2019

Catherine Drosbeck of United Way Halifax (representing Healthy Halifax Communities Partnership), together with Tammy Ewing and Claudette Colley of East Preston Family Resource Centre, all appearing as part of the Rural Access to Physical Activity- East Preston Action Team, presented an overview of the Active Transportation Plan for East Preston.

Catherine Drosbeck concluded the presentation by requesting that the active transportation plan for East Preston be incorporated into the Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan.

In response to a question from the Standing Committee, Patricia Hughes, Manager Planning and Scheduling at Halifax Transit confirmed that Halifax Transit had a capital budget for bus stop improvements and made a number of bus stops more accessible every year by installing landing pads. Further, Halifax Transit worked with Transportation and Public Works to make bus stops more accessible even where there were no side walks.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to consider the Active Transportation Plan for East Preston as part of the Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 STAFF**

**12.2 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE**

**12.2.1 Councillor Nicoll - Flexible Working Hours**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to explore an HRM policy for flexible hours as recommended in the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP).**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.2.2 Councillor Outhit - Proposed Route 91 - Hemlock Ravine**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor request for consideration form
- Correspondence from Dennis Ashe, Dawn O'Toole, Natalie Bona, Shannon Burns, Samantha DiLiberatore, Alexis Pacey, Anne-Marie Chartrand, Meaghan Mamy, Susan Innes, Maureen Beauchamp, Jodi Blondon, Wayne Fiander, Barry Landry, Cora Lee Urquhart, Greg Veinot,

Vaness Saidi, Nicole Druhan-McGinn, Doree Gargan, Josh Hagle, Jacalyn Leeco, Aaron Peck,  
Angela DiLiberatore, Alex Beaver, Krista AuCoin, Jill O'Hanlon, James Phillips and Ron Squires

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report with recommendations on how to address the documented concerns from the residents and the District Councillor to be completed within 60 days. These concerns relate to existing and anticipated safety, speeding, traffic volume, short cutting, and congestion issues on Oceanview Drive.**

In moving the motion, Councillor Outhit noted that the reason for the proposed 60 days period for submission of a staff report was to have the Standing Committee receive the staff report before launch of the transit service in November, 2019.

Responding to a query, Brad Anguish, Director Transportation and Public Works informed the Committee that the 60 days period for a report was achievable. However, the report would be limited and output on other Department projects would be negatively affected.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **13. MOTIONS – NONE**

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

##### **14.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – May 23, 2019**

The following motion was approved in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of May 23, 2019 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

##### **14.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - Citizen Appointments to the Halifax Harbour Bridge Commission**

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Approve the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential staff report dated June 13, 2019; and**
- 2. That the June 13, 2019 private and confidential staff report not be released to the public.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **15. ADDED ITEMS**

#### **15.1 Non-Accepted Streets**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated April 11, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer in preparing the capital budgets for the 2020/21 and 2021/2022 fiscal years to consider allocating funding for Phase 1 pursuant to the budget process and as discussed in the discussion section of the staff report dated April 11, 2019 and;**
- 2. If funding has been approved in the capital budget for Phase 1, direct staff to undertake the title/boundary review of all 42 non-accepted streets listed on Appendix A of the April 11, 2019 staff report that are in Category 2 (5 non-accepted streets), Category 3 (9 non-accepted streets), Category 4 (28 non-accepted streets).**

Councillor Mason called attention to the incorrect inclusion of Pickard Lane in District 7 in Category 1 of non-accepted streets, as it had been purchased by the city for creation of a parking lot. Further, Cromwell Road in District 7 was a private street in a subdivision and should not be taken over.

Responding to a query, Dave Hubley, Manager, Project Planning and Design, advised that this motion related to the first phase of the process, which was to try to establish ownership and boundaries of the streets and would be a multi-year undertaking. The results would be presented to Council.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **15.2 Strategic Road Safety Framework Annual Information Report**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated June 7, 2019
- A staff presentation dated June 20, 2019

Sam Trask, Transportation Road Safety Engineer, Traffic Management provided the staff presentation on the Strategic Road Safety Framework Annual Information Report.

Sam Trask responded to a question of clarification from the Committee, noting that collision data required for evidence-based decision making and taking of countermeasures would be ready in the summer and would be evaluated thereafter.

Responding to comments from Councillors, Brad Anguish, Director Transportation and Public Works confirmed to the meeting that measures outlined in the framework were being implemented and that the next report on the road safety framework would be more robust, action orientated and provide implementation dates.

Responding to a query, Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management, informed the Committee that a report on the leading pedestrian intervals pilot program would be brought before the Committee in the fall. Further, that the Road Safety Standing Committee, formed under the report to review the overall road safety framework, was addressing various concerns, including tactical urbanism.

In response to a question for clarification, Peter Duncan, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, informed the Committee that the Engineering Design Guidelines ("the Red Book"), currently being updated, would come before the Council in early 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive a presentation from staff on the Strategic Road Safety Framework Annual Information Report and forward to Halifax Regional Council as an Information Item.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 15.3 Transit Priority Corridors: Robie Street / Young Street

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated May 15, 2019
- A staff presentation dated June 20, 2019

Mike Connors, Transportation Engineer, provided a presentation on Transit Priority Corridors: Robie Street / Young Street.

In response to queries, Mike Connors informed the Committee that more public consultation was anticipated as part of the design process. Further, feedback from public consultation so far undertaken indicated that residents who did not support the project cited increased traffic congestion and loss of parking and loading bays as their reasons.

Responding to further queries, Mike Connors explained that the reasons for stopping the Robie Street transit priority corridor at Quinpool Road and not extending it to Spring Garden Road ranged from less traffic delays on that section, high demand for on-street parking near the hospital, reluctance to remove the median to create lanes and there not being much benefit as a trade-off to the impact on the street. Mike Connors further advised that use of roundabouts was not considered as roundabouts were not advantageous for transit priority corridors.

Erin Blay, Supervisor, Service Design and Projects, in responding to a question from the Committee, advised that if only one bus lane was to be introduced on Robie Street south of Quinpool Road, it would be more beneficial to have it be on the south bound side.

Councillors suggested that the bus lanes be continuous and not piecemeal, that left turning centre lanes should be included wherever possible and that a roundabout at the Willow Tree Interchange be considered.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to:**

- 1. Proceed with detailed design of time-restricted (Weekdays 6AM – 6PM) curbside bus lanes on Robie Street between Young Street and Quinpool Road (Phase 1 configuration as described in the Discussion section of the May 15, 2019 staff report).**
- 2. Proceed with detailed design of a westbound curbside bus lane on Young Street between Kempt Road and Windsor Street (Phase 1 configuration as described in the Discussion section of the May 15, 2019 staff report).**
- 3. Initiate efforts to further investigate the right-of-way requirements necessary to accommodate continuous curbside bus lanes in both directions (Phase 2 configuration as described in the Discussion section of the May 15, 2019 staff report) for the following roadway segments:**
  - i. Robie Street (between Almon Street and Cunard Street), and**
  - ii. Young Street (between Robie Street and Windsor Street).**
- 4. Initiate efforts to further investigate the right-of-way requirements necessary for future potential construction of centre median transit lanes on Robie Street.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 15.4 Councillor Appointments to Board/Committees

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee:**

- 1. Rescind all three (3) Councillor appointments to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.**
- 2. Nominate Councillor Sam Austin of the Transportation Standing Committee to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee for a term to November 2020.**

In response to a query, Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk, advised that a motion would go before Regional Council on July 16, 2019 for ratification. As of July 16, 2019, should that motion pass, then the Councillor appointments would be rescinded and Councillor Austin re-appointed.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair called three times for speakers and there were none.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – July 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m., Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Judith Ng'ethe  
Legislative Assistant