



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 23, 2020**

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

REGRETS: Councillor Tim Outhit, Vice Chair

**OTHERS
PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn
Councillor Tony Mancini
Councillor Paul Russell

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation and Public Works
Colin Taylor, Solicitor
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.

*The meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee was called to order at 1:01 p.m.
and adjourned at 2:29 p.m.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 12, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the minutes of December 12, 2019 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Councillor Mason requested that the Standing Committee consider Item 11.1 – December 12, 2019 - Information report from the Director of Legal, Municipal Clerk & External Affairs dated September 27, 2019 re: Vehicle Immobilization in HRM after Item 12.3 – Members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

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 12.1.1 and this correspondence was distributed to all members of the Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations - None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

11.1 December 12, 2019 - Information report from the Director of Legal, Municipal Clerk & External Affairs dated September 27, 2019 re: Vehicle Immobilization in HRM

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated September 27, 2019

The Committee discussed the report with Victoria Horne, Parking Services Program Manager, responding to questions and advising the Standing Committee about potential forms of regulation of the industry.

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Road Safety for Pedestrians Presentation

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff presentation dated January 23, 2020
- Correspondence from Norm Collins, on behalf of the Crosswalk Safety Society of Nova Scotia

Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management and Jill Morrison, Transportation and Road Safety Engineer, provided the staff presentation on current and future pedestrian safety initiatives in implementation of the Strategic Road Safety Framework which was adopted by Council in July, 2018.

Highlights of the presentation include:

- Emphasis areas in the Strategic Road Safety Framework
- Current countermeasures aimed at reducing pedestrian collisions including adopting “complete streets” guiding principles, improving pedestrian safety at signalized intersections, crosswalk upgrades, in-service intersection safety reviews, traffic calming and the sideguard program
- Future measures to reduce pedestrian collisions including mid-block collisions on multi-lane roads where data suggests, higher visibility or specialized pavement markings where data suggests, no right turn on red where data suggests and applications to be submitted to the Province for reduced speed limits in identified neighbourhoods

Koutroulakis responded to questions from the Committee noting that the jurisdictional scan on leading pedestrian intervals has been completed and is being evaluated with the intention of returning to the Standing Committee in the Spring with a proposed standard and implementation plan. Koutroulakis advised that in-street school crosswalk signs (RA8s) are intended to supplement existing crosswalks and are being installed in locations identified in conjunction with the Police, that the Transportation and Public Works Department is intending to create a traffic safety dashboard that will be accessed online and will indicate improvements and collision statistics, that there are frequent standing police traffic management meetings where issues of mutual concern are addressed including speeding and pedestrian safety, that Halifax has a high yielding rate to pedestrians by drivers compared to other areas in Canada and that Halifax is unusual in reporting collisions in the right of way and in the Provincial roadways. Superintendent Dean Simmonds, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) addressed the Standing Committee regarding HRP liaising with City Hall on education and enforcement with respect to speeding.

12.1.2 2019/20 Second Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator Report

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated November 6, 2019
- A staff presentation dated January 23, 2020

Patricia Hughes, Manager Planning and Customer Engagement, Halifax Transit, provided a presentation on the 2019/20 Second Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Report.

Hughes informed the Committee that:

- The Moving Forward Together Plan was at 51% implementation in the period under review
- Information booklets on route changes implemented in November, 2019 as part of the Moving Forward Together Plan were printed in 10 languages and distributed primarily to community organizations and HRM libraries
- Orientation guides in 8 languages and videos in 6 languages are being launched for newcomers on “How to Use Halifax Transit”

- The Municipality is also addressing the Higher Order Transit Strategy
- Halifax Transit is continuing to address improving diversity and inclusion
- System wide on-time performance was 73%, dropping 3% from the same period in the previous year
- Boardings increased by 9.5% compared to the previous quarter and revenue increased by 6.5%
- Access-a-bus trips decreased by 1% the quarter under review
- 96% of customer feedback was resolved within service standards

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive a quarterly report and presentation from staff on the 2019/20 Second Quarter Halifax Transit Key Performance Indicators and forward to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – December 12, 2019

The following motion was approved in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of December 12, 2019 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION

16.1 Councillor Cleary

Please take notice that at the next meeting of Transportation Standing Committee on February 27, 2020, I will make the following motion:

That Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report on developing a bylaw for parking and immobilization on private property that analyzes possible licensing; setting reasonable maximum fees; timelines for removal of immobilizing devices; uniforms and identification of employees; appropriate signage on vehicles; signage on property; convenient payments options including cash, debit, credit online and on-site; and other related regulations. Also, the staff report should investigate the possibility of these private parking enforcement companies partnering with the municipality in writing parking tickets on private property similar to Ottawa.”

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Douglas Wetmore, Halifax, spoke to implementation of the Moving Forward Together Plan and the Halifax Transit route changes effected in November, 2019. Wetmore referred to the four key principles upon which the Moving Forward Together Plan was created and noted that the new route 8 is less

frequent than the previous 80 and 81, that the new Express routes are providing a lower quality service than the old Metro Link routes, with overcrowding and delays and that the frequency of routes is lower in many areas. Wetmore stated that overall, the Moving Forward Together Plan is not working and that upcoming changes to Transit routes in Dartmouth and Cole Harbour will face similar challenges.

Lyle Mailman, Beaver Bank, spoke in support of bringing bring back a bus service to the seven kilometre stretch of north Beaver Bank following its cancellation in November, 2019. Mailman noted that residents have been left without a bus service and face a long walk with no sidewalk and heavy quarry bound traffic, staffing at a major employer has been negatively affected, independence of seniors has been stripped away and Access-a-bus service is unavailable to new users in the area.

Councillor Nicoll called for further speakers. There were none present.

18. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Judith Ng'ethe, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

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

Ng'ethe called three times for further nominations for the position of Chair. There were no further nominations.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

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

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Judith Ng'ethe
Legislative Assistant