



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 27, 2020**

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

STAFF: Dave Reage, Director, Halifax Transit
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 1:55 p.m.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 23, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the minutes of January 23, 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 Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

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

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received from Anglican Church of the Apostles dated February 20, 2020 and this correspondence was distributed to members of the Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations - None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Flexible Working Hours

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff presentation dated February 27, 2020
- A staff recommendation report dated December 17, 2019

Caroline Blair-Smith, Director, Human Resources/Office of Diversity and Inclusion, provided a staff presentation on proposed flexible working hours.

Highlights of the presentation include:

- Forms of flexible work arrangements, including flexible schedules, hours and locations
- Impact of flexible work arrangements on transportation demand management
- Current flexible work arrangements business practice at HRM
- Current use, including adjusted hours, work from home options and Earned Day Off (EDO) programs
- Barriers to flexible work arrangements, including managerial approach, lack of awareness, confusion over implementation and inconsistent use within business units
- Ways in which flexible work arrangements can be better utilized, including internal communication campaign to raise awareness, developing a flexible work arrangements tracking system and developing tools for managers and employees to assist in implementing flexible work arrangements

Blair-Smith advised the Standing Committee that tracking of flexible work arrangements is currently not being undertaken.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to promote and encourage the use of the Flexible Work Arrangements Business Practise for all non-union employees as an option for managing congestion and reducing single occupancy vehicle trips in alignment with the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP).

Responding to questions from the Standing Committee, Blair-Smith noted that the next steps are to promote and track flexible work arrangements internally and thereafter scale up to an external campaign to be an employer of choice in the Municipality and provide leadership in this area. Blair-Smith confirmed that going forward, flexible work arrangements will be an important piece in recruitment.

Councillor Cleary noted that it would be beneficial to receive an update from staff following implementation of the flexible work arrangements tracking system and proposed the following addition to the motion:

THAT staff return to the Transportation Standing Committee in six months with an update on implementation of the flexible work arrangements business practice.

The amendment was considered as friendly by the Standing Committee.

The motion before the Standing Committee is as follows:

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to promote and encourage the use of the Flexible Work Arrangements Business Practise for all non-union employees as an option for managing congestion and reducing single occupancy vehicle trips in alignment with the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP) and that staff return to the Transportation Standing Committee in six months with an update on implementation of the flexible work arrangements business practice.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

The Standing Committee requested that staff provide additional information for Council regarding flexible work options and union employees, to accompany the Standing Committee's recommendation to Council.

12.1.2 Councillor Appointment to the Halifax Harbour Bridge Commission

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 18, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee nominate Councillor Lindell Smith to fill an unexpired term to November 2020 for consideration by Halifax Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

12.2.1 Active Transportation Advisory Committee Update

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Committee report dated February 21, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the update from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee as submitted.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

12.3.1 Councillor Cleary – Winter Maintenance to Walking Paths in Regional Parks

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- A Request for Consideration Form from Councillor Cleary

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report that investigates the advantages, disadvantages, and costs of providing winter maintenance to walking paths in regional parks such as Sir Sandford Fleming Park that do not currently have winter maintenance.

Councillor Outhit proposed an amendment to add the word “all” before the words “regional parks” which was accepted as friendly.

The motion before the Standing Committee is as follows:

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report that investigates the advantages, disadvantages, and costs of providing winter maintenance to walking paths in all regional parks such as Sir Sandford Fleming Park that do not currently have winter maintenance.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Councillor Cleary

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the 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.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Eric Thomson, a resident of Westmount, spoke on behalf of Anglican Church of the Apostles regarding to the negative impact to the Church of the proposed Bayers Road expansion and the partial closure of George Dauphinee Avenue for a bicycle trail connection. Thomson noted that the expansion will result in the Church losing a total of 6,500 sq. ft. as a result of this expansion and the 1962 expansion, as well as more difficulty entering the Westmount Subdivision with the removal of the right hand turn on George Dauphinee Avenue. They also noted that the partial closure of George Dauphinee Avenue will mean that there will be less on street parking for the Church which has a number of activities running from the facility. Thomson called for a reasonable compromise.

Father Mark Marshall, Rector, Anglican Church of the Apostles, recounted the history of the congregation noting that the congregation chose this location partly due to its quiet location and on street parking on George Dauphinee Avenue. They expressed their concern that the Church's recent growth will be negatively impacted by the partial closure of George Dauphinee Avenue and the resulting on street parking reduction. Marshall questioned the need for a designated bicycle trail on George Dauphinee Avenue, noting that it is a quiet road.

Bill Campbell, Halifax, called for flexibility regarding the proposed dedicated Bayer's Road bus lane and proposed bicycle trail on George Dauphinee Avenue. Campbell opined that both the bus lane and the bicycle trail are overdesigned and expressed concern that public comments are not being taken into consideration. Campbell called for the Westmount Subdivision community to be given more information regarding the partial closure of George Dauphinee Avenue, including the measurement of impact of the proposed changes. They noted the Centre Plan designates the Westmount Subdivision for study as a conservation area, largely due to the street design. Campbell called for engagement and dialogue between HRM staff and Westmount Subdivision residents, in particular regarding George Dauphinee Avenue.

Campbell responded to questions from the Standing Committee and received an assurance from the Standing Committee that further information will be provided to the residents of Westmount Subdivision.

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

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 26, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Judith Ng'ethe
Legislative Assistant