

BIKEWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 24, 2006

**PRESENT:** Councillor Sheila Fougere, Chair  
Councillor Patrick Murphy  
Ms. Laena Garrison  
Mr. Ward Skinner  
Mr. Peter Williams  
Mr. William Webster  
Ms. Candace Stevenson  
Ms. Heather Deighan

**ABSENT**  
**WITH REGRETS:** Councillor Stephen D. Adams  
Mr. Friedemann Brauer  
Mr. Leslie Dubinsky  
Mr. Steve Lane

**STAFF**  
**AND OTHERS:** Mr. Greg Rice, Design Engineer, Design and Construction Services  
Ms. Roxane McInnis, Planner II, Regional Planning  
Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, TDM Coordinator, Traffic & Right-of-Way  
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	Call to Order .....	3
2.	Approval of Minutes - December 14, 2005 and January 18, 2006 .....	3 & 5
3.	Approval of the Order of Business and Approval of Additions and Deletions ..	3 & 5
4.	Business Arising Out of the Minutes .....	3
4.1	Status Sheet Items .....	3
4.2	Bike Week Update - Ward Skinner .....	3
4.3	Street Opening Update - Laena Garrison .....	3
4.4	Active Transportation Plan - BAC Feedback - Laena Garrison .....	4
4.5	National Standard for Bicycle Pavement Markings - Dave McCusker .....	4
4.6	Downtown Bicycle Parking - Jeff Bray, Capital District .....	5
5.	Consideration of Deferred Business - None .....	6
6.	Reports - None .....	6
7.	New Business / Added Items .....	6
7.1	New Business .....	6
7.1.1	Bikeways Advisory Committee Annual Report to Regional Council	6
7.2	Added Items .....	7
7.2.1	BAC recommendation to the Provincial Government re: Active Transportation .....	7
7.2.2	Angus L. Macdonald Bridge .....	7
7.2.3	Lake Mic Mac Pedestrian Bridge .....	7
7.2.4	Updated List of Capital Projects .....	8
8.	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair .....	8
9.	Next Meeting Date .....	8
10.	Adjournment .....	8

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:12 pm in the Media Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, City Hall.  
**Without a quorum.**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting.

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

This item was dealt with later in the meeting.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1 Status Sheet Items**

The Committee reviewed the Bikeways Advisory Committee Status Sheet.

Ms. Garrison advised that work is in progress on the BAC/TDM website report card. Councillor Fougere requested that it be prepared for the third week of June, to coincide with the Bikeways Advisory Committee Annual Report to Council.

**4.2 Bike Week Update - Ward Skinner**

Mr. Skinner provided a brief update on Bike Week events, and invited Committee members to the Bike Week family event on Sunday, June 4, 2006 at Cornwallis Park on Barrington Street.

Councillor Fougere indicated she would contact Councillor Snow and Councillor Hum, who both showed interest in the Active Transportation Plan, to the Bike Week family event.

**4.3 Street Opening Update - Laena Garrison**

Ms. Garrison updated the Committee on the Street Opening event, which took place on April 23, 2006, noting the following:

- C The event was well received with positive feedback and media coverage,
- C She has been contacted with regard to interest in holding more street openings,
- C She is working on compiling a sponsorship package to distribute to potential sponsors to raise funds for future street openings.

Ms. MacInnis suggested approaching the high tech sector, which sponsors the Sunday Bikeday program in Ottawa.

Councillor Fougere provided a copy of the management guide from the Ottawa Sunday Bikeday program to the Legislative Assistant to copy for Ms. Garrison's reference.

#### **4.4 Active Transportation Plan - BAC Feedback - Laena Garrison**

At the request of Ms. Garrison, Ms. MacInnis indicated that the Active Transportation Plan will likely not be presented to Council before the summer. She advised that it was delayed due to Regional Plan public hearings and budget debate. Ms. MacInnis commented that once the Active Transportation Plan is presented to Council it will be released to the public, and that the comments from the public will be used to create a functional Active Transportation Plan. She noted that staff have held two public meetings on the plan to date, and have received over 500 comments via email.

Ms. Deighan arrived at 12:35 p.m. and **a quorum was achieved.**

#### **4.5 National Standard for Bicycle Pavement Markings - Dave McCusker**

Mr. McCusker addressed the Committee on the National Standard for Bicycle Pavement Markings, noting the following:

- C This is a follow up to the last BAC meeting, at which Ms. MacInnis presented the interim findings on behalf of Mr. McCusker,
- C The National Standard for Bicycle Pavement Markings are being developed by the Traffic Operations & Management Standing Committee of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC), of which he is a member,
- C Some Provinces began designing their own bicycle markings, and the aim of this Committee is to create a national standard for bicycle markings for clarity of motorists and cyclists,
- C The "Sharrow" symbol was designed to convey direction and position for cyclists, and to convey an expectation of the relationship between bicycles and motor vehicles,
- C The report will be finalized shortly, after which time it will be a technical document to be used by Traffic Departments as a standardized device for staff,
- C Bicycle traffic signals have been approved by TAC, and some changes to bike signs will also be made by TAC shortly.

Mr. Skinner commented that the Bikeways Advisory Committee should debate pavement markings on primary routes, as per the Bike Map, and make a recommendation to Council on the Committee's position on pavement markings. The Committee discussed the need for

the Provincial government to provide uniform signage and markings across the province, and to make active transportation a priority.

At the request of the Committee, Mr. McCusker clarified that HRM will have the option to use or not use the TAC bicycle pavement marking standards and bicycle signal; they are guidelines, not mandatory. He further commented that these markings and signal do not require the approval of the Province if being implemented on HRM streets.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY Mr. Ward Skinner, seconded by Ms. Candace Stevenson, that the minutes of December 14, 2005 and January 18, 2006 be approved as distributed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

### **Additions:**

- 7.2.1 BAC recommendation to the Provincial Government re: Active Transportation - Laena Garrison
- 7.2.2 Angus L. Macdonald Bridge - Ward Skinner
- 7.2.3 Lake Mic Mac Pedestrian Bridge - Ward Skinner
- 7.2.4 List of Capital Projects - Greg Rice, Design Engineer, Design and Construction Services

The agenda was agreed upon as amended.

## **4.6 Downtown Bicycle Parking - Jeff Bray, Streetscape Coordinator, Capital District**

Mr. Bray provided an update on downtown bicycle parking to the Committee, noting the following:

- C Bike racks were ordered two years ago and the first shipment of five multi-bike racks were recently received,
- C Another shipment of 13 "lollipop" design single bike racks will arrive next week,
- C Locations of bike rack installations must be approved by Right-of-Way Services, which is a lengthy process,

- C There are many guidelines with ROW Services with regard to installation of the bike racks,
- C He is reviewing the approval process in other cities, in order to improve HRM's approval process time lines,
- C He will compile a list of requested locations for bike racks and then place an order with the manufacturer,
- C Each requested site is documented with a site plan, photographs, and GIS property print-out; the site is then visited by a ROW technician and either approved or rejected,
- C The contractor installing the bike rack must have a permit with HRM and insurance,
- C Bike racks cannot be pre-ordered as the manufacturer cannot store them,
- C He will look into obtaining permission to store bike racks in an HRM storage facility,
- C Permits are only required for public property, not private.
- C A letter from the Capital District to private property owners is currently being approved by legal services, to request that bike racks be installed on private property and maintained by HRM. The bike racks will be removed from the property within 48 hours at the request of the property owner.

Councillor Fougere suggested requesting bulk permit applications with ROW Services, as opposed to separate permits for each rack.

Mr. Bray invited committee members to contact him with suggestions for locations of bike racks throughout the Capital District (downtown Dartmouth, Quinpool Road, Gottingen Street, downtown Halifax, Spring Garden Road).

**MOVED by Mr. Ward Skinner, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that the approval process with ROW Services be streamlined. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None**

**6. REPORTS - None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS / ADDED ITEMS**

**7.1 New Business**

**7.1.1 Bikeways Advisory Committee Annual Report to Regional Council**

The Chair indicated that Mr. MacIntyre and the Legislative Assistant will be compiling the BAC Annual Report to Regional Council, and she will create a power point presentation to Council on the report. She commented that the time frame for the report will be from June 2005 to June 2006 and that Ms. Garrison's report card and Mr. Skinner's updated status report will be incorporated into the report.

Ms. Heather Deighan, Communications Officer, Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission (HDBC), advised that HDBC will be counting bikes crossing the bridge during bike week. Ms. Garrison suggested that a promotion similar to the prize award to the millionth motor vehicle to cross the bridge be initiated for cyclists using the bridge. She also suggested that ten year celebrations could be held in 2009 of the installation of the bike lanes on the bridge.

## **7.2 Added Items**

### **7.2.1 BAC recommendation to the Provincial Government re: Active Transportation - Laena Garrison**

Ms. Garrison indicated concern with a bill which was introduced by the Provincial government to allocate all gas tax revenue to construction and maintenance of highways. She advised that there is a petition to the Provincial Government started by the Ecology Action Centre, Velo Cape Breton, and the Association of Doctors for the Advancement of Physical Transportation (ADAPT) to have 10% of gas tax revenues allocated for active transportation infrastructure. She encouraged Committee members to sign the petition.

Ms. Garrison advised that she is also drafting a letter in this regard to the Provincial Government, which she will be asking different organizations to endorse. The Chair offered to sign the letter on behalf of the Bikeways Advisory Committee.

**MOVED by Ms. Laena Garrison, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that Councillor Fougere, as Chair of the Bikeways Advisory Committee, endorse the letter to the Provincial Government requesting that 10% of gas tax revenues be allocated for active transportation infrastructure, on behalf of the Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

It was suggested that this correspondence also be copied to the other Provincial parties.

### **7.2.2 Angus L. Macdonald Bridge - Ward Skinner**

At the request of Mr. Skinner, Ms. MacInnis advised that the consultant's calculations for the Bikeway Connection to the ALM Bridge came in considerably higher than first anticipated. She advised that the final consultant's report is coming forward shortly, which will contain three options. Ms. MacInnis further advised that Traffic and Right-of-Way Services will then review the three options, in consultation with the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission, and make a recommendation to Council. She indicated that funds are set aside from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Communities Program for this project.

### **7.2.3 Lake Mic Mac Pedestrian Bridge - Ward Skinner**

The Chair requested that an update be provided on this matter for the next meeting.

**7.2.4 Updated List of Capital Projects - Greg Rice, Design Engineer, Design and Construction Services**

C Copies of an updated list of capital projects were distributed to Committee members.

Mr. Greg Rice, Design Engineer, Design and Construction Services, addressed the Committee regarding the updated list of capital projects, noting the following:

- C Projects on the list are included in the 2006/2007 Capital Budget,
- C Projects shaded in grey are awaiting budget approval ,
- C Design and Construction Services will consult with Traffic & Right-of-Way staff to identify capital budget projects that coincide with bike projects,

Mr. Rice encouraged members to provide comments on projects to Mr. MacIntyre. Mr. MacIntyre advised that he has compared projects on the capital project list with the Bike Map.

**8. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

At this time nominations were received for the position of Chair.

**MOVED by Mr. Ward Skinner, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that Councillor Fougere be re-appointed as Chair of the Bikeways Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councillor Fougere called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

**MOVED by Ms. Candace Stevenson, seconded by Ms. Laena Garrison, that Mr. Ward Skinner be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Bikeways Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The Legislative Assistant will poll members for a suitable June meeting date and advise members accordingly. The Committee agreed not to meet in July or August.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant