



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 26, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Reg Rankin  
Councillor Russell Walker  
Councillor Linda Mosher  
Councillor Wayne Mason  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Ms. Karen Brown, Solicitor  
Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Andrew Reid, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Transportation Standing Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCtransp/150226tsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m., convened In Camera at 1:43 p.m. and the Standing Committee adjourned at 1:57 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 22, 2015**

**MOVED by McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mason that the minutes of January 22, 2015 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

12.1 Service Dog Exercise Area

12.2 Transportation Standing Committee Appointment to CDAC

12.3 Information Item No. 3 – Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Update

12.4 Reinstatement on Taxi Committee

Councillor Mason requested that Item 12.1 be discussed following Item 7.1. The Chair also indicated Information Item No. 3 would be discussed preceding Item 7.1.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey to approve the agenda as amended.**

Councillor Mosher entered the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Walker to delete item 12.1 from the agenda.**

Councillor Mosher noted that it would not be appropriate to discuss Item 12.1 before community consultation was conducted. One Committee member suggested that a motion to proceed with consultation first needed to be moved before consultation occurred. Another member commented on the difficulty of finding a location for the service park.

Mr. Mike Labrecque indicated that the consultation process was outlined in the report. He questioned if the concern was to ensure consultation. Mr. Labrecque clarified that a motion would need to occur to give direction to engage in the public consultation. Ms. Margaret Soley, Coordinator Parks Projects, confirmed that community consultation would be part of the process before the recommendation moves forward to Community Council.

Councillor Mosher indicated that the report was incomplete and requested that funding be included in the report for a community amenity on an adjacent area, which would be considered through community consultation.

Ms. Soley stated that the motion would authorize staff to proceed with the process, including addressing the concerns of Councillor Mosher. Mr. Labrecque indicated that it would not be appropriate to provide

the proviso for an amenity at this moment as that would arise from the community engagement consultations.

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

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

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**12.3 Information Item No. 3 - Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Update**

Councillor Outhit announced that information on the Commuter Rail Feasibility Study would be provided later that day during an open house engagement event at the Sunnyside Mall.

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**7.1 Pilot Project Pedestrian Vehicle Shared Street Concept Argyle Street**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated January 7, 2015*

Mr. Bob Bjerke introduced the project as described in the recommendation report dated January 7, 2015. He stated that it was an enabling report to implement exploring a shared vehicle concept on Argyle Street. He indicated that this recommendation would allow the project to proceed to Audit & Finance so that construction could occur the following season.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that Council:**

**1. Approve in principle the development of a pilot project for a trial demonstration of an “alternative street design concept” on the section of Argyle Street between Blowers and Sackville Street.**

**2. Direct staff to advance the preparation of design details of the trial demonstration, in consultation with the Nova Centre Project, Downtown Halifax Business Commission and other area stakeholders, that addresses the trial design and issues raised in this staff report.**

**3. Direct staff to prepare a construction budget and identify a source of funding in support of the proposed pilot project for consideration of the Audit & Finance Standing Committee and recommendation to Regional Council.**

Councillor Mason voiced approval for the report. He commented that the trial length was indicated in the report as 6 weeks. He highlighted that the length of the trial could be made longer so that seasonal change and considerations such as snow removal could be part of the trial. Regarding the limitations from the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) section of the report, Councillor Mason also highlighted the 2013 Innovative Transportation Act as a means of working with the MVA. He also stated that Nova Scotia Moves could be a potential sponsor.

Councillor McCluskey questioned if the cost would be greater if the trial was extended. Mr. Bjerke responded that it would be a public feedback trial more than an engineering trial; therefore the added cost would be marginal. The Committee agreed that no motion to extend the trial was required but it could be incorporated in the next report.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 12.1 Service Dog Exercise Area

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated March 6, 2015*

Councillor Mosher indicated that she agreed to the need for the dog service park and had met with staff on site. She also stated that if a community consultation would occur, she would like to know where the funding would come from for the community amenity.

Ms. Soley responded that budgeting would arise out of the community engagement session in the 2016/17 year's budgeting exercise. She indicated that the \$40,000 under financial implications section of the report would be for the service dog area. Mr. Labrecque clarified that Council would have a number of ways to consider and that the project could also be captured through reallocation in the budget. Councillor McCluskey indicated that if any funding was allotted, the project would need to go to Audit and Finance.

The Chair indicated that no decisions or assumptions could be made until there was public consultation.

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Mason that the motion contained in the staff recommendation report dated February 17, 2015 be amended as follows:**

1. **that Halifax and West Community Council recommend that staff proceed with the planning process for a service dog park in Ardmore Park, Oxford street, Halifax, in accordance with the existing HRM Off Leash Parks Strategy, and**
2. **that a report return to Audit & Finance Standing Committee recommending amenities based on community consultation that would augment the existing park.**

Councillor Mosher stated that residents should be aware that an amenity in the park is being considered. She described the area as an appropriate location of a value to the community. The Chair questioned if the report would return to the Transportation Standing Committee. The Legislative Assistant indicated it would not.

## **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

#### **8.1 Correspondence**

#### **8.2 Petitions**

#### **8.3 Presentation**

### **9. REPORTS**

#### **9.1 STAFF**

##### **9.1.1 Request for Reinstatement of Three Roads as Candidate Routes in the 2014-19 Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated December 16, 2014*

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council maintain the recommendation of the 2014-19 Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan to remove the following roads from the**

“candidate On-Road Bike Route” list: 1) Cole Harbour Road (between Bissett Road and Ross Road); 2) Ross Road; and, 3) Windsor Junction Road.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**9.3 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.4 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.5 CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.5.1 Update from Councillor McCluskey**

Councillor McCluskey reported that there would be an information café March 24<sup>th</sup> on Crosswalk Safety at the Engineering Alumni Lounge 1360 Barrington Street, as part of CSAC’s action plan. She also indicated that the Committee received a report regarding ticketing, underlining that 200 tickets were issued this month to pedestrians and automobiles. The Committee also heard an update on the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.

**9.5.2 Recommendations to the Province for Increasing Non-Monetary Penalties for Crosswalk Violations**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated January 26, 2015*

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend to Halifax Regional Council that the Mayor write a letter to the Province suggesting it re-evaluate changes to the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act* with respect to non-monetary penalties, as outlined in Attachment A of the report dated January 26, 2015.**

Councillor Mason highlighted a number of the impositions defined in the attachment to the January 26, 2015 report.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. MOTIONS - None**

**11. IN CAMERA**

*This item was discussed later in the meeting. See page 6.*

**12. ADDED ITEMS**

**12.1 Service Dog Exercise Area**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting. See page 4.

**12.2 Transportation Standing Committee Appointment to CDAC**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded Councillor Walker to nominate Councillor McCluskey as the Transportation Standing Committee representative to CDAC.**

The Chair called three times for further nominations, there being none, Councillor McCluskey was declared Transportation Standing Committee representative to the Community Design Advisory Committee.

**12.3 Information Item No. 3 - Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Update**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting. See page 3.

**12.4 Reinstatement on Taxi Committee**

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Mason to request an update regarding the reinstatement of the Taxi Commission. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION – None**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 26, 2015**

**11. IN CAMERA**

**11.1 Personnel Matter**

**11.1.1 Citizen Nominations to the Halifax Harbour Bridges**

The Committee convened In Camera at 1:47 p.m.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:58 p.m.

Andrew Reid  
Legislative Assistant