



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 28, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair  
Councillor Russell Walker, Vice Chair  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Waye Mason

**REGRETS:** Councillor Linda Mosher  
Councillor Tim Outhit

**STAFF:** Mr. Mike Labreque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Karen MacDonald, Solicitor  
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/150528tsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., and adjourned at 1:56 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 26, 2015**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker that the minutes of March 26, 2015 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions

9.1.3 Connect2 Funding Application

The Committee agreed to discuss this matter follow item 9.1.2.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Mason that Item 9.1.3 be added to the agenda.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

7.1 Information Report from the Chief Administrative Officer dated March 17, 2015 re: Taxi and Limousine Committee – Background

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff information report dated March 17, 2015*

Councillor Walker stated that he would like to move a request to reinstate the Taxi Committee to Council. Councillor Walker distributed an industry survey containing figures on roof lights and accessible taxis. This survey is available on file. Councillor Walker requested guidance from the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer on how to proceed.

Mr. Mike Labrecque stated that he could not provide advice as staff requires direction and a response has already been provided on the matter.

Councillor McCluskey arrived 1:05 p.m.

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, stated that staff had received clear direction from Regional Council on this matter as per the July 5, 2011 report. In terms of governance, she stated that staff have put forward arguments for the taxi committee to be liaison to staff, responsible through the Chief Administrative Officer for making recommendations that are regulated by Council. She indicated that a motion of rescission of Council's July 5, 2011 would be required to address the matter at Regional Council.

Councillor McCluskey stated that she would like the Taxi Committee return to previous model.

The Chair indicated that Councillor Walker may take the avenue of a motion of rescission at Regional Council.

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

### **8.1 Correspondence**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee

- *A letter from members of CREST – Communities and Residents for Sustainable Transportation, dated April 30, 2015 re: Commuter Rail Peninsula Open House*

The Legislative Assistant noted one piece of correspondence received regarding the Commuter Rail open house.

## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Residential Parking Permits, Parking Ticket Exemptions and Dedicated On-Street Car Share Parking**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated March 3, 2015*

The Municipal Clerk distributed an outline of the motions passed at the previous meeting and those requiring additional action by the Committee.

The Chair highlighted the following recommendations 1 and 4 passed at the March 26, 2015 Transportation Standing Committee meeting:

1. Request staff to initiate amendments to By-law P-1000 On-Street Parking Exemptions and Permits as identified in Table 1 in the Discussion section of the report dated March 3, 2015 to provide improved resident parking options to accommodate caregivers, service providers, guests, borrowed vehicles and to accommodate residents who cannot access their private driveways during municipal capital works projects
4. Request staff to initiate changes to By-laws P-500 and P-1000 to exempt municipal vehicles from on-street parking and parking meter regulations.

The Chair identified recommendations 2 and 3 from the staff report dated March 3, 2015 left to be addressed:

2. Not request changes to By-law P-500, Parking Meter By-law to exempt VON nurses from paying parking tickets
3. Not request the designation of parking spaces specifically for car share vehicles within the right of-way for implementation within Halifax;

The Chair indicated that recommendations 2 and 3 would be taken separately.

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

**Not request changes to By-law P-500, Parking Meter By-law to exempt VON nurses from paying parking tickets**

Councillor McCluskey stated support for the staff recommendation, indicating that there are other organizations in the same situation as the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON). Councillor Walker asked that the motion be defeated. He stated that defeating the staff recommendation would prohibit discussing the issue further.

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

The Chair stated a broader motion would be helpful to put on the floor. The Deputy Chief Administrator Officer suggested that the Councillor may move an alternative motion now or choose to engage in debate when the bylaw comes to Council.

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

**Not request the designation of parking spaces specifically for car share vehicles within the right of-way for implementation within Halifax.**

Councillor Mason highlighted that the car share organizations were looking for the ability to park in residential parking permit areas and not require a sign, or a dedicated spot on the street, as indicated in the staff report. He asked that the staff report be approved and stated that he would subsequently be moving a request for a staff report to address this issue.

The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer stated that the recommendation was accounted for in recommendation 1, approved at the March 26, 2015 Transportation Standing Committee meeting. Councillor Mason commented that By-law P-1000 might address the issue; however, implementation must be considered. He questioned whether it was necessary to require residents to obtain a parking pass to allow short term parking. He stated that more staff work would need to be done.

Councillor Walker asked the motion be defeated because it would inhibit bringing the matter further.

The Chair highlighted that the intent of the motion is for the car share industry and not one particular entity. He questioned if recommendation 1 would be broad enough to carry out the intent of providing spaces for car share vehicles. The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer responded that provisions under recommendation 1 would be sufficient.

The Chair stated that recommendation 3 could now be voted on and recommendation 1 amended later on if required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to evaluate the provision of open zone residential parking permits or other similar solutions to support the needs of residents who are car share members.**

The Municipal Clerk advised that as the intent of the motion was to operationalize what was included in the previous recommendation, staff could address its necessity.

Mr. Bob Bjerke, Director Planning and Development, stated that the previous motion passed on recommendation 1 at the March 26 meeting provided an approach for residential parking permits for residents to use in whichever vehicle required. He indicated that additional options could be examined by staff.

The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer stated that the Committee was currently on a path to amend Bylaw P-100. He questioned whether the matter under consideration should be considered separately or as part of those changes.

Mr. Bjerke stated it may be the later and that staff could return with a straightforward path to implement the bylaw amendments.

Councillor McCluskey questioned the car share terminology and why car share required identification over other options such as rentals. She indicated that recommendation 1 addresses the motion before the Committee.

Mr. Bjerke responded that recommendation 1 would review parking exemptions currently offered, one of which could be an annual visitors pass. He stated that a car share provision would be applicable specifically to car share vehicles, regardless of which resident would be using the vehicle.

Councillor Mason highlighted that car share use is a means of transportation between single use rentals and the permanent parking pass model. He voiced support for creating a system that supports the car share model so that residents have the choice to use car share rather than owning a car.

Mr. Bjerke stated that within recommendation 1, staff would review the existing parking exemptions and that one option could be a hybrid model such as annual visitors parking pass.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

At this time, the Committee accepted a notice of motion from Councillor Mason pertaining to Bylaw P-1000. This item is listed as 13.1 on page 7.

**9.1.2 Connector Road – Lucasville Road to Larry Uteck Drive**

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:**

**(1) Retain the existing Table 4-1 from the 2014 Regional Plan as the basis for the Road Network Functional Plan without adding the Connector Road – Lucasville Road to Larry Uteck Drive; and**

**(2) Direct staff to liaise with Halifax Water to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of constructing a new public roadway parallel to Hammonds Plains Road if and when the existing water transmission main is being considered for replacement or major rehabilitation.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.3 Connect2 Funding Application**

The following was before the Transportation Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated May 8, 2015*

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

**1) Submit an application to the provincial Connect2 funding program for the COLT-to-North West Arm Drive Greenway Phase 1 Bridge Construction and Phase 2 Alignment/Design Study, and**

**2) Contingent on the provincial approval of Connect2 funding, to increase the project budget for Active Transportation (CTU00420) by the amount of the Connect2 funding award and to increase the scope of the Chain of Lakes Trail to North West Arm Drive Greenway project, accordingly.**

The Chair identified the timely nature of the recommendation given the timeline and funding application deadline.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS – None**

**9.3 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.3.1 Councillor Mason – Committee Update**

Councillor Mason indicated he would be giving notice of motion to request a staff report pertaining to Halifax Transit and service for Access-a-Bus users. The Committee Update was circulated to the Committee and accepted.

**9.4 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.4.1 Councillor Outhit – Committee Update**

Update accepted by the Committee.

**9.4.2 Amendment to the Terms of Reference – Committee Composition**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Transportation Standing Committee requests Halifax Regional Council amend the Active Transportation Advisory Committee’s Terms of Reference to include a representative of “Walk n Roll HFX” in the Committee membership.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.5 CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.5.1 Councillor McCluskey - Committee Update**

Update accepted by the Committee.

**9.5.2 Commercial Parking Lot Pedestrian Safety Standards**

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mason that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report examining the development of common commercial parking lot standards and design regulations that address existing and future pedestrian safety issues.**

Councillor McCluskey stated that lack of standards was an issue in private parking lots. Councillor Mason requested clarification from staff if it was a practice in other jurisdictions to create design regulations for such issues. Councillor Walker also questioned if the motion could be better formulated or narrowed down and whether there were not any regulations now in place.

Mr. Bjerke responded that this was a common approach in development regulations and zoning bylaws. He indicated that there were currently no consistent standards and a consolidated approach has yet to be implemented.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. MOTIONS**

**11. IN CAMERA – None**

**12. ADDED ITEMS**

**12.1 Connect2 Funding Application**

This item was previously dealt with as item 9.1.3. See page 5 for more details.

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**13.1 Councillor Mason**

Take notice at the next meeting of Transportation Standing Committee I will move the Committee request staff to consider adding a commercial parking permit for abutting businesses on streets with specific parking controls in order to exempt a business vehicle from posted signs similar to the existing residential parking exemption under By-law P-1000 On-Street Parking Exemptions and Permits.

**13.2 Councillor Mason**

Take notice at the next meeting of Transportation Standing Committee I will move the Committee request a staff report on the possibility of Halifax Transit allowing registered Access-a-Bus users to utilize the conventional transit system free of charge, including information on potential benefits and financial operational impacts of doing this.

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 25, 2015**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Andrew Reid  
Legislative Assistant