

CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 30, 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair  
Ms. Janet Barlow, Vice Chair  
Deputy Mayor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Wayne Mason  
Mr. Ben Wedge  
Ms. Lucille Reid  
Ms. Krista Daley  
Ms. Jill McGillicuddy  
Sgt. David Reynolds  
Ms. Jamy-Ellen Klenavic  
Mr. Kyle Miller  
Dr. Ashan Habib

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Steve Craig

REGRETS: Mr. Stephen Stone  
Mr. Ben Wedge

STAFF: Ms. Marilyn Smith, Volunteer Services  
Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, Traffic & ROW  
Ms. Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant  
Mr. Darcy Warren, Legislative Support

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m., in the Halifax Hall, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

The Chair informed the Committee that Mr. Stone was unable to attend until the March/April meeting. The Committee granted Mr. Stone's leave of absence and looked forward to his return.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

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

**MOVED by Dr. Habib, seconded by Ms. Daley that the agenda be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSEED.**

## 4. REPORTS

### 4.1 Finalization of Work Plan

The following correspondence was received by the Committee for consideration:

- Norm Collins dated January 24<sup>th</sup> and 28, 2014
- Len Moxon dated January 12, 2014 submitted by Councillor Mosher January 25, 2014
- Krista Parlee dated January 24, 2014 submitted by Councillor Dalrymple dated January 26, 2014
- Kit Krasemann dated January 27, 2014

Ms. Marilyn Smith, Volunteer Services gave a review of the work completed to date and the Committee entered into discussion on the following:

#### Goal #5 – Standards and Actions

It was agreed that having the Traffic Authority explain the rationale for changes and challenges be removed. The Chair informed the Committee that other groups want to make presentations and have community input in the near future to start March 2014. The resources needed would be Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee and Corporate Communication (shape your community).

It was agreed that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee recommend that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council to enter into discussions with the province to re-conceptualize the Traffic Authority. The Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee, Transportation and Public Works and the Transportation Standing Committee will take the lead.

Ms. McGillicuddy entered the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Discussion ensued on the way the report would be written and it was agreed that the actions would be listed as an attachment to the report.

Ms. Barlow stated the warrant system should be revised for the installation and removing crosswalks to be tailored to urban versus suburban/rural versus school situations under consultation with Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee; as well, staff/committee time for 2014-2015. Ms. Barlow also noted better context specific crosswalks for rural urban, rural, and suburban areas. Also, that there has been a number of complaints and feedback from the public.

#### Goal 7: Traffic Control Measures – Improve Traffic Control Measures

The Chair informed the Committee that the Transportation Standing Committee has already passed a motion that will go to Regional Council on improvement of Traffic Control Measures.

It was agreed to increase efforts to maintain painted crosswalk lines to make them more visible. Monitor zebra markings for wear and visible lines. Traffic and Right-of-Way will monitor the roll out of the zebra markings and if the product is not meeting expectations look at a new product. This will be undertaken by Transportation and Public Works. Previously approved crosswalks are within the capital budget. Also to remove *compare collision studies* from this section.

The Committee added that identifying issues of visibility increases awareness such as identifying poles that block pedestrians at RA5 locations and moving the button rather than the pole. Further, to address pruning of vegetation at crosswalks.

Further points made:

- Approving the use of flags in Halifax Regional Municipality for use at uncontrolled crosswalks and in certain areas such as rural and suburban areas where the community takes responsibility for their use. The Committee agreed to allow Mr. Norm Collins to provide input on this matter.

Mr. Collins informed the Committee that the concept of their use was for rural areas with uncontrolled crosswalks. This was to be funded by the communities, and standards need to be in place with consultation from Transportation and Public Works. Three education components were included and pamphlets went to 2,300 homes where the flags were used.

- Once the use of flags is approved the Committee will recommend a set of standards. There are no budget implications; volunteers will take the lead, and would ensure community awareness and acceptance.

- Install reflective tape on all crosswalk poles at an estimated cost of \$10,000.00 based on 500 poles (\$10.00 per pole).
- Install new signs, design to be recommended by the Committee (to be designed as a pilot) facing the pedestrians at crosswalks cautioning pedestrians and the Committee will recommend standards to Transportation Standing Committee.
- Depending on the Province's decision, decrease speed limits on certain streets where deemed necessary. Increase advanced pedestrian yield lines at targeted areas when deemed necessary.

Deputy Mayor Fisher stated that he would like to continue to investigate Solar Pole Flashing Beacons to increase additional visibility of crosswalks. Dr. Habib responded that this would need authorization from the Province and Transportation and Public Works would have to research this if approved for 2014-2015.

Councillor Mason exited the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

- Investigate and define the use of and install inroad crosswalk signs (approximately \$300.00 per sign) at appropriate locations (circulated as correspondence from Norm Collins at the last meeting).

### Goal #3 – Evaluation and Research

- Potential research programs/ data analysis and reporting process should be Halifax Regional Police and Transportation Public Works. Staff time is a budget implication and DalTRAC will be a resource.

### Education

Ms. McGillicuddy stated that the Halifax Regional School Board and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) would like to be involved at the beginning of opening or closing of crosswalks, especially when there are school closures or the building of new schools.

- A note was made to recommend any school planning process the Traffic Authority will be invited to attend the Site Selection Committee, Boundary Review Committee and School Review Committee.

Dr. Habib exited the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

- Identify other organizations that have an interest and initiatives in crosswalk safety to enhance collaboration with other HRM departments and community groups, improved sharing of information.

### Enforcement

The Chair stated that he would like the Halifax Regional Police Safety Bear target specific areas every month.

Ms. McGillicuddy exited the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

Further points made:

- Increase enforcement of crosswalk legislation at all crosswalks including targeted enforcement at specific locations and times.
- Regional Council request the province for the ability to use neon coloured signs to identify crosswalks.

It was agreed that a copy of notes on the Work Plan be distributed to the Committee members to have at each meeting.

A copy of the completed work plan and recommendations will be included in the Committee's report to the Transportation Standing Committee. A copy of the Transportation Standing Committee recommendation report to Regional Council, with attached Crosswalk Safety Work Plan, and other supporting documents will be posted online once approved by the Transportation Standing Committee.

**MOVED by Sgt. Reynolds, seconded by Ms. Daley that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee recommends that the Transportation Standing Committee:**

- 1. Approve the Actions for each Goal outlined in the Crosswalk Safety Work Plan;**
- 2. Approve the Crosswalk Safety Work Plan; and**
- 3. Recommend to Halifax Regional Council that the work plan be forwarded to staff for analysis, budget implications and implementation.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. ADDED ITEMS - None**

**6. NEXT MEETING DATE – February 27, 2014**

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday February 27, 2014 in the Halifax Hall, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Darcy Warren  
Legislative Assistant