



**CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
April 23, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Ms. Janet Barlow, Chair  
Mr. Kelsey Green, Vice Chair  
Councillor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Reg Rankin  
Ms. Anne James  
Ms. Lucille Reid  
Dr. Ahsan Habib  
Ms. Krista Daley  
Ms. Jill McGillicuddy  
Sgt. Steve Calder

**REGRETS:** Councillor Gloria McCluskey

**STAFF:** Ms. Tanya Davis, Traffic Management and Right of Way  
Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, Traffic Management and Right of Way  
Ms. Phoebe Smith, 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 Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/csac/150423CSACAgenda-HRM.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m., and the Committee adjourned at 11:40 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

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

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Ms. Daley that the minutes of March 26, 2015 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:        8.1        Making Our Communities Safer Plan

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Mr. Green that the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**4.1 Discussion of Crosswalk Safety Idea Café report**

The following was before the Committee:

- *Information Café: Crosswalk Safety Workshop Report*

The Chair noted that at the last meeting, Committee members had expressed an interest in discussing the report further to determine whether there were any recommendations the Committee wished to move forward. A discussion ensued but the Committee did not put forward a recommendation at this time.

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

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE**

**6.1 Correspondence - None**

**6.2 Petitions – None**

**6.3 Presentations - None**

**7. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**7.1 STAFF**

**7.1.1 Crosswalks on Private Property – Hugh Morrison, Development Engineer, Planning and Development**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff presentation dated April 23, 2015

Mr. Richard Harvey, Major Project Planner, and Mr. Hugh Morrison, Development Engineer gave a presentation to the Committee on Municipal Standards for Pedestrian Safety in Private Parking Lots. They highlighted that there are few land use by-laws that address pedestrian safety issues. With respect to Development Agreements, they noted that the overall site design is assessed with varying degrees of emphasis placed on pedestrian safety.

In response to a question from Councillor Rankin, the presenters remarked that developers are often receptive to advice as they have an interest in keeping the public safe on their properties.

Councillor Rankin questioned if there are difficulties issuing tickets in parking lots for crosswalk infractions. Sgt. Calder noted that if a crosswalk is clearly marked, infractions are dealt with in the same manner they would be if it were a public road, but if the marking is not standard questions can arise.

Ms. Tanya Davis, Acting Manager Traffic Management and Right of Way added that the Traffic Division encourages developers to use the standard markings for crosswalks. She noted that past Traffic Authorities have, in cases where the markings are not intuitively clear to motorists, made it mandatory that developers change the crosswalks; however, this is not the current practice.

Councillor Rankin commented that in terms of policy there must be a sufficient basis for intervention on behalf of the public. He questioned if there was precedent in Canada for taking the stance that although these properties are privately owned, the public outcomes are significant enough to warrant intervention on the basis of representing pedestrian interests.

Ms. Barlow concurred with Councillor Rankin's remarks and noted that according to Halifax Regional Police statistics, 25% of collisions are happening in private parking lots, which are public outcomes as they require police resources to investigate and provincial resources for any settlements that arise. She questioned whether there are other examples and to what degree regulation is advisable.

Mr. Harvey responded that the typical way to address this issue would be through a land use by-law such as provisions that Bedford has in place for all new developments. He noted that it is more difficult to apply regulations to existing developments retroactively. He commented that planning staff is not aware of where the accidents are occurring in these parking lots, which would be important to identify before establishing minimum standards.

Dr. Habib noted that there should be enforcement mechanisms with respect to land use by-laws and Development Agreements specifically in private commercial parking lots, as opposed to private residential lots, to ensure pedestrian-friendly design.

Councillor Rankin expressed interest in moving slowly, rather than taking a revolutionary approach, and asking the Transportation Standing Committee for a broad examination of the issue and identification of reasonable outcomes to serve the public. Dr. Habib added that there should be some identification of where pedestrian-oriented design is necessary and where it is not.

Mr. Green commented on the expected level of service, noting that when Bayers Lake Industrial Park was developed it was expected to be a vehicle-oriented facility with very few pedestrians; however, this changed over time. He questioned whether the municipality can require a business owner to repaint a sidewalk should the paint get scraped off. Mr. Harvey responded that if the crosswalk was a condition of for issuance of the permit, the city can require the situation be remedied.

**MOVED by Ms. Daley, seconded by Mr. Green that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee recommend that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report on the development of common commercial parking lot standards and design regulations that address existing and future pedestrian safety issues.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **7.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **7.2.1 Future Work of the Committee and Meeting Schedule**

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Ms. Daley that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee move from a monthly to a bimonthly meeting schedule, reserving the ability to call extra meetings with a sufficient amount of notice if needed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Committee held a brief discussion regarding future work. Ms. Daley commented that she would like to see accessibility and cycling issues related to crosswalks addressed in further detail and suggested that presentations on these topics may be of interest to the group. The Chair agreed to invite presenters to the next meeting.

**8. ADDED ITEMS**

**8.1 Making Our Communities Safer Plan**

The following was before the Committee:

- A Councillor Request for Committee Consideration Form dated April 23, 2015

Councillor Fisher indicated that there are items in the CSAC work plan that were not incorporated into the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan and that he would like to see a short update on where these matters currently stand. Ms. Barlow noted that there was a staff response to the Committee's recommendations in June 2014. The Committee agreed that an update would bring clarity to what has and has not been implemented.

Ms. Tanya Davis, Acting Manager Traffic Management and Right of Way advised that in her understanding, the role of CSAC provides input into the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, which is then approved by Council. Councillor Fisher responded that the CSAC work plan was also approved by Council. Ms. Barlow advised that there have been different interpretations of the Committee's overall role in the process and it will be helpful to have this clarified.

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Ms. Daley that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC) request the Transportation Standing Committee ask for a staff update on the implementation of the remaining approved actions in the Making our Communities Safer Plan which was approved by the CSAC, the Transportation Standing Committee and Regional Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9. IN CAMERA – NONE**

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday, June 25, 2015, 10:00 a.m., Halifax Hall, City Hall**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Ms. Phoebe Smith  
Legislative Assistant