

TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

December 13, 2012

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor Reg Rankin, Chair  
Councillor Jennifer Watts, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple  
Councillor David Hendsbee  
Councillor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Russell Walker  
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF:

Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. in Halifax Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

## 2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for Chair.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that Councillor Rankin be elected as Chair for 2013. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Legislative Assistant called three times for any further nominations; there being none, she declared Councillor Rankin as Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

Councillor Rankin assumed the Chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that Councillor Watts be elected as Vice Chair. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Chair called three times for any further nominations; there being none, he declared Councillor Watts as Vice Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee.

The Chair introduced Kirby Grant, HRM Solicitor, in attendance. Ms. Grant advised that she is the solicitor assigned to the Transportation Standing Committee, and invited the Committee to request her attendance at meetings to provide advice on matters, when deemed necessary.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 27, 2012

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Watts, that the Transportation Standing Committee minutes of September 27, 2012 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

### Additions:

- 5.3.1 Presentation – Information Item #5 – Update Presentation on HRM SmartTrip Program
- 10.1 Information Item #1 - Caldwell Road Traffic Assessment (information report dated October 5, 2012)
- 10.2 Information Item #2 – Bayers Lake Transit Corridor (information report dated October 31, 2012)

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts, that the order of business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**5.1 Correspondence**

**5.1.1 Correspondence from Dalhousie Office of Sustainability, dated November 5, 2012 re: Cross-Town Cycling Connector**

Correspondence from Dalhousie Office of Sustainability, dated November 5, 2012 regarding the Cross-Town Cycling Connector was before the Committee.

The Committee accepted the correspondence as information.

**5.1.2 Correspondence from Our HRM Alliance, dated November 30, 2012 re: North-South Cycling Route**

Correspondence from Our HRM Alliance, dated November 30, 2012 regarding the North-South Cycling Route was before the Committee.

The Committee accepted the correspondence as information.

**5.2 Petitions - None**

**5.3 Presentations - None**

Councillor Outhit joined the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

**5.3.1 Update Presentation on HRM SmartTrip Program**

An information report dated November 27, 2012 was before the Committee.

Mr. David Maclsaac, Transportation Demand Management Supervisor, presented an update of the HRM SmartTrip Program, as attached to the November 27, 2012 information report.

Mr. Maclsaac responded to questions from the Committee, clarifying the following:

- Another employer is joining the SmartTrip EPass program in the new year;
- The EPass is offered at a 25% discount, which is split by HRM and the employer. The employer paid 12.5% discount goes directly into transit funding.

Councillor Dalrymple requested that staff obtain an estimate on what it would cost HRM to have HRM employees participate.

The Committee discussed with staff the potential of HRM participation in the EPass program, and what that would involve.

Responding to questions regarding smart pass technology, Mr. Dave Reage, Manager, Planning and Scheduling, Metro Transit, advised that HRM is still several years away from smart card technology.

The Committee discussed the SmartTrip community-based projects, and suitable communities.

**6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – None**

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 STAFF - None**

**8.2 MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**8.2.1 Councillor Appointments to Boards, Committees, Commissions**

- Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission
- Canadian Urban Transit Association
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee

**• Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission**

The Committee discussed the four required appointments to the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Mason, that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council nominate Councillors Karsten, Watts, Hendsbee and Fisher to the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**• Canadian Urban Transit Association**

The Committee discussed the appointment to the Canadian Urban Transit Association.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council nominate Councillor Fisher for re-appointment to the Canadian Urban Transit Association. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

- **Active Transportation Advisory Committee**

The Committee discussed the three required appointments to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple, that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council appoint Councillors Mason, Hendsbee and Watts to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8.3 MATTERS REFERRED FROM STANDING COMMITTEES - None**

**8.4 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**8.4.1 Update from Councillor Watts (verbal)**

Councillor Watts provided a brief update on the activities of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee, including the following:

- Discussion regarding the expiry of the lease on the Hantsport rail line.
- The Active Transportation Plan review is underway, with the public consultation process.
- A recommendation to West Community Council and the Transportation Standing Committee will be coming forward in the new year with regard to the Cross Town Connector.

The Committee discussed the HRM bid to the Bridge Commission for the re-use of the McDonald Bridge decking materials, with staff updating that the RFP process has closed and a selection committee with the Bridge Commission will be making recommendation to the Board.

Councillor Mason raised questions with regard to the Street Closure Policy – how to decide when to close a street, how it works, what are the costs, etc. He asked that the policy be added to the next agenda for discussion with staff.

Councillor Outhit requested that updates on the Northwest Transit Corridor Study and the Commuter Rail Study be added to the next meeting agenda.

At the request of Councillor Outhit, Councillor Watts will consult with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee about bringing forward for discussion at a future meeting the breakdown of active transportation trails vs. recreation trails.

**8.5 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**8.5.1 Update from Councillor Watts (verbal)**

Councillor Watts provided a brief update on the activities of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, including the following:

- Discussion on accessibility issues arising from the Municipal Election.
- Discussion on accessibility issues with moving bus stops in Bayers Lake.
- A presentation and discussion will be held at the next meeting on the potential for an interactive accessibility map for HRM.
- The Committee will be consulted with regard to the potential for 2 new roundabouts

**9. MOTIONS - None**

**10. ADDED ITEMS**

**10.1 Information Item #1 - Caldwell Road Traffic Assessment (information report dated October 5, 2012)**

**MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that the “Caldwell Road Traffic Assessment” information report dated October 5, 2012 be forwarded to Regional Council for their information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10.2 Information Item #2 - Bayers Lake Transit Corridor (information report dated October 31, 2012)**

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason, that the Bayers Lake Transit Corridor information report dated October 31, 2012 be forwarded to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for their information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**11.1 Councillor Walker**

“Take notice that at the next Transportation Standing Committee to be held on January 24, 2012 I will put forward a motion requesting a staff report for a full review of the Taxi & Limousine Liaison Committee and how it is working, in response to concerns from taxi drivers.”

**12. NEXT MEETING – January 24, 2013**

**12.1 Approval of the 2013 Meeting Schedule**

The 2013 proposed meeting schedule was accepted as circulated.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant

### INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Caldwell Road Traffic Assessment** – *information report dated October 5, 2012*
2. **Bayers Lake Transit Corridor** – *information report dated October 31, 2012*
3. **Transit Stop Annunciation - Update** – *information report dated December 13, 2012*
4. **Transit Service Standards** – *information report dated November 21, 2012*
5. **Update Presentation on HRM SmartTrip Program** – *information report dated November 27, 2012*
6. **Application to Nova Scotia Moves Program** – *information report dated December 3, 2012*