



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 19, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Ben Buckwold, Chair  
Councillor Waye Mason, Vice Chair  
Mr. David Jackson  
Mr. Walter Regan  
Mr. Tristan Cleveland  
Ms. Elizabeth Pugh  
Ms. Terry Walker  
Councillor Hendsbee

**REGRETS:** Ms. Julie Tompa  
Councillor Tim Outhit

**STAFF:** Ms. Hanita Koblents, A.T. Coordinator  
Mr. David MacIsaac, TDM Program Supervisor  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Jackson

**That the minutes of October 15, 2015 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOVED by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cleveland

**That the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair noted that Mr. Peter Williams was in attendance to address the Committee concerning a recent cycling incident that he and his son experienced while driving along the Sambro Loop.

Mr. Williams relayed to the Committee a recent incident where he and his son experienced a very aggressive driver while they were cycling around the Sambro Loop. In his remarks he noted that the situation escalated to the point where the individual became enraged. The police were called, and the individual was arrested for assault. Mr. Williams added that, although it was a very unfortunate incident, he and his son would like for something positive to come out of the situation. He noted that several years ago there were similar concerns along the Aspotogan Loop and a public meeting was held in the community and it was helpful in that it brought together cyclists and area residents to voice their concerns and it helped to relieve some of the tension. He suggested that convening a similar meeting in the Sambro area may also be helpful in reducing the tension between drivers and cyclists.

The Committee engaged in a discussion and Councillor Hendsbee suggested that he would contact Councillor Adams, who is the Councillor for the area and suggest that he and the Provincial MLA for the area host a public community meeting.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES- NONE**

The Chair asked for an update with regard to the Committee's request for the Parks Manager to attend a meeting to discuss funding and staffing with respect to trails considered as recreational trails vs trails recognized as part of the Active Transit network.

The Legislative Assistant advised that she followed up with staff and was informed that the Parks Manager did not deal with trails and that it fell under the Transportation and Public Works business unit.

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The Chair clarified the Committee was referring to concerns that Halifax Regional Trails Association (HRTA) has repeatedly expressed about a lack of funding and planning for purely recreational trails in the Municipality and have indicated that projects are falling through the gap because they do not meet the funding criteria. He added that only trails that are deemed to be serving an active transportation purpose are funded as part of the Active Transportation Plan. He asked the Legislative Assistant to follow up further with staff in this regard and extend an invitation to meet with the Committee.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions - None**

**7.3 Presentations - None**

**8. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**8.1 STAFF:**

**8.1.1 Active Transportation Staff**

Ms. Hanita Koblents provided presentations on the proposed Devonshire Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements and Dartmouth Waterfront Greenway Extension.

With regard to the Devonshire Avenue, the improvements to Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements will include:

- The addition of "corner bump-outs" at a number of intersections.
- New pedestrian ramps to cross Devonshire Avenue at Barrington Street.
- Bicycle lanes from Isleville to Barrington, plus a short bike link to Niobe Gate on city property west of the sidewalk between Devonshire and Niobe Gate .

Ms. Koblents advised the impact that the improvements would have, as follows:

- The number of lanes on Devonshire will be permanently reduced from four to two
- No changes to the location of on-street parking on Devonshire Avenue
- On Duffus Street, on-street parking between Novalea and Isleville, including one 30 minute zone by the pizza shop, will shift around the corner onto Isleville Street.
- There will be no left turns allowed from Devonshire onto Barrington Street.

Ms. Koblents advised that the project is in the preliminary design stage, and that an Open House has been scheduled for December 3, 2015 and she invited all members to attend and provide their feedback. She noted that the plans would be published online and members of the public will be invited to submit their comments. Ms. Koblents added that a staff report will be provided to Council in the new year and, depending on approval of the Capital Budget, work could occur in 2016.

With regard to the Proposed Extension of Dartmouth Waterfront Greenway Ms. Koblents advised that the greenway trail would be extend north from Ochterloney Street to Geary Street. She noted that the timing of its construction is unclear at this point, but that the earliest would be in the 2017 construction season. Ms. Koblents advised that this is small project but impactful, and it is currently at the stakeholder engagement stage.

**8.1.3 Regional Trails Staff**

Ms. Jessie Debaie provided the following staff update:

1. The Shubie Watershed Environmental Protection Society SWEPS is presently tendering a section of Active Transportation greenway on a former K Road called the Blue Hill Coach Road in the Fall River Area. The AT greenway came out of the citizen consultation via the Fall River visioning exercises. The

long range AT greenway plans for the future include on and off road routes to connect Fall River to Dartmouth.

2. The Carrolls Corner Mastodon Greenway is presently constructing a new section of AT Greenway that will connect to the National Gypsum Lookoff. A large part of this year construction of that AT greenway is in the TIR road right of way that is larger than usual – 100 ft instead of 66. The group is also planning a parking lot to accommodate cars that will want to stop at the Gypsum Mine Look off site. The National Gypsum Quarrie site mines gypsum from an open pit mine. The gypsum is shipped all over North America for making gyprock. Trans Canada Trail includes the AT Greenway in Carrolls Corner as part of the designated Trans Canada Trail route that will connect to the Musquodoboit Trailway by an off road AT route system.

3. Atlantic View Greenway and Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Trail have completed two re-capitalization projects on their rail trails in Lawrencetown and Beechville Lakeside Timberlea areas respectively this season.

4. Final planning is underway for the Jennifer Place bridge and connector greenway for the Bissett Lake Greenway in Cole Harbour. This is Phase 1 of the Bissett Greenway that has been held up in the past because of the need for land acquisition.

5. The Sackville Greenway part one construction will be wrapping up for the season by the end of November. Over the winter months, the greenway will be signed as follows: Sackville Greenway, Under Construction, No Access, No Winter Maintenance. Plans are to continue construction and final paving of the Glendale to Sackville Drive Section in the 2016/17, if budget is acquired.

6. A volunteer from the Sackville Rivers Association has compiled the data from the Infra Red Counter and the Bike Counter on the Bedford Sackville Connector Greenway. The data is being circulated for your information.

## **8.2 Halifax Regional Trails Association - None**

## **8.3 Bike Week Sub-Committee**

Ms. Koblents advised that a meeting of the Bike Week Sub-Committee has been scheduled for December 1, 2015 and she invited members of this committee to participate if they wished.

## **8.4 Committee Members**

Ms. Terry Walker provided an update to the Committee in regard to the presentation provided by Ben Wedge, Halifax Cycling Coalition, at last month's meeting concerning a pilot project of on-street bicycling parking. She advised that the pilot project was a success, and that the only negative feedback was that it did not feel secure enough. She added the businesses in the area were very supportive, and that Halifax Cycling Coalition will formally request from staff an upgrade and to bolt the bike posts to enhance security.

## **9. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** December 17, 2015

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant