



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 17, 2016**

PRESENT: Mr. Ben Buckwold, Chair  
Ms. Ella Dodson  
Ms. Elizabeth Pugh  
Mr. Walter Regan  
Ms. Kelsey Lane  
Mr. David Jackson  
Councillor David Hendsbee

REGRETS: Ms. Julie Tompa  
Mr. Julian West  
Mr. James McMillian  
Councillor Waye Mason, Vice Chair  
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF &  
INVITED GUESTS: Mr. David MacIsaac, Active Transportation Program Supervisor  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant  
Ms. Leslie Neate, Legislative Support  
Mr. Mark Nener, AT Coordinator  
  
Ms. Kate Whitfield, Senior Project Manager, Parson Corporation  
Mr. Maurice Mansfield, Senior Structural Engineer, Parson Corporation  
Ms. André Sponder, Analyst, Parson Corporation  
Mr. Dominique Chevalier, Design Technologist, Parson Corporation

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Active Transportation Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/161117atac-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. and adjourned at 5:35 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

At the time the meeting was called to order, quorum of seven had not been met. Therefore, approval of the minutes and approval of the Order of Business could not be dealt with. The meeting proceeded directly into the presentation for the MacDonald Bridge Bikeway Access Project.

- Community Announcements were provided during the Committee Member Updates.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 20, 2016**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting once quorum was achieved (see page 4).

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

This item was dealt with later in the meeting once quorum was achieved (see page 4).

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

This item was dealt with following the Staff Reports (see page 5).

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

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

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions - None**

**7.3 Presentations**

**7.3.1 MacDonald Bridge Bikeway Access Project**

David MacIsaac opened the presentation to introduce the MacDonald Bridge Bikeway Access Project. The Bikeway Connector Project will develop and assess the feasibility, land requirements, and cost of specific options that improve connections between the Macdonald Bridge bikeway and bicycle networks in Halifax and Dartmouth. The project aims to make crossings of the Macdonald Bridge bikeway easier and safer by considering the creation of AAA (all ages and abilities) facility design in the immediate area near the bridgeheads, and by considering easier and safer connections to adjacent neighbourhoods.

Ms. Whitfield discussed a number of options for accessing the bridge from both the Dartmouth and Halifax sides. The highlights of her remarks are as follows:

- The project began in 2015.
- The focus is on AAA – All Ages and Abilities, facilities that appeal to people not just cyclists.
- Public engagement sessions have been held.
  - November 16 had approximately 60 attendees,
  - November 17 lunch-time session had about 40 attendees

- One further session being hosted at 5 p.m. this evening.

At 4:20 p.m., Councillor Hendsbee entered the meeting; quorum was achieved

Ms. Whitfield provided a brief overview with diagrams of the options being reviewed, including enhancements to local street bikeways and intersections in Dartmouth approaching the MacDonald Bridge.

The specific focus areas are:

Macdonald Bridge Connections:

- Enhancements at the Wyse Road / Nantucket Avenue intersections
- Access directly from bikeway to Lyle and Dickson Streets
- Flyover to ultimately connect to bicycle lanes on North Street

Bikeways:

- A bicycle facility on Wyse Road between Nantucket Avenue and Thistle Street to connect to paths on Dartmouth Common (approx. 400 m)
- A bicycle facility on Wyse Road between Faulkner Street and Albro Lake Road (approx. 1050 m)
- A two-way Local Street Bikeway on Faulkner Street, Lyle Street and Shore Drive (approx. 1350 m)
- A bicycle facility on North Street from the end of the flyover to Agricola Street (approx. 650 m)

The Chair thanked staff and the consultant for the presentation and invited feedback/questions from the committee. The following points were noted:

- In response to question as to whether Brunswick St. was considered as a flyover connector, Mr. MacIsaac indicated that cost is an issue to change direction.
- Diagrams within the presentation seemed confusing.
- It was noted that crossing North St. to Stadacona is a four or five lane challenge. Mr. MacIsaac addressed as it may be possible to improve that crossing.
- The consultants and staff were commended for the All Ages and Abilities approach.

A brief discussion ensued in regard to having Brunswick Street as a candidate local street bike route.

MOVED by Kelsey Lane, seconded by Ella Dobson

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report on having Brunswick Street, from North to Cogswell, as a candidate bike route in the 2014 Active Transportation plan.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Committee continued to provide feedback on the presentation as follows:

- Concern was expressed about crossing safely on Wyse Road.
- A suggestion was put forward relating to the possible use of colour treatments for gaps.

- A question was posed about Thermal Heating for ramps; noting that if possible, it could be done under the construction phase.
- It was noted that the Cogswell demolition is scheduled for the fall of 2017; and having both projects underway simultaneously will create travel challenges for both bicycles and pedestrians.
- Within the Brunswick St. area there are three assisted living facilities.
- Following the completion of the current planning process, a report will be prepared for Regional Council seeking future direction, likely in early 2017. This report would present a multi-year implementation timeline.

As quorum had been achieved, the meeting moved to:

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 20, 2016**

MOVED by Walter Regan, seconded by David Jackson

**THAT the minutes of October 20, 2016 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

MOVED by David Jackson, seconded Walter Regan

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**8.1 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

Committee member updates were provided following the Staff Updates.

**8.2 STAFF UPDATES**

Mr. MacIsaac provided the following updates:

- South Park Bike Lane Improvements and Extension, public meeting moving likely to end of January.
- Bike Parking installations complete for the year.
- Internal Debrief Meeting on pilot project for bike corrals and right of ways.
- Working hard with IMP Team (Integrated Mobility Team) and public engagement likely the end of November or early December, 2016.
- The Administrative Order Respecting the Implementation of Local Street Bikeways was passed by Council last week.
- Devonshire bike lane project finishing by November 30, 2016
- Finished extension of Bissett Greenway.
- Community group recently finished a segment Fall River Blue Hill Greenway
- Bike Week tentatively set for June 2 – 11, 2017.

- A report will be going to Transportation Standing Committee, December 8, 2016, on Trans-Canada Trail route in HRM.
- The Fall screen-line is being carried out with cameras, instead of manually by volunteers, for bike counts.

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

The Chair advised that as discussed at the last meeting he followed up with regard to a request for presentation from staff relating to the Integrated Mobility Plan Group and Centre Plan.

The Chair advised that at the last meeting Mr. MacIsaac was requested to follow up on a couple of questions. The following responses were provided:

- It was noted that there has been no request to the province to implement a 30 km zone anywhere.
- There is currently no submitted list of 'Canada 150' projects; however, a number of Active Transportation projects have been discussed with federal officials.

#### **8.1 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

Ms. Lane advised that the Halifax Cycling Coalition will be hosting the Bike Awards, December 5, 6:00 p.m., at Timberlounge, and online voting was now open. She encouraged everyone to vote @ Cyclehalifax.ca.

Mr. Regan advised the preliminary trail counts had approximately 12,000 bike hits on the Sackville Trail in 2015. HRTA will be writing letter to HRM to request the province enforce mandatory bells on all bikes. Mr. Regan advised he attended a presentation by Michael Haines relating to the Trans Canada Trail and suggested Mr. Haines be invited to present at a future meeting.

Ms. Dodson advised that Walk 'n' Roll ([www.walknrollhfx.net/](http://www.walknrollhfx.net/)) is partnering with HRM's Centre Plan team to organize community walks across the Halifax Peninsula and Dartmouth (within the Circumferential) in order to engage residents in reviewing the draft Centre Plan. Feedback will be provided to Mr. Jacob Ritchie.

#### **9. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

#### **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 15, 2016**

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Leslie Neate  
Legislative Support