



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
June 14, 2016**

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Outhit, Chair  
Councillor Reg Rankin, Vice Chair  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Russell Walker  
Councillor Linda Mosher

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Adams

STAFF: Ms. Jane Fraser, Acting Deputy CAO  
Ms. Kirby Grant, Solicitor  
Ms. Cathy Collett, 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 the Transportation Standing Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCtransp/160614tsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., and adjourned at 11:28 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2016**

MOVED by Councillor Gloria McCluskey. Seconded by Councillor Waye Mason

**THAT the minutes of April 28, 2016 be approved as presented**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

15.1 Consideration of Low-Income Transit Passes for Low-Income Seniors – Councillor Rankin

MOVED by Councillor Russell Walker, seconded by Councillor Reg Rankin,

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

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

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

**9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**10.1 Correspondence**

The Clerk noted that correspondence was received for item 12.1.1 and 12.1.2. This correspondence was circulated to members of the Standing Committee. For a detailed list of correspondence received, please refer to the specific agenda item.

**10.2 Petitions - None**

**10.3 Presentation - None**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 STAFF**

**12.1.1 Sideguard Protection on HRM Fleet**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated May 20, 2016*
- *Correspondence from Heather Elliott, Karen Beazley, Wendy McDonald, Phil Bergeron-Burns, Roxanne Maclean, Sara Lipson, Renee Poirier, Angela Nimmo, Debbie MacGillivray, Jackie Dean, Roger Soviskov, Jenn MacGillivray, Stephen MacGillivray, Elizabeth Wheaton, Al Patrick*

Mr. Bruce Zvaniga, Director of Transportation and Public Works, briefly addressed the staff report, commenting that the report lays out the requested plan and a method for implementing them.

MOVED by Councillor Waye Mason, seconded by Councillor Gloria McCluskey

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee:**

- 1. Direct staff to require side guard protection to achieve an approximate maximum ground clearance of 350mm, except where impractical, on:**
  - a) Vehicles over 4500kg purchased or leased by Halifax Regional Municipality after April 1, 2017, and;**
  - b) Contracted service provider vehicles over 4500kg on contracts awarded after April 1, 2017; and,**
- 2. Direct staff to include sufficient funding in the preliminary 2017-18 Budget and Business Plan to acquire side guard protection on all appropriate vehicles purchased by, leased by, or contracted to deliver service to Halifax Regional Municipality; and**
- 3. Direct staff to submit a report to Transportation Standing Committee in mid-2018 detailing:**
  - a) The status of side guard protection implementation at that time; and**
  - b) Recommendations on a retrofit program to complete the implementation of fleet vehicles not subject to replacement by 2022; and,**
- 4. Request that Halifax Water Commission review and report to Regional Council on the application of side guard protection to their fleet and contracted vehicles for 2017 and beyond.**

Councillor Mason spoke of the Jessica Campaign in, which advocates for sideguards on vehicles in Quebec. He explained that phase two of the process is a window in the door of the truck and a camera on the wing. He commented that moving forward with sideguards will save lives and is a move in the right direction

Responding to questions of clarification from Standing Committee members, Mr. Zvaniga explained that the proposed new standards for sideguards would be part of contract specifications in the same way that any other required equipment would be.

Members of the Standing Committee indicated their support for the recommendation contained in the staff report and the Standing Committee discussed that Regional Council may want to consider requesting that a letter go to the Province encouraging the subject to be considered more broadly.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 12.1.2 Mitigation of Construction Impacts

The following was before the Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated April 13, 2016*
- *A staff presentation*
- *Correspondence from Walk 'n Roll Hfx.*

Mr. Peter Duncan, Manager of Infrastructure and Planning, provided a staff presentation outlining the Staff Report.

**Councillor Mosher entered the meeting at 10:22 a.m.**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Regional Council:**

1. **Adopt By-law A-501 amending By-law A-500, the Amending By-law, as contained in Attachment B of the report dated April 13, 2016, the purpose of which is: to amend By-law B-201, the Building By-law; By-law E-200, the Encroachments By-law; and, By-law S-300, the Streets By-law; and**
2. **Adopt Administrative Order 2016-003-ADM, Respecting Construction Site Management as contained in Attachment G of the report dated April 13, 2016.**

Members of the Standing Committee thanked Mr. Peter Duncan and his staff for a great report and commented on the importance of having clear rules in place which will make the rules easier to enforce, reduce risk to residents, and provide the necessary tools for bringing compliance.

Councillor Walker expressed concern about the outstanding issues that are not addressed in the report such as the transport of materials and compensation for suffering business who are affected by lengthy construction.

Responding to questions of clarification, Mr. Duncan explained that the outstanding issues will come before Council separately.

Members of the Standing Committee expressed their concern with the effect that lengthy construction projects have on small businesses. Committee members commented that the staff report addresses the construction mitigation measures that are relevant the majority of construction projects.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

### 12.2.1 Information Report submitted at April 28, 2016 Transportation Standing Committee meeting Re: Transit Priorities Opportunities Study – Councillor Waye Mason

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- *A staff information report dated April 18, 2016*
- *A Councillor Request For Consideration Form re: Transit Opportunities Study*

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report outlining:**

- a) **The possible transfer of responsibility for Transit Priority Measures (TPM) funding from Halifax Transit to Transportation & Public Works**
- b) **A plan to implement the full list of proposed TPM's listed in the Staff Report dated April 18, 2016 during the 2017/18 fiscal year**

And that this report shall be returned to the committee in sufficient time that it may be considered as a proposal for possible inclusion in the 2017/18 capital budget.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.3 COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**12.3.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- *A written update of the May 9, 2016 Accessibility Advisory Committee Work-plan meeting and the May 16, 2016 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting*

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the written update.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.3.2 Active Transportation Advisory Committee Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- *A written update of the May 19, 2016 Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting*

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the written update.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.3.3 Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- *A written update of the May 10, 2016 motion of Regional Council and the May 26, 2016 closing event of the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee.*

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the written update.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13. MOTIONS**

**13.1 Councillor Mason**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Rankin

**That the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report with recommendations regarding creating incentives and regulatory framework to encourage the expansion of the universally accessible taxi fleet in Halifax, including but not limited to HRM lead fleet purchase, municipal and provincial regulatory and tax changes and incentives, and service contracts modelled on HRM's rural community transit program.**

Councillor Mason commented that accessible cabs are not affordable under the current rate structure and that if the Municipality requires more of these vehicles, then something must be done to make operating them affordable.

Councillor Rankin expressed concern regarding the implications of the proposed staff report in terms of the taxi structure.

Councillor Walker expressed concerns with the confusion the report might create.

Councillor Mason responded to the concerns of Standing Committee members by explaining that the importance of the proposed staff report is the intent to provide HRM with adequate accessible taxi service.

Councillor Rankin expressed concern regarding the proposed staff report and indicated that he would not support the request.

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

**14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE**

**15. ADDED ITEMS**

**15.1 Consideration of Low-Income Transit Passes for Low-Income Seniors – Councillor Rankin**

The Standing Committee discussed the reasons for subsidizing all seniors transit passes without an income test. Members of the Standing Committee related comments from senior residents who expressed concern that they received a subsidy that they did not need.

The Committee considered the difficulty in managing subsidized transit passes for low income members of specific groups, such as seniors or students.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Walker**

- THAT the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report outlining:**
- a) An analysis of the demographic characteristics of seniors in the municipality, specifically as it relates to income level and the percentage of seniors that could be considered low income for the potential purpose of providing subsidized low income transit passes; and**
  - b) An analysis of the existing costs of providing discounted transit fares for seniors.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**17.1 Pam Cooley – update from Carshare Atlantic**

Ms. Cooley delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the current activity of Carshare Atlantic, which was formerly Carshare Halifax. She commented that by the end of June they will have 45 cars in their fleet and the vision is to go up to 100 cars. She explained that the hope is to increase access to residential neighborhoods and that the answer is collaboration. She noted that there is a gap in the North End as there are no commercial or private sector partners in this area.

The Chair thanked Ms. Cooley for her participation.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 23, 2016**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Cathy Collett  
Legislative Assistant