



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
July 23, 2014**

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Councillor Tim Outhit, Vice Chair  
Deputy Mayor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor Russell Walker

**OTHERS  
PRESENT:**

Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

**REGRETS:**

Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair  
Councillor David Hendsbee

**STAFF:**

Mr. Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, Acting Director, Transportation & Public Works  
Ms. Kirby Grant, Senior Solicitor, Legal Services

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

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCtransp/140723tscagenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., and recessed at 3:44 p.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera session at 3:45 p.m., reconvened at 3:50 p.m. and adjourned at 3:52 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 4, 2014**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the minutes of the Transportation Standing Committee meeting of June 4, 2014, be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Councillor Mason requested that Halifax Transit staff present Information Item No. 2 “2013/14 Q4 Metro Transit KPI Report” at the September Transportation Standing Committee meeting.

**Additions:**

- 9.4.3 Active Transportation Advisory Committee – May Meeting (*Information Report dated May 21, 2014, Info Item No. 3*) – *Councillor Watts*
- 12.1 Information Item No. 1 – NS Moves Program – 2014 Funding Application – *Councillor Watts*
- 12.2 Commuter Rail Updates – *Councillor Outhit*

**Deletions:**

The report for item 9.1.2 was not completed in time for this meeting. The following three reports will be brought forward for the next Transportation Standing Committee meeting agenda:

- 9.1.2 Amendments to By-law T-1001 and Administrative Order No. 39 Respecting the Regulations of Taxis and Limousines
- Info Item 4 Accessible Taxis and Owner/Operators (*information report dated May 16, 2014*)
- Info Item 5 2013 Annual Review – Taxi & Limousine Liaison Group (*information report dated May 6, 2014*)

The following item was deleted from the agenda and moved to the August 5, 2014 Regional Council agenda:

- 8.3.1 Winter Operations End of Season Report (*information report dated June 16, 2014*)

**Deferrals:**

At the request of Councillor Hendsbee, the following item was deferred to the next Transportation Standing Committee meeting agenda, as he was unable to be in attendance:

**10.1 Motion - Councillor Hendsbee**

That the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to provide a policy and fiscal framework for Regional Councillors to make requests for pilot projects to suggest slight service adjustments to any Metro Transit route as an attempt to enhance quality and increase service reliability of existing transit routes.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

5. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

6. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

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

8. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

8.1 **Correspondence**

8.1.1 **Correspondence from Ms. Marjorie Eveleigh dated May 13, 2014 re: Halifax & Dartmouth vehicle/pedestrian street safety**

The following information was before the Committee:

- Correspondence from Ms. Marjorie Eveleigh dated May 13, 2014 re: Halifax & Dartmouth vehicle/pedestrian street safety

The Committee accepted the correspondence.

8.2 **Petitions - None**

8.3 **Presentation**

8.3.1 **Winter Operations End of Season Report (information report dated June 16, 2014) – Transportation & Public Works staff presentation**

This item was deleted from the agenda and moved to the August 5, 2014 Regional Council agenda.

9. **REPORTS**

9.1 **STAFF**

9.1.1 **Administrative Order for Special Events, Parades and Street Closures**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation/information report dated July 8, 2014.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher, that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Adopt the Special Events Administrative Order # 2014-010-ADM (Attachment 1), to become effective 120 days from approval date; and**
2. **Direct staff to include establishment of a policy for waiving of fees in the work being done on both the Fees By-law and the Grants Policy.**

Councillor Mason thanked staff for the report.

Deputy Mayor Fisher noted that members of Halifax Regional Police do great work with traffic control at events such as EPIC Dartmouth, although he wondered whether there were lower cost way alternatives to the police for such events.

Councillor Nicoll indicated that the support required for different scales of events vary, and inquired whether the Administrative Order takes into consideration all scale of events. She noted that there used to be more support for community events, such as delivery of barricades.

Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Regional Recreation & Culture, confirmed that the Administrative Order outlines different components required for different scales of events.

Councillor Watts commented that one of the issues for event organizers has been the process involved with notification of abutters. Ms. Schofield confirmed that as directed by Regional Council, the notification process has been changed from seeking permission from abutters, to a notification process advising abutters.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.2 Amendments to By-law T-1001 and Administrative Order No. 39 Respecting the Regulations of Taxis and Limousines**

This item was deleted from the agenda as the report was not ready. It will be brought forward at the September Transportation Standing Committee meeting.

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS- NONE**

**9.3 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.3.1 Accessibility Evaluation of HRM Pedestrian Infrastructure**

The following information was before the Committee:

- A memorandum from the Legislative Assistant dated July 16, 2014
- A report from the Accessibility Advisory Committee dated May 14, 2014

Councillor Watts advised that Mr. Jeff Spares with HRM Design and Construction Services is scheduled to attend the September Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting to discuss work taking place regarding pedestrian ramps, and she thinks it best to wait on this matter until that discussion can take place.

The Committee agreed to revisit this matter after the September AAC meeting.

**9.3.2 Update from Councillor Watts**

The following information was before the Committee:

- An Advisory Committee update (June 2014)

Councillor Watts, in addition to the Advisory Committee update before the Committee, updated that:

- At this past Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, July 21, 2014, the Active Transportation Priorities Plan was presented to the Committee.
- The AAC is discussing preparations for the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> annual town hall meeting in October, which the Committee would like to hold in Bedford.
- The Province is undergoing regulatory changes in the construction industry regarding accessibility.

**9.4 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.4.1 2014-19 Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan**

The following information was before the Committee:

- A report from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee dated July 14, 2014, with attached staff report dated May 27, 2014.
- Making Connections: 2014-19 Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan

Mr. David MacIsaac and Hanita Koblents presented the Active Transportation Priorities Plan to the Committee. A copy of their presentation is available online and on file.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher, that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council approve the Active Transportation Priorities Plan as presented in 'Making Connections: 2014-19 Halifax Active Transportation Priorities Plan'.**

Councillor Watts thanked staff, volunteers, and members of the public that participated in the development of the plan. She commented how this plan represents a more strategic, focused, programmable, and clearer plan than the 2006 plan. She commented that this will help Council and staff think about what needs to be done and consider funding over the five years of the plan. Councillor Watts noted the importance in the plan on connectivity, and the emphasis on walking as well as local bikeways. She encouraged staff to promote the greenway vision in the plan and commended the support of accessible active transportation.

Deputy Mayor Fisher commented on the issue of connectivity, and the importance of connecting cyclists and other active transportation users with transit.

Councillor Mason commented on concerns raised by the cycling community, such as the bikeway connection to the Macdonald Bridge, and the five active transportation bridges, which are significant capital expenditures that need to happen in the next few years in order to support other projects in the plan. He spoke in support of a local street bikeways model, and commented how the cycling infrastructure and multi-use facilities outputs outlined in the plan are new infrastructure investments, and will go a long way to knitting together the active transportation network. At the request of Councillor Mason, Mr. MacIsaac indicated that there could be opportunities for partnership with other levels of government, noting that the province has shown an interest in promoting active transportation.

Councillor Walker encouraged staff to identify for Council which projects could be prioritized in terms of a less expensive means of improving connectivity that could be completed in the short term.

Councillor Nicoll suggested a Metro Transit overlay map would be helpful. She spoke of the need for interdepartmental communication and coordination for implementing these projects. Ms. Jane Fraser, Director, Planning & Infrastructure, advised that one of the Council Priority Deliverables under the Transportation theme is about integration of transit and active transportation.

Councillor Dalrymple noted several errors and missing elements to maps included in the plan. He asked for an opportunity to meet with staff to discuss these issues. Ms. Koblents advised that staff would be happy to meet with Councillor Dalrymple prior to this matter going to Regional Council. She clarified that Map 1 outlines existing and requested sidewalks, not proposed locations for sidewalks. Ms. Koblents further clarified that trails indicated in Maps 2A, 2B, and 2C mainly refer to greenway trails that are used for bicycling and walking. She indicated that Waverly Road is indicated as a "signed only" bike route.

Councillor Outhit thanked staff for their work on the plan, and inquired about the cost of maintenance, noting the increasing maintenance costs in Bedford that come with the increasing development in that area, including mowing, plowing, etc. He suggested that operating budget impacts should also be examined. Councillor Outhit asked for particulars about which business unit budget certain capital costs are paid from. Ms. Kathleen-Llewellyn Thomas, Acting Director, Transportation and Public Works, indicated that executive staff have been talking about how to make the budget process clearer.

Ms. Koblents discussed the prioritization of projects for cost efficiencies, and noted that some of the \$42 million overall cost of the plan has already been allocated in existing budgets. Councillor Outhit suggested that staff add further financial details to the presentation to Council.

Councillor Watts noted caution with proceeding with the least expensive or easy projects, noting that the plan requires serious funding commitments on behalf of HRM and partners. She encouraged members to treat the plan as a strategic capital facility, since it brings so many benefits the community.

Ms. Fraser discussed capital planning for the plan, suggesting that staff are very mindful of looking at which projects will have the highest impact, how to fund them, and how the projects will advance active transportation goals and policy statements in the Regional Plan.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.4.2 Update from Councillor Watts**

The following information was before the Committee:

- An Advisory Committee update (June 2014)

**9.4.3 Active Transportation Advisory Committee – May Meeting – Councillor Watts**

The following information was before the Committee:

- Information Report dated May 21, 2014 (Information Item No. 3)

Councillor Watts referred to a motion that was passed by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee at their May 15, 2014 meeting, recommending that the Transportation Standing Committee support the installation of tactile markers in the re-instatement of the Chain of Lakes Greenway to assist with accessibility for the sight impaired.

Councillor Walker noted that parts of the greenway are already finished, and this recommendation should have come forward last year to be implemented.

Mr. Paul Euloth, Trails Coordinator, and Project Manager for the Chain of Lakes Trail construction, advised that the project is progressing quickly and nearing completion. He clarified that this request would not be able to be accommodated at this stage, but could be brought forward for consideration as a follow-up project.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Transportation Standing Committee request Regional Trails staff to discuss with the Chain of Lakes Trail association the installation of tactile markers along the Chain of Lakes Trail to assist with accessibility for the sight impaired, as a future project. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Watts referred to a motion that was passed by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee at their May 15, 2014 meeting, recommending that the Transportation Standing Committee raise their spending authorization, by the community development model, for the Halifax Regional Trails Association from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason, that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report addressing a request by the Halifax Regional Trails Association to raise their spending authorization, by the community development model, from \$1,000 to \$5,000, including determining the authorization required for such a request.**

At the request of Councillor Dalrymple, Mr. Euloth explained that the spending authorization increase was requested to allow the Association more flexibility to get more meaningful work done.

Ms. Jane Fraser, Director, Planning & Infrastructure, advised that staff have recently entered into discussions with the trails associations, on the advice of Legal Services, to ensure pro forma and best practices with regard to procurement.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.5 CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### 9.5.1 Update from Councillor Dalrymple

The following information was before the Committee:

- An Advisory Committee update (June 2014)

Councillor Dalrymple added that planning is underway for Crosswalk Safety Day.

## 10. MOTIONS

### 10.1 Councillor Hendsbee

That the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report to provide a policy and fiscal framework for Regional Councillors to make requests for pilot projects to suggest slight service adjustments to any Metro Transit route as an attempt to enhance quality and increase service reliability of existing transit routes.

This item has been deferred to the September meeting, at the request of the Councillor.

## 11. IN CAMERA

*The Committee rose to go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 19 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, for the purpose of dealing with the following:*

### 11.1 Personnel Matter

*Citizen and Councillor appointments to boards and committees in keeping with the Public Appointment Policy adopted by Regional Council in August 2011, to be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/Citizenrecruitmentpolicy.pdf>*

#### 11.1.1 Citizen Appointments to Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day Sub-Committee – Private and Confidential Report

The following motion from the In Camera session was ratified at the public session:

**MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher, that the Transportation Standing Committee:**

1. **Appoint the two (2) Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee Members and two (2) Members-at-Large, as nominated by the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee, to the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day Sub-Committee for a term to November 2014 for the purpose of providing advice to staff in regard to the 2014 Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day.**
2. **Approve the Terms of Reference for the Awareness Day Committee, as follows:  
The Crosswalk Safety Awareness Committee will work with staff of Transportation and Public Works and Corporate Communications staff to:**
  - **Recommend a proposed date for the 2014 Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day – CSAC recommendation of November 2, 2014**
  - **Identify the theme(s) of the 2014 Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day**
  - **Identify ideas for components (activities, contests) to make up the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day**
  - **A Chair of the Sub-Committee will be elected from the members of the Sub-Committee**
3. **Release to the public the names of the appointees upon their notification and acceptance.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 12. ADDED ITEMS

**12.1 NS Moves Program – 2014 Funding Application (Information Item No. 1) - Councillor Watts**

The following was before the Committee:

- An information report dated June 12, 2014

Councillor Watts noted that this program has been helpful to Halifax in terms of contributing funding to some key projects. She inquired as to the status of the NS Moves Program, noting that it is not only municipal governments that have benefitted from the program, but also community groups.

Mr. David McCusker, Manager, Strategic Transportation Planning, indicated that staff consider the NS Moves Program as being very helpful for developing programs and infrastructure. He concurred with Councillor Watts' comment, noting that there are a number of community groups in Halifax that have received funding from the NS Moves Program to help start some very good projects. Mr. McCusker advised that the province is currently reviewing whether to continue with the program, and municipal staff met with a provincial project manager to discuss how helpful the program has been to Halifax. He indicated that staff are hopeful the program continues.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Transportation Standing Committee request that Regional Council request the Mayor to send a letter to the province in support of the NS Moves Program. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.2 Commuter Rail Updates – Councillor Outhit**

Councillor Outhit noted that the original directive from the Committee was for a monthly update, not quarterly, although he is fine with written updates as opposed to oral.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts, that the Transportation Standing Committee request monthly written updates on the status of the Commuter Rail Study.**

Councillor Outhit further noted that the Committee should meet with the consultant which has been awarded the tender for the study. He requested that staff email an update to Committee members.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**13.1 Councillor Watts**

"Take notice that at the next regular meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee I intend to introduce a motion to request a staff report on implementing a change to process for the purchase of parking passes to allow for purchase of multiple passes at one time, preferably electronically."

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 10, 2014**

The next regular meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant



**Information Items:**

1. NS Moves Program – 2014 funding Application (*information report dated June 12, 2014*)
2. 2013/14 Q4 Metro Transit KPI Report (*information report dated June 30, 2014*)
3. Active Transportation Advisory Committee – May Meeting (*information report dated May 21, 2014*)
4. Accessible Taxis and Owner/Operators (*information report dated May 16/14*)
5. 2013 Annual Review – Taxi & Limousine Liaison Group (*information report dated May 6/14*)