

Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee notes

Date: Sept. 26

Notes

Purpose: To prepare a report with action plans that will identify and address concerns for crosswalks as they relate to crosswalk safety including budget implications. Issues to be addressed in the report include, but are not limited to...

- Education
- Enforcement
- Traffic control measures
- Standards and consistency
- Other

Workplan process: The committee was divided in 2 smaller groups; each group was to assign a recorder and a presenter to present back to the larger group. Following the presentation, time was provided for clarification, to ask questions or add relevant information.

Each issue was addressed by answering the following questions...

- What's currently happening?
- What improvements are required?
- What do you see as challenges?
- What steps are required to make the necessary improvements?

Discussion as follows...

1. **Education:**

A. What's currently happening?

Discussion notes:

- HRM's "distraction Kills"
 - Social media
 - Traditional media
- Norm Collins
- Making tracks EAC (Ecology Action Centre)
- Pedestrian Safety brochure – Province
- Nothing happening in schools

B. What improvements are required?

Discussion notes:

- School "road safety" curriculum (after school programs)

- Increased HRM ads.
- School board and Province involvement
- Positive messaging
- Coordination between interest groups (HRM should be the lead)

C. What do you see as challenges?

- a. Identification of possible solutions

Discussion notes:

- Budgets
- Getting into the schools
 - Schools to teach kids themselves
 - Shared responsibility (Province)
- Affecting behavioural challenges
- Pedestrian/driver style in HRM

D. What steps are required to make the necessary improvements?

What are you able to do?

What resources are required?

Discussion Notes:

- Municipality to approach Province and school board
- Enforcement and education to change current lifestyle
- Government (2 – 3 levels) of funding
- Positive messaging
- Be bold!! Cultural shift
- Shared responsibility

2. Enforcement:

A. What's currently happening?

Is it working and why? If not, why?

Discussion notes:

- What penalties currently exist?
 - Pedestrians – is there any?
 - Driver?
- Does anyone know what rules are in place?
- What does MVA say?
 - Need clarity on pedestrian penalties
 - Section 125 (3)
 - definition of unmarked crosswalks
- Entrapment? Plainclothes officers (radio ahead)
- Unmarked legal crosswalks never
- Enforced speaks to education (little knowledge recognizing the need for education)
- What's currently happening HRM wide?

B. What improvements are required?

What is no longer relevant?

What are the gaps?

Discussion notes:

- Increase in clarity and enforcement
- Change in priorities for enforcement
- So many policing issues – what's most important?
- Crossing guards
- Informal enforcement – community enforcement stewardship examples like neighbourhood watch
- Citizens taking control
- It should be noted that there are success stories, and is there opportunity to improve on these?
- How are we utilizing our staff?

C. What do you see as challenges?

b. Identification of possible solutions

Discussion notes:

- Budgets + priorities (perceived level of importance)
- Education or lack of
- No strong message coming from unified sources
- Difficult or unwillingness to change legislation
- Cultural change needed
- Overlap between issues

D. What steps are required to make the necessary improvements?

What are you able to do?

What resources are required?

Discussion notes:

- Group did not have time to respond

It was agreed the next meeting be dedicated to finishing up the workplan.