

**Active Transportation Advisory Committee
May 20, 2010**

TO: Chair and Members of Active Transportation Advisory Committee

SUBMITTED BY:



Peter Duncan, A/Director, Infrastructure and Asset Management

DATE: April 21, 2010

SUBJECT: Bike Rack Design Competition

ORIGIN

This report originates from Staff.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that The Active Transportation Advisory Committee act as the municipal contact for an annual Community Bike Rack Art and Design Competition, to be open to all residents of Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), and support the fabrication of the winning prototype in 2011 / 12.

BACKGROUND

Following participation at COP15, owner of local restaurant The Wooden Monkey, Lil MacPherson, wanted to incubate an idea she had while in Copenhagen. Noticing how pedestrian and cyclist friendly Copenhagen is, she wanted to do something to encourage cycling in Halifax. After thinking about the successful Lobster/ Mermaid charity fundraiser events in Halifax (where artists decorate an object and they are auctioned off to raise money), she thought about doing the same thing with bike racks and discussed having a competition with local architect John Crace (owner of WHW Architects). So, an internal competition was launched at WHW Architects for the design of a bike rack for the downtown Halifax and specifically in front of The Wooden Monkey.

Coincidentally, while discussing a variety of environmental sustainability initiatives with the Manager of the HRM Sustainable Environment Management Office (SEMO), HRM was invited to support this initiative.

DISCUSSION

It immediately struck staff that this was a fantastic initiative that demonstrated the interconnectedness of:

- Physical Activity
- Active Transportation
- Cultural Affairs
- Environmental Sustainability
- Downtown Planning
- Urban Design

Staff became very excited at the potential of this event and collaboratively with Lil and John, discussed incubating this initiative for community-wide participation in future years.

Unexpectedly, the media has latched onto this competition and it has been featured in The Chronicle Herald, Allnovascotia.com, CTV and CBC.

Judges for the 2010 competition included:

- Ellen Page (Actress)
- Lil MacPherson (Owner, Wooden Monkey)
- Scott Travers (President, Minas Power)
- Andy Fillmore (Project Manager, Urban Design)
- Richard MacLellan (Manager, SEMO - as a fill in for Hanita Koblents, TDM Planner)

It is anticipated that in future years, HRM would provide a spot for a councillor (likely as a member of the AT Committee) and another staff member (ie Jamie Maclellan, Arts Coordinator).

The plan for the event was:

- Submission of designs: early April
- Judging and announcement of winner: Earth Day (this didn't quite work out this year due to schedules)
- Build of single prototype and unveiling: Bike Week

There were eleven submissions. The judges scored under the criteria of:

- Creativity
- Functionality
- Cost to Build
- Green Principles

The judges have announced the top three scoring designs:

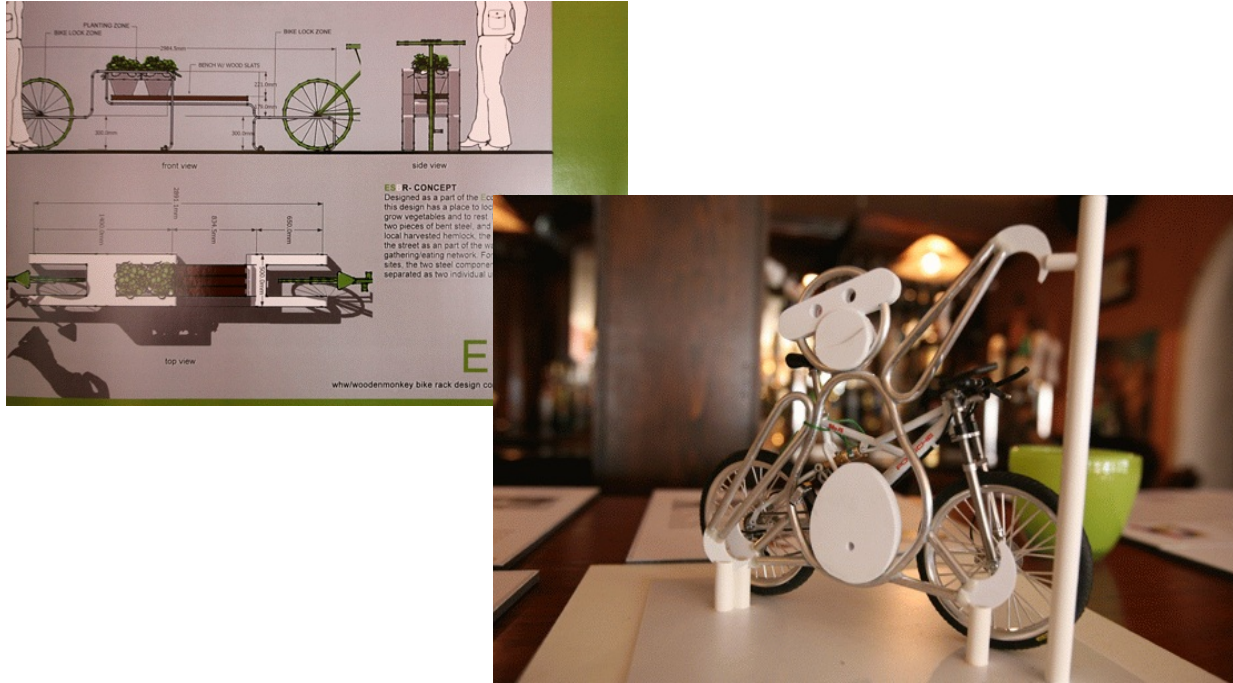
- Momentum
- Tribbles
- Bluenoser
- Bluenose
- ESBR

HRM and Minas Power are working on getting these prototypes built over the next month. On May 28th, the first day of Bike Week, the plan is to have the Grand Unveil and Winners Announcement.

Some pictures of the designs are following:



This is a very fun competition that demonstrates that HRM has the creativity and capability to design and build inexpensive items that will help us meet our long term environmental sustainability, active transportation, art, and urban planning / design goals.



Supporting this annual competition would have an annual cost of approximately \$1,000 to \$2,000 - depending on the cost of building a prototype of the winning bike rack.

These costs may be offset, partially or completely, by local business participation in the event.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The 2010/ 2011 and 2011/ 2012 cost will be supported by D948 SEMO Sustainable Community Projects. This Cost Centre is funded by the Green Municipal Fund via Q127 Sustainable Communities Reserve and has funding for three more years.

Q127 Sustainable Communities Reserve

Projected Uncommitted Funds March 31, 2010	\$ 161,498
Projected 10/11 Revenue	\$ 297,506
Projected Withdrawal HRWC	\$(290,733)
Projected Capital Withdrawal	\$(50,000)
Projected D948 Funding	<u>\$(118,010)</u>
Projected Uncommitted Funds March 31, 2011.	\$ 261

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the proposed Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

The Active Transportation Advisory Committee may wish to not participate in this competition.

ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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