



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOTES
December 15, 2014**

PRESENT: Mr. Ben Buckwold, Vice Chair
Ms. Terry Walker
Ms. Elizabeth Pugh
Ms. Janet Barlow
Mr. Walter Regan

REGRETS: Councillor Jennifer Watts
Mr. Bob Hayter
Ms. Allison Sparling, Chair
Councillor Waye Mason (absent)
Councillor David Hendsbee (absent)

STAFF: Ms. Jessie Debaie, Assistant Trails Coordinator
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Cathy Collett, Legislative Support
Ms. Hanita Koblents, Active Transportation Coordinator

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/ActiveTransportationAdvisoryCommittee.php>

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. and adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order without quorum at 4:15 p.m. in the Media Room of City Hall. Given that the Committee did not have quorum, it was agreed by the members present to hear the presentation from Mr. Buckwold and then adjourn. Items requiring a motion by the Committee would be placed on the next regular agenda.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 20, 2014

Consideration and approval of the minutes will be forwarded to the next regular agenda.

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

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES -None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – None

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

6.2 Petitions

6.3 Presentation

6.3.1 Winnipeg Winter Cycling Congress – Ben Buckwold

Mr. Buckwold gave a presentation to the Committee on the Winnipeg Winter Cycling Congress, highlighting the following points:

- The top ten winter cycling cities are located in either Finland and Sweden and these countries possess incredible cycling networks and network design is what allows for winter success.
- The components of a winter cycling city are: behaviour, environment, technology, and access to facilities, and environment is the only component that cannot be changed.
- For winter cycling to be successful, users need to make adaptations such as different technology, studded tires, lights, “fat bikes” and other different types of bikes. It will be crucial to embrace these in North America if Halifax is to ever become a winter cycling city.
- Snow is a huge impediment to winter bike lane use. Design and maintenance are central to winter network fundamentals and separate bike lane networks improve cycling conditions.
- There are a number of maintenance challenges to winter cycling: snow storage, erasure of pavement markings and the accumulation of grit and debris are the three most pervasive.
- Service standards play an important role in the success of winter cycling; for each maintenance priority it is key to establish standards for when and under what conditions maintenance will be performed and best practices must be adopted on an individual basis for each city.

- Mr. Buckwold concluded his presentation by emphasizing that attitude matters and that it would be helpful to find a “sister city” to Halifax and research the best equipment and practises used in this city.

The Committee discussed the fact that there are no separate service standards for bike lanes in Halifax and questioned whether the Committee could make a recommendation around service standards. It was agreed that it would be helpful to hear a presentation on the current success of winter maintenance in Halifax to better understand what scope of service standards could be realistic.

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 Active Transportation Staff

7.1.2 Regional Trails Staff

7.2 Halifax Regional Trails Association

7.3 Bike Week Sub-Committee

7.4 Committee Members

7.5 Crosswalk Safety Committee

8. ADDED ITEMS – None

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance to address the Committee.

10. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

Consideration and approval of the annual meeting schedule will be forwarded to the next regular agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Cathy Collett
Legislative Support