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Item No. 12.3.1
Transportation Standing Committee
June 23, 2016

TO: Chair and Members of the Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: **Original Signed**

Ben Buckwold, Chair, Active Transportation Advisory Committee

DATE: May 26, 2016

SUBJECT: Policy for Regularize Participation and Funding Consideration for HRM
Partnered Trail Associations

ORIGIN

Motion passed by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee at a meeting held on May 19, 2016.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Section 2.1 of the Committee's Terms of Reference, 'The Committee will provide timely advice to the Transportation Standing Committee on matters relating to budget, infrastructure, education, policy and public awareness.

RECOMMENDATION

The Active Transportation Advisory Committee recommends the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report regarding possible creation of a policy to regularize participation and funding consideration for HRM-partnered trail associations with such national, provincial and regional trail identification programs that may be approved.

BACKGROUND

National, provincial, and regional trail programs (i.e. Trans Canada Trail, the Blue Route provincial cycling network, and Nova Scotia Destinations Trails including Rum Runners Trail) are working with community partners including HRM to establish networks in the province. For example, the Blue Route is a province-wide project to create a continuous network of bicycling infrastructure, and once completed it will comprise a 3000km network of signed bicycle routes, connecting riders with communities across the province. The 2014-19 HRM Active Transportation Priorities Plan includes a recommendation to work with the Province and Bicycle Nova Scotia to identify preferred routes through the Municipality to be followed by the Nova Scotia Blue Route.

DISCUSSION

At the May 19, 2016 meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee, the Committee received a presentation on the Blue Route corridor planning, and discussion was held on how the Blue Route will connect into HRM and the urban centre. In considering this matter, the Committee suggested there was merit in having staff look at a policy that would clarify HRM's position on supporting national, provincial, and regional trail identification programs (i.e. Trans Canada Trail or Blue Route) that have been approved by Council, and in particular in respect to the consideration of funding criteria for HRM partner trail associations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications have not been identified. Any financial implications associated with this request would have to be identified in a future staff report.

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risk considerations have not been identified. Any risk considerations associated with this request would have to be identified in a future staff report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Active Transportation Committee is comprised of four members at large, one representative from the following organizations: Halifax Regional Trails Association, Halifax Cycling Coalition, Province of Nova Scotia, Bicycle Nova Scotia, Ecology Action Centre, Advisory Committee on Accessibility in HRM; and three Councillors. Active Transportation Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and agendas and minutes can be viewed online at www.Halifax.ca.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None associated with this report.

ALTERNATIVES

The Committee did not provide alternatives

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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