

Item No. 12.1.2
Transportation Standing Committee
October 24, 2019

TO: Chair and Members of the Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed
Judith Ng'ethe, Legislative Assistant

DATE: October 11, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 Transportation Standing Committee Meeting Schedule

ORIGIN

It is the practice for the Transportation Standing Committee to adopt an schedule outlining meetings for the forthcoming year.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Schedule 7, Transportation Standing Committee Terms of Reference, Section 10:

Administration and Procedures

10. The Transportation Standing Committee shall meet no less than four (4) times annually, preferably monthly, or as determined by the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Transportation Standing Committee approve the proposed 2020 meeting schedule as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 10 of the Transportation Standing Committee Terms of Reference, the Transportation Standing Committee shall meet no less than four times annually, preferably monthly, or as determined by the Committee. The Transportation Standing Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

As 2020 is an election year, with polls anticipated to open as early as October 6, 2020 and the Municipal Election anticipated for October 17, 2020, Regional Council meetings have not been planned for the month of October. Although there are no restrictions in the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter or the Municipal Elections Act preventing Council from conducting business close to an election, there may be a perceived benefit to incumbents. Similarly, where possible, Board and Committee meetings have not been planned for the month of October.

DISCUSSION

It has been the practice of the Transportation Standing Committee to adopt a meeting schedule for the coming year. This process allows members of Council, staff and the public to be notified and plan in advance for meetings. The Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee, with input from staff, has the authority to cancel a scheduled meeting should it be deemed necessary. A special meeting for a time sensitive matter may be called with appropriate notice, provided it is done in accordance with the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter and Administrative Order One.

The proposed 2020 meeting schedule, provided as Attachment 1 of this report, proposes eleven regular meetings and takes into account statutory holidays, March Break, meetings of Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM), the Canadian Urban Transit Association conference (CUTA) and the number of meetings provided for in 2019.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommended course of action.

RISK CONSIDERATION

A delay in approval could result in additional delays for other meeting schedules, as consideration of the approved Transportation Standing Committee schedule may be used when proposing other Committee meeting dates.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2020 meeting schedule for the Transportation Standing Committee, once adopted, is posted online at Halifax.ca to enable members of the public and media to have access to the meeting schedule, agendas and reports the Friday prior to the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommended course of action.

ALTERNATIVES

The Transportation Standing Committee may recommend and/or adjust the proposed 2020 meeting schedule as they see fit.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Proposed 2020 Transportation Standing Committee Meeting Schedule

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Judith Ng'ethe, Legislative Assistant, Office of Municipal Clerk, 902.490.6517

**Proposed
Transportation Standing Committee
2020 Meeting Schedule**

Council Chamber
3rd Floor, City Hall
1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

Fourth Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Time, date and location are subject to change.

4th Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 23, 2020
Thursday, February 27, 2020
Thursday, March 26, 2020
Thursday, April 23, 2020
Thursday, May 28, 2020
Thursday, June 25, 2020
Thursday, July 23, 2020
Thursday, August 27, 2020
Thursday, September 17, 2020*
<i>No meeting in October, 2020</i>
Thursday, November 26, 2020
Thursday, December 10, 2020– if required**

*September meeting moved due to October Municipal Election.

**December meeting moved due to Christmas Break.