

Spring Garden Road Transit Priority Corridor

Transportation Standing Committee

Background

- In 2021, Regional Council directed staff to proceed with a pilot transit priority corridor on Spring Garden Road, between South Park Street and Queen Street.
- Initiated in July 2022, after five days, the project was paused.
- In September 2022, the TSC directed staff to conduct an operational review and to develop an updated implementation approach.
- The report was submitted to the TSC in March 2023. The item was deferred, and a supplementary report was requested.



Background

**Proposed Transit Priority
Corridor**

Spring Garden Road

Queen Street

Birmingham Street

Dresden Row

Brenton Street

South Park Street

Spring Garden Road

**On this Section of
Spring Garden Road:**

- 856 buses per weekday
- >1200 buses per weekday after BRT

Spring Garden Road Transit Priority Corridor

HALIFAX

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- Bus service that is:
 - High-capacity
 - High-frequency
 - High-reliability (ample transit priority measures)
- Spring Garden Road is a key piece of the proposed network



Spring Garden Road Context

- Priority measures specific to a Spring Garden Road pilot may not be the best solution inside a wider network of TPMs
- Early work has begun to consider the implementation of BRT, but the interventions anticipated on this corridor are not known at this time, and additional analysis and approvals are required.

HALIFAX

Options for a Spring Garden Road Transit Priority Pilot

- Physical barriers, signalization, and enforcement options evaluated
- Resignalizing and adding barriers expected to come with significant construction component and expense
- Manually moved barriers were determined to be a potential short term solution

HALIFAX

Conclusions

- Enforcement remains a core concern
- Most interventions evaluated are costly, poorly suited for a pilot project, and may not be the right solution when considered as part of a broader network

HALIFAX

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

1. Not proceed with the implementation approach described in the staff report dated March 28, 2023 for a transit priority corridor pilot project along Spring Garden Road, between South Park Street and Queen Street; and
2. Direct the CAO to continue to consider options for transit priority on Spring Garden Road as part of the broader planning for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) implementation.