



- ATTENDANCE:**

Sam Trask, HRM
Julia Mills, HRM
Erin Allison, HRM
Steven Berkman, HRM
Cory Bushell, RCMP
Mike Connors, HRM
Kavita Khanna, HRCE
Brittney MacLean, HRM

Sarah Rodger, HRM
Joy Emmanuel-Omoba, HRM
Greg Robertson, HRP
Jill Morrison, HRM
David MacIsaac, HRM
Penelope Khun, NS Health
Hannah McBride, HRM
- REGRETS:**

Roddy MacIntyre, HRM
Brian Palmeter, HRP
Michaelyn Thompson, HRM
Rob Hird, NSPW

Peter Andrews, HRM
Samantha Noseworthy, IWK
Crysta Cumming, HRM

ITEM	DISCUSSION
APPROVE MARCH MEETING MINUTES AND TODAY’S AGENDA	- Steven contributed to the agenda and Sam mentioned minor additions to the action items from the last meeting. - There are no comments on the meeting minutes from the March meeting.
MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS AND UPDATES	- Sam led a recap of action items from the last meeting, which included: - Updates on transit education around safe boarding practices: Erin confirmed that work had been initiated to generate ideas, no further actions underway yet. - Sam has completed a preliminary review of collisions involving pedestrians which occurred at transit stops, to be shared with Halifax Transit. Very few collisions were able to be identified through this review. - A follow-up meeting was held with corporate communication to discuss how and when it would be appropriate to run messaging regarding increased pedestrian collisions this year. CC advised not to run any specific messaging at that time. - Sarah has prepared some collision statistics specific to the youth demographic which she recently shared with Kavita and Penny from HRCE and Nova Scotia Health, respectively. HRCE agrees to use the summer to prepare messages for the beginning of the school year. - From HRP, feedback about the update for the potential micromobility data inclusion and collision reports is still expected. Greg Roberston has committed to sharing the monthly Board of Police Commissioners updates with the Road Safety team, which may help to keep road

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	safety informed regarding projects and challenges related to gathering accurate data on micromobility collisions. ACTIONS • Sam will continue to follow up her review of the collisions that occur at transit stops. • Road Safety will follow up with HRCE and Public Health over the summer months to offer support on creating road safety messaging targeted to the young demographic. • Greg will send to Road Safety a copy of their May report to the Board of Police Commissioners ROAD SAFETY TEAM 2025 collision numbers overview • Sarah shared the number of fatal and injury collision files closed between January 1 and April 30 since 2018. The overall number is trending lower in 2025 compared to previous years, however it is still too early to determine whether this trend will hold as further collision files may be closed. • Sarah noted that there has been an increase in fatal pedestrian collisions in 2025 compared to previous years. • There are no definitive patterns or trends identified to date among the fatal pedestrian collisions, which have involved a range of contributing factors, occurred both in urban and rural areas, and have involved different types of infrastructure and circumstances. Road Safety staff are monitoring trends in collisions and assessing the need for engineering countermeasures. Preliminary results from Perception of Road Safety Survey • Sam provided background on the recent survey conducted to assess public perceptions related to road safety. The data collection included two phases: an invitation-based mailout, and an open online survey. She shared some demographic information from the survey results. • Approximately one third of citizens reported feeling that the road network is safe, while 26% felt that it is very unsafe. • The report outlining the findings of the survey will be finalized with the consultant, and an infographic will be created to present the key findings in an easily shareable format. Select results will be included in the annual road safety report, and specific findings will be shared with individual departments.

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	- The challenges of interpreting survey result due to small sample sizes and the need for caution was discussed. Sam explained the two-phase survey process: a random sample of 8000 postcards sent out, with 500 responses received. The second phase was open to the public. The survey followed the same methodology as the HRM resident survey, and emphasis was laid on the importance of scientific rigor in survey results and the challenges of drawing meaningful conclusions from smaller samples. HRP and RCMP ongoing road safety initiatives - Sam shared that a meeting had been held with a vendor to investigate options for a new collision reporting center, which included representatives from the road safety team, RCMP, and HRP. She inquired if this was still a priority which Greg responded that the initiative is not high among HRP priorities, due to logistical challenges. - Greg provided an update on traffic and enforcement data for May, including motor vehicle collisions, tickets issued, and thematic focus on distracted driving. - Year-to-date statistics were shared, highlighting the number of collisions involving pedestrians and bicycles, and the number of fatalities. - Sam revisited the issue of found discrepancies between injury severity and collision severity in closed collision files. She asked for updates about the ongoing efforts to revise the data and the challenges faced in completing this task were discussed. RCMP- Halifax Regional Detachment - Cory highlights the efforts of Road Safety Week, focusing on impaired driving and high-risk driving behaviors. - Suggestions were made about reintroducing monthly or quarterly public reports on pedestrian collisions. Cory confirmed that monthly road safety reports are shared with some councilors from RCMP. The challenges in sharing traffic enforcement data, and the need for awareness among the public and for elected officials were discussed. - Cory shared about recent challenges the RCMP has experiences in enforcing ATVs and dirt bikes on the road, including limited legislative authority and the risks associated with chasing offenders. ACTIONS - Cory will share the monthly road safety reports from RCMP Halifax regional Detachment with the Road Safety team.

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	Halifax Transit • Erin provided an update on Halifax Transit collision data for Q4 2024-25, highlighting a decrease in preventable collisions. Preventable collisions are defined as occurring due to transit operators’ oversight, and could have been avoided or prevented by operators, while non-preventable collisions occur because of factors beyond the operator’s control. • The kilometers between preventable collisions have increased, indicating improved safety. • Non-preventable collisions remained relatively stable, with February seeing a higher number of collisions likely due to winter road conditions. • Erin explained the internal investigation process for transit collisions, including follow-up actions and discipline if necessary. Regular safety training refreshers are provided to operators, addressing ongoing issues and trends. Notices are issued to remind operators of safe practices, such as ensuring buses are clear of snow and addressing sightline obstructions. Emphasis was laid on the importance of continuous safety training and awareness among transit operators. Active Transportation • Brittney shared an update with the Committee about the launch of the shared micromobility pilot project with Bird Canada on May 15. The initial launch included 300 e-bikes and 300 e-scooters, with more devices to come. • The service area for the first phase includes downtown Halifax, Spryfield, Clayton Park, Fairview, Dartmouth, Albert Lake, and Caledonia neighborhoods. The second phase will depend on trip data and usage patterns. • Early feedback indicated confusion about the lack of bikes, but more bikes are expected to arrive soon. Parking solutions for the bikes are being worked on due to their greater space requirements. Community rec centers are being worked with to find suitable parking areas for bikes. • Brittney shared early ridership numbers: 14,385 rides in three and a half weeks, with over 5,000 unique riders, and an average of 2.84 rides per rider. Heat mapping showed most rides start and end in downtown areas, with some activity in further out communities. • Accessibility issues have been raised and are being addressed. Bird Canada has hired more staff to address issues quickly, and contact information is available on each device. On-street parking corrals and tactical bump-out spaces are being used to alleviate sidewalk parking issues.

Road Safety Steering Committee

June 18, 2025

MS Teams

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	• Brittney is working with Bird Canada and corporate communications on public education campaigns to teach users how to park correctly and avoid accessibility issues. Events and educational campaigns are planned for the summer. • Brittney discussed the evaluation process, including data sharing agreements with Bird Canada. Key performance indicators (KPIs) will be developed based on Halifax's climate adaptation plan and Integrated Mobility Plan. Bird Canada must clean up vehicles within 60 minutes, and other service standards will be evaluated. • A partnership with Dalhousie University is being explored to evaluate health data on hospital visits related to the use of micro-mobility devices. • Kavita suggests contacting Community Relations Officers to bring education about safe micromobility into schools. • Penelope mentions the Youth Health Coordinators in public health as potential contacts to reach youth within the school system for education related to micromobility devices. ACTIONS • Brittney will follow-up with Greg for contact to Community Relations Officers assigned to schools. • Brittney to follow up with Penelope for contact of Public Health Youth Health Coordinators, to discuss safe micromobility education. • Brittney hopes to connect with Transit operators to raise an awareness about the shared micromobility project, the bylaw, and to provide them with information and contacts in case of any issues. • Sarah to follow-up with Brittney on ways to add specific road safety and safe travel messages in pop-up events or school communications.
STANDING ITEMS	MUNICIPAL DESIGN GUIDELINES – to be discussed in next meeting
DISCUSSION	REACHING NEWCOMER COMMUNITIES FOR ROAD SAFETY ENGAGEMENT AND EVALUATING SPECIFIC RISKS. The Road Safety team brought up for discussion the topic of reaching newcomer communities for road safety education.

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	The lack of demographic data on people involved in collisions was highlighted and the limitations of the current system to gather data on how new residents of the region are impacted by road safety issues. Connecting with the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia and other jurisdictions for lessons and programs was suggested. ACTION • Kavita to check in with colleagues who work with newcomer communities for potential contacts and programs. • Road Safety will keep this item on the agenda moving forward and explore possible avenues for information and engagement.
NEXT MEETING	September 24th.