



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 23, 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Outhit, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicol, Vice Chair
Councillor Wayne Mason
Councillor Lindell Smith
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Richard Zurawski

STAFF: Dave Reage, Director of Halifax Transit
Colin Taylor, Solicitor
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCtransp/170323tsc-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., and recessed at 2:56 p.m. the Standing Committee reconvened in at 3:04 p.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:49 p.m. and reconvened at 3:57 p.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Outhit, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 26, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Zurawski

THAT the minutes of January 26, 2017 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mason,

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant noted correspondence received by the Municipal Clerk's Office in relation to agenda items 10.3.1 and 12.1.3 which was previously distributed to members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Ron Zima, GoGreen Communications and The Children's Clean Air Network – Halifax Idle-Free Climate Action

The following was before the committee:

- A presentation dated March 23, 2017

- A handout from Go Green Communications dated March 2017

Ron Zima of Go Green Communications and the Children's Clean Air Network introduced Al McPhee, Chair of the Canadian Auto Dealers Association and provided a presentation with respect to the Halifax Idle Free Climate Action initiative. Councillor Outhit thanked Ron Zima and Al McPhee for their presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Transportation Standing Committee.

In response to questions of clarification, Ron Zima noted the following:

- The proposed E3 fleet review would involve gathering key data on HRM's fleet to establish "Green Key Performance Indicators" and build an Idle Free baseline.
- The E3 fleet review would account for an initial investment of \$9200.00 to establish the data required to build a business case. The next steps, if approved by Council, would involve developing a formal Idle-Free Pilot Business Proposal, a three year idle-free strategy for fleet and a public outreach campaign based on the pilot/fleet results.
- Overall, the total investment by HRM if the initiative were to be approved by Council would total \$20,000.00

In response to questions to a question of clarification, Colin Taylor, Solicitor noted that as per section 45 (1) (f) of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Rules of Council, the presentation will be automatically referred to staff for review, comments, and recommendations.

The following items were identified by members of the Standing Committee for commentary by staff:

- How much the proposed phasing of the Go Green Initiative on HRM's fleet will cost.
- Information regarding other organizations that have worked with Go Green Communications and the Children's Clean Air Network as well as the extent of their respective investments in the Idle Free program.
- Changes in technology currently utilized by HRM in managing HRM's fleet, such as new apps, and software to reduce idling and emissions, as well as the potential of utilizing electric vehicles.

10.3.2 Jerry Blumenthal, Canadian Association Retired Persons – Segways on HRM Sidewalks

The following was before the committee:

- A presentation dated March 23, 2017
- Correspondence from Barbara Adams dated March 13, 2017
- Correspondence from Barbara LeGay dated March 15, 2017
- Correspondence from John Britten dated March 15, 2017
- Correspondence from Nancy Beaton dated March 20, 2017
- Correspondence from Ian D. MacDonald dated March 21, 2017

Jerry Blumenthal, of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons provided a presentation respecting Segway's on HRM sidewalks. Blumenthal introduced Ian MacDonald, Chair of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons and expressed concern with Provincial Bill 136, which allows for the operation of Segway's or personal transportation devices on sidewalks utilized by pedestrians. Blumenthal and MacDonald advised of many concerns held by those in the senior citizen and disability communities who may be negatively impacted by the operation of personal transport devices on municipal sidewalks. Blumenthal and MacDonald requested that HRM consider drafting a By-law which regulate, control and restrict the usage of personal transporters/Segway's on HRM sidewalks.

Councillor Outhit thanked Jerry Blumenthal and Ian MacDonald for their presentation. Further discussion among the membership ensued with respect to the usage of Segway's on HRM sidewalks.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

11.1 December 8, 2016 - Memorandum from the Director of Transportation & Public Works dated November 22, 2016 re: Segway Safety on HRM Sidewalks

The following was before the committee:

- A staff information report dated November 22, 2017

The Transportation Standing Committee held a brief discussion on the Information report dated November 22, 2016 and passed the following motion:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee forward the staff information report dated November 22, 2017 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 SmartTrip Membership Fee Structure and EPass Agreement Amendments

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 16, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt By-law U-101, the purpose of which is to amend Schedule 2 of By-law U-100, Respecting User Charges, changing the annual SmartTrip membership fee structure, as set out in Attachment B of the staff report dated January 16, 2017; and**
- 2. Approve the amendments to the EPass Memorandum of Understanding, converting the EPass Program from one based on a calendar year to one based on a 12 month commitment, as set out in Attachment E of the staff report dated January 16, 2017**

In response to a question of clarification, Patricia Hughes, Manager of Scheduling, Halifax Transit noted that staff has held discussions with larger employers in HRM who wish to continue the e-pass program. She noted that staff will be promoting the program more with other employers that are not current members.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 Transit 2016/17 Third Quarter Key Performance Indicators

The following was before the committee:

- A staff information report dated March 2, 2017
- A staff presentation dated March 23, 2017

Patricia Hughes, Manager of Scheduling, Halifax Transit provided an overview of the 2016/17 Halifax Transit Third Quarter Key Performance Indicator report. Councillor Outhit thanked Hughes for the presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee.

In response to questions of clarification, Hughes noted the following:

- A staff report was requested about the potential of engaging a consultant with respect to increasing ridership. It is slated to come back to the committee in May or June of 2017.
- The report does not specifically address national ridership data, however data in this regard should be forthcoming through organizations such as the Municipal Benchmarking Network and will be incorporated in future reports.
- Automatic passenger counters are collecting key data on ridership everyday on HRM busses. There are monthly fluctuations in ridership numbers that are caused by a myriad of factors.

12.1.3 Speed Limits in Residential Areas

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 10, 2017
- Correspondence from Ben Wedge dated March 20, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council submit a request to the Province of Nova Scotia to reduce the speed limit in residential districts identified in section 101(2) of the Motor Vehicle Act to forty kilometers per hour (40 km).

The following amendment was proposed:

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council submit a request to the Province of Nova Scotia to reduce the speed limit in residential districts identified in section 101(2) of the Motor Vehicle Act to up to forty kilometres per hour (40 km).

In response to questions of clarification, Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Services noted that the current default speed limit in the Act is 50 kilometers per hour and the request before the Standing Committee is request that Council have the province consider reducing the speed limit to 40 kilometers per hour. He noted that this would effectively change the speed limit in residential areas across the province.

Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant advise of a typo in the staff recommendation commenting that the relevant section of the Motor Vehicle Act is section 102 (2) as opposed to 101 (1). He advised that the recommendation will be correct in the report to Halifax Regional Council.

Colin Taylor, Solicitor provided clarification with respect to section 102 (2) of the Motor Vehicle Act stating that the recommendation asks the province to lower the speed limit to 40 Kilometers per hour and not to give Council the authority to change the speed limit.

Further discussion on the proposed amendment ensued among the committee members.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND DEFEATED.

With respect to the main motion:

In response to a question of clarification, Koutroulakis further clarified that if the request is approved by the province, the de facto speed limit for residential areas across the province would be 40 kilometers per hour. He advised that local traffic authorities would still have the ability to raise the speed limit on particular streets.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.4 Traffic Control Persons for Special Events

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report March 23, 2017

MOVED by Council Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT Transportation Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Request that the Government of Nova Scotia amend the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act to permit Traffic Control Persons to direct the movement of traffic for special events.**
- 2. Request that the Government of Nova Scotia modify the Province's training and accreditation processes to reflect special events-related roles for Traffic Control Persons and Temporary Workplace Signers.**
- 3. Request that the Government of Nova Scotia revise the Province's TC Manual to include standards, principles and guidelines applicable to special events-related traffic control scenarios.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.5 Staff Presentation – Integrated Mobility Plan Update

The following was before the committee:

- A staff presentation dated March 23, 2017

Rod McPhail, Project Manager, Integrated Mobility Plan provided a presentation to update the Transportation Standing Committee on the Integrated Mobility Plan.

Councillor Outhit thanked Rod McPhail for the presentation and the update on the Integrated Mobility Plan.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee receive the staff presentation and update on the Integrated Mobility Plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.4 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – July 21, 2016 & January 26, 2017

The following motion was passed in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the minutes of July 21, 2016 & January 26, 2017 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.2 Personnel Matter

14.2.1 Citizen nomination to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private). The following motion was ratified in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee

- 1. Proceed to nominate (1) Citizen at large for consideration by Regional Council for a term to November, 2018 as outlined in Attachment # 1 of the private and confidential staff report dated March 14, 2017.**
- 2. It is further recommended that the citizen nominations not be released to the public until ratification and notification of the successful applicants.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation held and closed. There were no speakers present.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING -April 27, 2017 1:00 p.m., Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant