



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 21, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Waye Mason, Chair  
Councillor Becky Kent, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Tony Mancini  
Councillor Iona Stoddard  
Councillor Paul Russell  
Deputy Mayor Tim Outhit

**GUESTS:** Councillor David Hendsbee  
Councillor Shawn Cleary

**STAFF:** Brad Anguish, Executive Director, Transportation & Public Works  
Dave Reage, Executive Director, Halifax Transit  
Taylor Collin, Solicitor  
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant

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

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. and adjourned at 2:20 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 26, 2020**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the minutes of November 26, 2020 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

15.1 On Demand Private Accessible Transportation Service Contract

The Clerk noted that the addition of this item to the order of business requires unanimous consent of the Standing Committee.

Deletions:

12.1.4 2021/22 Student Transit Pass Pilot Program. Patricia Hughes, Manager, Planning and Customer Engagement, advised the Standing Committee that the staff report for item 12.1.4 requires revision to include a proposed by-law amendment.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT item 15.1 - On Demand Private Accessible Transportation Service Contract be added to the order of business and item 12.1.4 - 2021/22 Student Transit Pass Pilot Program be deleted from the order of business.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**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 – NONE**

**10.1 Correspondence**

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received from Alex Hosein, Martyn Williams, Daina Aleksis and Pierre Schmit, Milena Khazanavicius and Bernard Bessette, Norm Collins, Bill Campbell, Meghan Doucette and John Kyle. This correspondence was distributed to members of the Standing Committee.

## **10.2 Petitions**

### **11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

#### **11.1 William Porter Connector Road Crosswalk**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated July 17, 2020

Councillor Hendsbee spoke to this item as the William Porter Connector Road Crosswalk is in the Councillor's district. Hendsbee briefed the Standing Committee on the importance of a crosswalk to the community and the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal's requirements for a crosswalk at this location.

Brad Anguish, Executive Director, Transportation & Public Works and Taso Koutroulakis, Manager Traffic Management updated the Standing Committee regarding the costs of the provincial requirements for the crosswalk, the impact of current provincial traffic legislation on the community especially pedestrians and potential traffic management alternatives available.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee refer this motion to Regional Council.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **12. REPORTS**

### **12.1 STAFF**

#### **12.1.1 Proposed 2021 Transportation Standing Committee Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated December 3, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee approve the proposed 2021 meeting schedule as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated December 3, 2020.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **12.1.2 2020/21 Q2 Halifax Transit KPI Presentation**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff presentation dated January 21, 2021

Patricia Hughes, Manager, Planning and Customer Engagement, gave a presentation re 2020/21 Q2 Halifax Transit key performance indicators (KPIs) and answered Standing Committee questions about Q2 KPIs and transit service levels.

Erin Blay, Supervisor, Service Design and Projects, updated the Standing Committee that staff will follow up with residents regarding their suggestions about the connecting trails and landscaping at the West Bedford Park and Ride location during the construction process.

### **12.1.3 Pedestrian Push Buttons**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 12, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that the Traffic Authority:**

- 1. Implement changes to traffic signal programming at 93 signalized intersections to activate automatic display of the pedestrian walk signal without requiring pedestrians to use the push button for all crosswalks (23 locations) or side street only crosswalks (70 locations) as indicated in Attachment 1 of the January 12, 2021 report; and**
- 2. Adjust activation times at 144 signalized intersections such that the push button will not be required to be pressed to activate the pedestrian signal between 6 am and midnight (12 am), except to activate the audible tone where Accessible Pedestrian Signals are also present; and**
- 3. Adjust the programming of the Accessible Pedestrian Signals at all locations to remove the requirement for the push button to be held for 3 seconds to activate the audible tone and allow for single press activation.**

The Standing Committee expressed a desire for a staff presentation on this item to provide greater clarity and context regarding the subject.

Brad Anguish, Executive Director, Transportation & Public Works will come back to the next meeting with a presentation as requested.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee defer item 12.1.3 - Pedestrian Push Buttons to the next meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee and request a staff presentation.**

The Standing Committee requested that the staff presentation address the selection of locations for push button removal, is the removal of push buttons intended as a pilot project, how weigh impacts between vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, offer context of how staff recommendation relate to the integrated mobility plan, best practices from other jurisdictions that do not use push buttons and best practices for pedestrian safety.

Councillor Cleary addressed the Standing Committee requesting that the staff presentation also address the timing of half signals.

**MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

### **12.1.4 2021/22 Student Transit Pass Pilot Program**

This item was deleted from the agenda during the approval of the order of business.

**12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE**

**13. MOTIONS – NONE**

### **14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

#### **14.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – November 26, 2020**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT the Transportation Standing Committee approve the In Camera (In Private) minutes of November 26, 2020 as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**15. ADDED ITEMS**

**15.1 On Demand Private Accessible Transportation Service Contract**

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Russell

**THAT Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer include the procurement of an on demand accessible transportation, service as outlined in the January 7, 2021 report, for consideration as part of the Halifax Transit 2021/22 Budget and Business Plan.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**16.1 Councillor Mason**

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Transportation Standing Committee, I intend to move the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report recommending establishing new standards for municipal, utility and abutter work in the right of way to ensure accessibility and detectability for pedestrians shall be maintained at all times.

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NONE**

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood  
Legislative Assistant