



**TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
February 25, 2021**

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

GUESTS: Councillor Shawn Cleary

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Executive Director, Transportation & Public Works
Dave Reage, Executive Director, Halifax Transit
Taylor Collin, Solicitor
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant
Liam Power, 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.

**Transportation Standing Committee Special Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. and adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 21, 2021

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the minutes of January 21, 2021 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

16.1 Councillor Mason - Standards for Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites in The Right of Way.

As per Section 10 (1) and (2) of the Administrative Order One, all members of the Transportation Standing Committee must consent to consider or decide on an additional matter.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the Order of Business be approved as amended.

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

8.1 Pedestrian Push Buttons – January 21, 2021

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 12, 2021
- Correspondence from The Crosswalk Safety Society of Nova Scotia, Walk and Roll Halifax, Milena Khazanavicius

Brad Anguish, Executive Director of Transportation and Public Works, and Taso Koutroulakis, Manager of Traffic Management with Transportation and Public Works, gave a presentation on proposed changes to pedestrian push-buttons. A copy of the staff presentation is on file.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

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.

Taso Koutroulakis and Brad Anguish answered questions from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

10.1 Correspondence

The Clerk noted that correspondence was received for items: 8.1, 12.1.2, and one piece of general correspondence from Brian Herman, President & Operations Manager, Casino Taxi Limited. This correspondence was circulated to the Standing Committee.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentations – NONE

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD- NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 2021 / 22 Student Transit Pass Pilot Program

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 1, 2021
- A staff presentation dated February 25, 2021

Erin Blay, Supervisor of Service Design and Projects with Planning & Customer Engagement, gave a presentation to the Standing Committee on the proposed 2021/22 student transit pass pilot program which will be used to test the impacts of implementing free access to Metro Transit for all high school students in HRM. A copy of the staff presentation is on file.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program as described in the February 1, 2021 report; and
2. Adopt By-law U-108, the purpose of which is to amend By-law U-100, the User Charges By-law, to enable the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program, as set out in Attachment C of the February 1, 2021 report.

Erin Blay answered questions from the Standing Committee.

Dave Reage, Executive Director for Halifax Transit, answered questions from the Standing Committee.

Patricia Hughes, Manager of Planning and Customer Engagement for Halifax Transit, answered questions from the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee expressed an interest in phase 1 of the pilot program being modified to allow for the inclusion of all students in the four identified high schools, and not just a single grade, in order to accelerate the pilot program.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the meeting time be extended beyond 3:00 p.m.

MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING TIME PUT AND PASSED

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee defer item 12.1.1 - 2021/22 Student Transit Pass Pilot Program to the March 25, 2021 meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee and request a supplementary report dealing with extending the student pass pilot program to all students from the four identified schools.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 Winter Maintenance to Walking Paths in Regional Parks

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff presentation dated January 20, 2021
- Correspondence from Wendy McDonald

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Add Sir Sandford Fleming Park Seawall Pathway to the regional park pathways that are winter maintained in 21/22 winter works season;**
- 2. Approve the Park Snow and Ice Removal Guidelines (Attachment 2) for all regional park pathways receiving winter maintenance;**
- 3. Include the paving of main pathways in Sandy Lake Park, First Lake Regional Park and Africville Park for consideration in the 2022/23 capital budget deliberations to further winter maintenance capabilities; and**
- 4. Undertake a review of the park pathways and guidelines in 5 years in association with the review of Transportation and Public Works winter operations service review standards previously approved by Council.**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Outhit

THAT the motion be amended to remove the paving of the main pathways in Sandy Lake Park and First Lake Regional Park from part 3 of the main motion.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion before the Transportation Standing Committee now reads:

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Add Sir Sandford Fleming Park Seawall Pathway to the regional park pathways that are winter maintained in 21/22 winter works season;**

- 2. Approve the Park Snow and Ice Removal Guidelines (Attachment 2) for all regional park pathways receiving winter maintenance;**
- 3. Include the paving of main pathways in Africville Park for consideration in the 2022/23 capital budget deliberations to further winter maintenance capabilities; and**
- 4. Undertake a review of the park pathways and guidelines in 5 years in association with the review of Transportation and Public Works winter operations service review standards previously approved by Council.**

AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS

15.1 Councillor Mason - Standards for Temporary Pedestrian Travel Paths Through Work Sites in The Right of Way

Moved by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the Transportation Standing Committee requests 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.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

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

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Liam Power
Legislative Assistant