

Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee Minutes
March 10, 2022 - 4:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Ron Lalonde
Sorin Lutz
R. Bruce MacDonald
Matt Parfitt
Peter Phillips, Chair
Mary Jo Sitter
Lewis Williams
Nicola Windrem
Terry Von Zuben

Also Present: Matt Powers, Senior Manager, Parks, Parks Planning and Culture
Aimee Pugao, Planner II, Parks Planning
Deanna Schlosser, Planner II, Long Range
Chris Potvin, Staff Liaison, Supervisor, Active Transportation
Tara Painchaud, Staff Liaison, Senior Manager, Transportation Services
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Gary Carroll, Vice Chair

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - January 13, 2022

Recommendation:

Moved By Ron Lalonde

That the Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee minutes of January 13, 2022 be approved.

Carried

3. General Business and Reports

3.1 Federal Active Transportation Fund: Infrastructure Canada Applications

Chris Potvin advised that three Whitby project applications were being submitted which included:

- the Region of Durham, an application for a number of regional projects including a few in Whitby;
- the Town of Whitby, a planning application for Bike Month delivery tools such as outreach and school events, handouts, and event support; and,
- the Town of Whitby, a capital application for the catwalk bridge at the boardwalk section of the Waterfront Trail.

Tara Painchaud advised that the Region of Durham requested feedback from the Town regarding the priority of projects.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- low priority items such as Thicksen Road; and,
- high priority items such as the Brock Street rail bridge south of the Go Station multi use path, and Rossland Road.

3.2 2022 Capital Budget Update

Tara Painchaud provide an update regarding the 2022 Capital Budget which included:

- construction projects delayed from 2021;
- multi use path and cycling facilities delayed from 2021;
- centre lines and user symbols;
- pedestrian crossovers, traffic calming, traffic signage and pavement marking initiatives, a traffic signal at Baldwin Street and Canary Street, and a Pedestrian Traffic Signal at Manning Road and the Hydro Electric Power Corridor (HEPC) trail;
- data collection such as radar speed feedback, data collection, and pedestrian/bike counters;
- the sidewalk program; and,
- community projects (construction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, and widening) such as Gallimere Court to Nichol Park Trail resurfacing, Waterfront Trail widening and resurfacing, Lynde Creek Trail rehabilitation, and adding trail rest stops and benches.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- the surface material for the Corbett Creek boardwalk;
- whether the Twin Streams trail would be connected along the Lynde Creek Trail for pedestrians and cyclists;
- whether the section of the HEPC trail along Crawford Drive would be reviewed;
- whether the Town was applying to become a silver level Bicycle Friendly Community;
- the timeline for extending Bonacord Avenue to Des Newman Boulevard; and,
- an update for a multi use path and bike lanes on Coronation Road north of Rossland Road.

3.3 Winter Maintenance of Active Transportation Trails

Hector Moreno provided an update regarding the 2022 Winter Snow Storm Report which included:

- challenges with snow removal on roads, trails, and accessing groomed trails due to equipment;
- reviewing the issues and successes of managing the clearing of snow after the 2022 winter snow storm with stakeholders; and,
- conducting a full review of the trail system to determine best practices for snow removal of each section.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- trails that were not cleared during the 2022 winter snow storm;
- upgrading groomed Hydro Electric Power Corridor (HEPC) trails to full plow trails; and,
- an opportunity to form an Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Subcommittee to provide feedback regarding the review of the trail system.

3.4 Waterfront Trail Updates: Whitby Harbour Remediation, Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Matt Powers provided an update regarding the Waterfront Trail which included remediation on the shore break wall and a partial closure of the trail.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the closure status of sections of the Waterfront Trail; and,
- an update on the gate at the bottom of Gordon Street leading into the Ontario Shores property.

3.5 Bike Month

Chris Potvin provided an update regarding Bike Month activities which included:

- partnering with Cycle TO and the Region of Durham;
- social media blasts and advertising campaign;
- a request from Members to submit images from previous bike month activities to build a library of images for the social media campaign;
- connecting with local schools; and,
- the timeline for Bike Month activities beginning the last week of May and continuing to the end of June.

3.6 Taunton Road/Cochrane Street Improvements

Chris Potvin provided an update regarding Taunton Road/Cochrane Street improvements which included:

- ramping the bike lanes off the road and onto sidewalks to tie into crossrides at the intersection;
- completing road improvements with the development on the northwest quadrant of Cochrane Street and Taunton Road; and,
- finalizing sidewalk and bike lane designs upon completion of the development.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether the crossrides would include signalized heads to support cyclists; and,
- whether the bikes lanes pertained to the northbound side of Cochrane Street.

3.7 Active and Sustainable School Travel

Nicola Windrem provided an update on Active and Sustainable School Travel which included:

- three active and sustainable school travel events hosted by schools including walk and roll, winter walk day, and bike month;
- cycling statistics such as 73% of cycling accidents involve a motor vehicle, 32% of those cyclists were not wearing helmets, and 44% of those cyclists were under the age of 20;
- the role of the School Travel Planning (STP);
- the Bicycle Education and Skills Training (BEST) program in Manitoba provided to grade 4 through to grade 8 students; and,
- cycling training provided through the BEST program, such as bike maintenance, hand signals, lane positioning, and shoulder checking.

A brief question and answer period ensued regarding schools within the Town of Whitby that may be interested in participating in a similar program.

3.8 Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan

Note: This item was deferred to the next Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee meeting.

3.9 EcoCounter Data Report

Note: This item was deferred to the next Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee meeting.

3.10 Share the Road Summit

Ron Lalonde advised that the Share the Road Summit would be held virtually and that Peter Phillips would attend on behalf of the Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee.

3.11 Development Subcommittee Update

Mary Jo Sitter provided an update regarding development plans reviewed by the Development Subcommittee which included:

- a new site building at 111 Consumers Drive;
- a proposed condominium/townhouse development at the southeast corner of Hopkins Street and Nichol Avenue;
- a three building condominium development at 840 Rossland Road;
- a townhouse development at 7500 Duffs Road;
- a draft plan of subdivision at 7585 Duffs Road; and,
- a draft plan of subdivision at 7362 and 7432 Ashburn Road.

3.12 Durham Active Transportation Committee Update

Ron Lalonde provided an update regarding the Durham Active Transportation Committee. Mr. Lalonde noted the 12 kilometres of cycling routes approved by the Region of Durham, signing and wayfinding throughout the Region, and the expansion of the assisted school program in the Region's 2022 Budget. He further stated that an e-scooter update would be discussed at the March 29, 2022 Durham Active Transportation Committee meeting.

4. Council Update

4.1 There was no Council update.

5. Other Business

5.1 Trail Clean-up

Ron Lalonde stated that a Cullen Central Park Trail clean up was taking place on April 2, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

5.2 Special Events

Tara Painchaud stated that Council approved the 2022 to 2025 Special Events Strategy and that the Town would be hosting in person events. Ms. Painchaud further stated that the Active Whitby event was tentatively scheduled for May 2022 and that Manning Road between Brock Street and Garden Street would be closed for the event.

5.3 Rail Structure

Tara Painchaud advised that the Region of Durham was finalizing the design for the rail structure between Rossland Road and Bonacord Avenue. Ms. Painchaud stated that the design would included a multi use path on both sides of the structure and an on-road bike lane would ramp up onto the multi use path on the bridge deck. She further stated that the sidewalk would also funnel into the multi use path and then separate out again on the opposite side of the bridge.

5.4 Brock Street Structure

Tara Painchaud provided an update regarding the Brock Street structure crossing over Pringle Creek, south of Victoria Street. Ms. Painchaud stated that the Town was waiting for final designs. She further stated that Brock Street and the Waterfront Trail would be closed during construction and a detour was being reviewed included using Harbour Street to Watson Street.

6. Next Meeting

6.1 Thursday, May 12, 2022 - 4:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

7. Adjournment

7.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Ron Lalonde

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee on May 12, 2022.