

Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee Minutes  
September 12, 2019 - 4:00 PM  
Committee Room One  
Whitby Town Hall

**Present:** Rick Batty  
Gary Carroll  
Ron Lalonde, Chair  
Sorin Lutz  
R. Bruce MacDonald  
Matt Parfitt, Vice-Chair  
Allyson Partridge-Rios  
Mary Jo Sitter  
Lewis Williams

**Also Present:** Mayor Mitchell  
Jason Kittle, Director, Operational Services  
Matt Powers, Manager of Parks, Marina & Long Range Planning  
Deanna Schlosser, Planner II, Long Range  
Chris Potvin, Staff Liaison, Active Transportation Supervisor  
Tara Painchaud, Staff Liaison, Manager of Transportation and  
Parking Services  
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator  
(Recording Secretary)

**Regrets:** Peter Phillips

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1. Disclosures of Interest

**1.1** There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

**2.1** Minutes - June 13, 2019

Recommendation:

Moved By Bruce MacDonald

That the Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee minutes of June 13, 2019 be approved.

## **Carried**

### **3. Presentations**

#### **3.1 Robert Howard, Director, Campaign and Communications, United Way Durham Region Re: Mobility Needs of United Way Client Families**

Robert Howard provided information regarding the mobility needs of United Way client families for the United Way Durham Region which included:

- issues surrounding cycling as a method for everyday transportation; and,
- the constraints to mobility for persons with limited financial means.

A question and answer period ensued regarding alternative transportation routes including:

- which issues were not being addressed that limit mobility such as transportation infrastructure;
- how many visitors the Ride4UnitedWay event attracted to Whitby this year and in previous years; and,
- when the 2020 Ride4UnitedWay event would be taking place.

### **4. Delegations**

#### **4.1 There were no delegations.**

### **5. General Business and Reports**

#### **5.1 Education**

##### **Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Update**

Ron Lalonde advised that there were topics of discussion and presentations at the June 13, 2019 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) meeting including:

- bicycle parking along the major corridor routes;
- Durham Vision Zero; and,
- the Active and Safe School Transportation Program.

Mr. Lalonde further advised that the September 12, 2019 Durham Active Transportation Committee meeting would be discussing crossrides.

Library Story Rides

Chris Potvin advised that the Library Story Rides were a success and that there were now 75 people on the contact list for future rides.

## **5.2 Encouragement**

### **Community Events**

Chris Potvin advised that the Committee would provide bicycle parking services at the Harvest Festival on September 14, 2019.

Mr. Potvin indicated that there would be bicycle parking and a bicycle repair stand during the Open Streets event on September 28, 2019 and that the repair stand would provide an opportunity to connect with the public and have conversations regarding active transportation.

Ron Lalonde advised that he would approach the Seniors' Activity Centre regarding a collaborative event with the Seniors' group.

Mr. Lalonde distributed the sign-up sheet for the Adopt-a-Trail program and advised that a clean-up date to clean up area trails was to be determined.

Chris Potvin advised that a bicycle 'buying guide and assembly demonstration' would be held at the Whitby Public Library Main Branch. Mr. Potvin stated that the demonstration would provide parents with the knowledge and confidence to purchase bicycles for their children.

## **5.3 Engineering**

### **Complete Streets Subcommittee Update**

Gary Carroll advised that the Subcommittee met in June, 2019. Mr. Carroll further advised that the Subcommittee reached out to the Centre for Active Transportation in Toronto to discuss Whitby's Active Transportation plan and complete streets status.

Gary Carroll provided information regarding feedback from the Centre for Active Transportation and advised that the Town's initiative to update the Active Transportation plan, the 2018-2022 Council Goals, and Whitby's bronze-level bicycle friendly community status were all viewed as positives. He advised that the Centre for Active Transportation offered to provide the Town with assistance regarding policy development and peer reviews. Mr. Carroll further advised that the Centre for Active Transportation would be available to present on active transportation and complete streets if requested.

### **Whitby Active Transportation Plan Update**

Chris Potvin advised that the Whitby Active Transportation Plan was presented to various Advisory Committees and that the feedback indicated certain user groups such as the 'forced pedestrian' felt excluded. Mr. Potvin further advised that based on comments received, the plan was being revised to incorporate a multi-lens viewpoint to address all users and all users' mobility needs.

#### Multi-Use Path Design and Construction Update

Matt Powers provided updates regarding multi-use path design and construction updates. Mr. Powers advised that several improvements to the Waterfront Trail were being planned such as widening sections, adding trail and kilometer markings, adding rest areas and bike repair stands, and increasing safety around the Thickson Road parking lot.

#### Winter Maintenance Update

Jason Kittle provided information regarding the challenges associated with winter maintenance of trails such as difficulty grooming uneven surfaces, drainage concerns resulting in ice hazards, and the inability of older bridges to support snow removal machinery. Mr. Kittle advised that the Town was working to adapt maintenance techniques to mitigate winter maintenance concerns and that the primary focus would be on those trails that serve as school routes.

#### 2020 Budget

Ron Lalonde requested that the Committee review the 2020 Budget to identify opportunities or items that should be considered a priority. Mr. Lalonde advised Members to email their comments and a 'top ten' ranking for priority items by Thursday, September 19, 2019.

### **5.4 Enforcement**

#### Multi-Use Path Vehicle Parking (Taunton Road and Garden Street)

Ron Lalonde presented images of vehicles using the Multi-Use Path as a service road. He requested that the Town install markers such as a yellow centre line, bollards at entrance points, multi-use path signage, and pedestrian/cycle symbols to better identify the multi-use path.

### **5.5 Evaluation**

#### Going-for-Gold Subcommittee Update

Ron Lalonde advised that a memo update had been emailed to Committee Members regarding the Going-for-Gold Subcommittee

update.

#### Cordon Count Update

Chris Potvin advised that the Cordon Count of pedestrian traffic on Henry Street indicated that the street was regularly used by pedestrians.

### 6. Correspondence

#### 6.1 There was no correspondence.

### 7. Council Update

#### 7.1 Mayor Mitchell provided copies of the book, Walkable City, by Jeff Speck for Members to borrow and read.

### 8. Other Business

#### 8.1 Safety Concerns

The Committee raised concerns regarding safety from low hanging branches along trails and sidewalks. Jason Kittle advised that the Public Works Department cuts low hanging branches to an established standard.

#### 8.2 Crossrides

Ron Lalonde advised that he would request that the Region of Durham partner with municipalities to expedite establishing crossrides with signage at intersections. Mr. Lalonde highlighted a recent collision between a cyclist and a vehicle at the intersection of Taunton Road and Cochrane Street and indicated that a crossride may have prevented this collision.

#### 8.3 Memorial Park Multi-Use Path

Rick Batty provided information regarding a significant elm tree located along the Memorial Park multi-use path and requested that the Town take measures to ensure the tree would not be negatively impacted during redevelopment of the path.

#### 8.4 Culture Plan

Tara Painchaud advised that there would be a Culture Plan meeting on September 17, 2019 and recommended that Members attend the meeting.

9. Next Meeting

**9.1** Thursday, January 9, 2020 - 4:00 PM  
Room 1B, Whitby Central Public Library  
416 Centre Street

10. Adjournment

**10.1** Adjournment

It was the consensus of the Committee to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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H. Oerlemans, Council and  
Committee Coordinator

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R. Lalonde, Committee Chair