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## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Drew  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Grant  
Councillor Highet  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor Mitchell  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor John Neal  
Councillor Joe Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Ryan  
Councillor Smith  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

**\* all members of Council, except the Regional Chair, participated electronically**

Absent: Councillor McLean

Staff

Present: G. Anello, J. Austin, S. Austin, E. Baxter-Trahair, A. Caruso, D. Culp, D. Beaton, B. Bridgeman, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, J. Demanuele, J. Dixon, S. Gill, S. Glover, L. Huinink, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, R. Jagannathan, L. McIntosh, G. Muller, G. Pereira, N. Prasad, J. Presta, S. Siopis, K. Smith, N. Taylor and R. Walton

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Statutory Public Meetings**

There were no statutory public meetings.

**4. Delegations**

**4.1** Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, re: Regional Cycling Plan (2021-COW-26) [Item 7. A)]

Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority appeared before the Committee regarding the Regional Cycling Plan.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) is in support of the Regional Cycling Plan
- Cycling Routes
  - Connects key destinations, including many of CLOCA's conservation areas
  - Closes some critical gaps in what should be a well-connected network
  - Strengthens community infrastructure
- Regional Cycling Plan aligns with CLOCA's strategic objectives
- Supportive of the Region taking leadership in coordinating wayfinding and signage
- Pleased to see new resources for both infrastructure development and coordination in support of successful implementation

Regional Chair Henry on behalf of the Committee thanked J. Davidson for his delegation.

4.2 Willie Popp, Deputy Mayor, Township of Uxbridge, re: Regional Cycling Plan (2021-COW-26) [Item 7. A)]

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Willie Popp, Deputy Mayor, Township of Uxbridge provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Regional Cycling Plan.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Regional Cycling Plan (RCP) – Past & Present
- RCP Supports the Northern Municipalities
- The Cycling Tourism Opportunity
- Bike Friendly Businesses
- Regional Cycling Plan, Active Transportation (AT) and Staffing

W. Popp responded to questions from the Committee.

Regional Chair Henry on behalf of the Committee thanked W. Popp for his delegation.

4.3 Ian McDougall, Ward Councillor, Township of Scugog, re: Regional Cycling Plan (2021-COW-26) [Item 7. A)]

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Ian McDougall, Ward Councillor, Township of Scugog appeared before the Committee regarding the Regional Cycling Plan.

I. McDougall stated that he was presenting his delegation as a resident, not as a municipal councillor.

I. McDougall shared a YouTube video titled, “Commuting to School – Durham Cycling Stories”.

I. McDougall stated that active transportation is becoming more multi-modal, and there are more opportunities for family experiences. He stated he wants to see the implementation of safe routes to school and cross rides, to assist families with getting to their destinations without having to get in their car.

Regional Chair Henry on behalf of the Committee thanked I. McDougall for his delegation.

4.4 Ron Lalonde, Chair, Durham Region Active Transportation Committee, re: Regional Cycling Plan (2021-COW-26) [Item 7. A)]

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Ron Lalonde, Chair, Durham Region Active Transportation Committee appeared before the Committee regarding the Regional Cycling Plan.

R. Lalonde on behalf of the Durham Region Active Transportation Committee asked that Council consider the following:

- Prioritize the request within the plan for dedicated RCP Staffing as a first step;
- Review the proposed infrastructure rollout time frames and shift funding support more to the immediate time frame;
- Challenge the status quo and move Durham Region to a position of leadership by advancing the cycling-supportive strategies and actions identified in the RCP in support of safe cycling; and
- Consider the survey results referenced earlier which clearly shows Durham Residents are asking for improved cycling support today, not in the future.

R. LaLonde responded to questions from the Committee.

Regional Chair Henry on behalf of the Committee thanked R. LaLonde for his delegation.

## **5. Presentations**

### **5.1 Greg Pereira, Manager of Transportation Planning, Planning & Economic Development re: Regional Cycling Plan 2021(2021-COW-26) [Item 7. A)]**

Greg Pereira, Manager of Transportation Planning, Planning & Economic Development provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Regional Cycling Plan 2021.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Foundations of a Regional Cycling Plan (RCP)
- Regional Cycling Plan 2021
  - Process
  - Milestones
- Alignment with Regional Plans
- Durham Region Active and Sustainable Mode Share Targets
- Durham Regional Cycling Plan 2021 Vision
- Importance of Cycling and the RCP 2021
  - Promotes Tourism & Economic Investment
  - Supports Changing Attitudes and Demographics
  - Supports Equitable Transportation Connections
  - Supports the Environment
  - Enhancing Safety for Cyclists
- Fostering a Sense of Place
- RCP 2021 Strategies, Actions & Recommendations
- Key Elements to the 2021 RCP
- Primary Cycling Network (PCN) Network Vision
- PCN Phasing (2021-2040)
- Cycling Facility Types
- RCP 2021 Supporting Cycling Strategies
- Key Themes that Emerged from Area Municipal Council Feedback

G. Pereira responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether there are opportunities to run special events, especially in the rural areas, to draw cyclists into the downtowns and connect local municipalities; whether conversations will occur between Regional staff and local municipal staff with respect to investments already made by the local tier municipalities to improve their cycling plans and infrastructure that may not align with the Regional Cycling Plan; plans for increased education for cyclists and motorists with respect to being safe on the roads; funding allocations between regional and local roads and how the funding from the Regional Cycling Plan will be made equitable across the Region; when Regional staff will begin meeting with local municipalities to discuss signage issues, potential gaps and financing; the intent of the Durham Meadoway; and whether there has been consideration made to charging stations for hybrid bicycles.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding whether there is a breakdown of how much is being spent within each municipality under the Regional Cycling Plan, G. Pereira advised that he will forward that information to all Committee members.

## **6. Correspondence**

There were no items of communication to be considered.

## **7. Reports**

### **A) Regional Cycling Plan 2021 – Final Plan (2021-COW-26)**

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Report #2021-COW-26 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development, S. Siopis, Commissioner of Works, and N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance, was received.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding how Council will be held accountable for what is funded and not funded under the Regional Cycling Plan; how Durham Region will ensure that it is delivering on its objectives and goals for the future; whether there is financial cooperation occurring between the Region and local municipalities; the intent of hiring 2 dedicated staff members for 8.5 km of roads each year; and whether there is a plan for a cycling path under the Hwy. 401 at Courtice Road in the Municipality of Clarington.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,  
(49) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Regional Cycling Plan 2021, provided as Attachment #1 to Report #2021-COW-26 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development, Commissioner of Works, and the Commissioner of Finance, be endorsed; and

- B) That the Regional Cycling Plan 2021 recommendations be considered along with all other Regional priorities through future annual Regional Business Plans and Budget processes.

CARRIED

- B) Request for Funding from Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority for the Acquisition of Land adjacent to the Beaver River Wetland Conservation Area in the Township of Brock (2021-COW-27)
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Report #2021-COW-27 from N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance, and B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

Staff responded to a question from the Committee regarding why the request for funds for the acquisition of lands from conservation authorities are not being dealt with during the normal budget cycle.

Moved by Councillor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Grant,  
(50) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the request for funding from Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority in the amount of \$51,917, representing 40 per cent of the eligible acquisition costs of approximately 55.4 hectares (137 acres) of land located adjacent to the Beaver River Wetland Conservation Area in the Township of Brock, be approved and financed from the Region's Land Conservation and Protection Reserve Fund; and
- B) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to adjust the total payment amount to Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority pending a review of the eligibility of final costs incurred pursuant to the Region's Land Acquisition Funding Policy.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Ryan,  
(51) That the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order to introduce Report #2021-COW-28: Status of the Pending Provincial Position on the Upper York Sewage Solutions Environmental Assessment.

CARRIED ON A 2/3rds VOTE

- C) Status of the Pending Provincial Position on the Upper York Sewage Solutions Environmental Assessment (2021-COW-28)
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Report #2021-COW-28 from S. Siopis, Commissioner of Works was received.

Moved by Councillor Drew, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
(52) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Regional Municipality of Durham confirms its support for the preferred alternative as documented in the Upper York Sewage Solutions Environmental Assessment which includes an advanced treatment system in the Lake Simcoe watershed within the Regional Municipality of York; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2021-COW-28 of the Commissioner of Works be provided to the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, the Ajax and Pickering Board of Trade, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and all the Members of Provincial Parliament within Durham.

**8. Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business to be considered.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
(53) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM

Respectfully submitted,

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John Henry, Regional Chair

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Committee Clerk