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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Monday, September 26, 2022

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Monday, September 26, 2022 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:18 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: R. Lalonde, Whitby, Chair
S. Lee, Regional Councillor, Ajax
P. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
J. Bate, Oshawa
M. Gibbons, Scugog
***all members of Committee participated electronically**

Absent: K. Haines, Ajax
A. Heywood, Pickering
P. Kerr, Regional Councillor, Oshawa
J. Martin, Brock

Staff

Present: A. Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
D. Culp, Project Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT S. Kemp, Manager, Traffic Engineering and Operations, Works Department
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
L. Soto Maya, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

With regards to the Uxbridge Rail Trail Update provided at the March 31, 2022 meeting, M. Gibbons advised that maintenance of the Trail has been taken over by the Heart of Ontario Snowmobile Club and not the Ontario Snowmobile Club and requested that the March 31, 2022 minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee be amended to reflect this.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by J. Bate,
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee
meeting held on March 31, 2022, as amended, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) South York Greenway and Key Highlights of the new OTM Book 18: David McLaughlin & Shawn Smith (WSP Canada Inc.)

David McLaughlin and Shawn Smith, WSP Canada Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding South York Greenway and Key Highlights of the new OTM Book 18. A copy of the presentation was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included the following:

- South York Greenway – Cycling, Pedestrian and Micromobility Corridor Feasibility Study
 - Project & Study Area
 - Project Objectives
 - What We Heard in Consultation
 - Best Practices and Relevant Technical References
 - Examples of Existing Multi-Use Trail Projects Adjacent to Highways or Transit Corridors
 - Route Selection Criteria
 - Opportunities and Constraints
 - Streetscape and Urban Realm Elements
 - Sample Renderings
 - Alignments
 - Maps
 - Flyover Video
- What's New in OTM Book 18
 - Book 18 Structure
 - Types of Cyclists
 - Facility Selection Tool: Step 1
 - Detailed Contextual Evaluation
 - Increased Guidance on Separation Techniques
 - Cycle Tracks
 - Advisory Bike Lanes
 - Protected Corner
 - Bloor Street and St. George Street, Toronto
 - Protected Signal Phasing
 - Uncontrolled Crossings
 - Continuous Cycle Tracks
 - Right-turn Channels
 - Transit Stops with Cycle Tracks
 - Sidewalk/Cycle Track Separation

- Key Takeaways

D. McLaughlin provided an overview of the South York Greenway, an off-road primary multi-use trail facility as well as a micro-mobility corridor intended for e-type vehicles. He stated that the project covers all of the east/west alignment of York Region. He advised that some of the project objectives are as follows: identify, assess and recommend on and off-road routes that will form the South York Greenway; prepare a design for the South York Greenway; develop an implementation plan that includes costs for each phase; create a brand concept for the South York Greenway; and consult and engage with stakeholders. He provided an overview of the feedback received during the consultation process as well as a detailed overview of the trail system.

S. Smith provided an overview of the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 18 and highlights of the new provincial design guidelines for cycling facilities. He advised there was a steering committee that was made up of members from various municipalities across the province who were engaged in the process and provided input in the development of the guide. He advised that the guide consists of 387 pages and is made up of 10 sections. He provided an overview of sections 4, 5 and 6 of the guide: bicycle facilities; facility selection process; and intersections and crossings.

D. McLaughlin and S. Smith responded to questions with regards to Type C arterial roads in Durham Region; the approximate length of the South York Greenway; protected signal phasing lights and whether there are areas in the Greater Toronto Area where they are being used; and clarification as to why some intersections have two bike signal heads.

B) Rouge National Urban Park Projects Updates: Kirushanth Gnanachandran (Parks Canada)

Kirushanth Gnanachandran, Parks Canada, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Rouge National Urban Park Projects Updates. A copy of the presentation was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included the following:

- Rouge National Urban Park Capital Projects
 - Trails
 - Northeast Trail
 - Central & South Central Trail
 - Meadoway (TRCA)
 - Visitor Areas
 - Twyn Rivers
 - Rouge Beach Improvements Project
 - Rouge Gateway
- New Trails
- Central Trail

- Northeast Trail
- Day Use Areas
- Twyn Rivers Day Use Area
- Rouge Gateway
- Rouge Gateway Project Schedule

K. Gnanachandran provided an overview of Rouge National Urban Park Capital Projects consisting of trails and visitor areas. He stated that final Trail names are being developed in consultation with the Rouge National Park First Nations Advisory Circle. He advised that 23.3 kilometers of new hiking and biking trails in Rouge National Park opened on September 22, 2022 in the Central Trail (10.5 km), South Central Trail (2.1 km) and North East Trail (10.7 km). The three trails are part of the North/South spine trail that will go from Lake Ontario to Stouffville.

K. Gnanachandran provided an overview of the design work for the following Day Use Areas: Bob Hunter; Woodland; Glasgow; and Twyn Rivers. He advised that the Twyn Rivers Day Use Area will have a new signalized crossing; an 84-space parking area with two entrance/exits; a new 2 stall, drop toilet washroom; increased day use area and ecological buffer between the river and parking area; a raised boardwalk, viewing platform and bridge connecting to Mast Trail; and Bioswale. He also stated that the Rouge Gateway will be a flagship visitor hub with multi-purpose gathering spaces and visitor amenities which will function as an iconic gateway to both Rouge National Urban Parks and Parks Canada.

K. Gnanachandran responded to questions with regards to clarification of the new open trails and the timelines for the trails to be fully open; whether bicycle parking will be included in the parking lots; and the fees for the parking lots.

C) Smart Commute Program: Danielle Culp (Durham Region)

Danielle Culp, Project Planner, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Smart Commute Program. A copy of the presentation was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included the following:

- Smart Commute Durham Program Overview
- About Smart Commute Durham
- Program Accomplishments
- Program Support
 - Employee Services
 - Measuring and Reporting
 - Engagement & Events
 - Action Planning
 - Recognition
- Reports

- Bike Month Results
- Tool Snapshot
- Resources
- Next Steps

D. Culp stated that Smart Commute Durham falls under the smart mobility umbrella of the Region's Transportation Demand Management Program and is focused on providing resources, events, online tools and action planning to help support workplaces across the Region to encourage sustainable travel behaviours in workplaces. She stated that this is done by reducing unnecessary vehicle trips, reducing? trips by using alternatives to single occupancy vehicles, rerouting trips to less congested roads, and retiming those trips to avoid peak demand periods.

D. Culp provided an overview of the program accomplishments over the last few years as well as the various types of support provided through the program. She also provided an overview of the various types of reports available and highlighted the results of Bike Month. She advised that the Tool Snapshot was recently launched and can track trips logged; kilometres logged; calories burned; and greenhouse gases saved.

D. Culp responded to questions with regards to the process involved to recruit new members; and outreach to local municipalities.

5. Discussion Items

There were no items to be discussed.

6. Information Items

A) Advisory Committee Recruitment and Selection Policy

A. Caruso advised that the Region is actively recruiting for all Advisory Committees and encouraged members to reapply.

7. Other Business

There were no items of Other Business.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on April 13, 2023 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by M. Gibbons, Seconded by P. Smith,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM

R. Lalonde, Chair
Durham Active Transportation Committee

N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council