

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM TRAIL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

May 3, 2018

A meeting of the Durham Trail Co-ordinating Committee was held on Thursday, May 3, 2018, in Meeting Room 1-B, Main Level, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:01 PM.

Present: T. Clayton, Chair, Brock
J. Back, Local Councillor, Scugog
J. Ballinger, Regional Councillor, Uxbridge
S. Collier, Regional Councillor, Ajax, left the meeting at 8:05 PM
K. Jones, Vice Chair, Oshawa
G. Lodwick, Local Councillor, Brock
I. McDougall, Scugog
P. Smith, Uxbridge

Absent: D. Carter, Regional Councillor, Oshawa
A. Mujeeb, Pickering
Joe Neal, Regional Councillor, Clarington
D. Pickles, Regional Councillor, Pickering
E. Roy, Regional Councillor, Whitby
M. Weist, Ajax

Staff

Present: S. McEleney, Transit Planner, Planning and Economic Development
Department
K. Reinink, Public Health Nurse, Healthy Living, Health Department
C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative
Services

1. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by J. Back, Seconded by G. Lodwick,

That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Durham Trail Co-ordinating Committee held on February 1, 2018, be adopted.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Presentations

A) Deanna Cheriton, Supervisor, Greenspace Conservation, re: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Trail Update

D. Cheriton, Supervisor, Greenspace Conservation, provided a PowerPoint presentation with an update on the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) trail planning. She advised that the most common way people interact with TRCA's natural and cultural heritage is through a trail experience.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Why do we need a Trail Strategy?
- What does the Trail Strategy provide?
- Durham Regional Trails Concept
- What are the Benefits of the Trail Strategy?
- Profile of TRCA Trail Initiatives:
 - Goodwood Resource Management Tract (RMT) Trail Plan Maps
 - The Meadoway

D. Cheriton provided an overview of the TRCA Trail legacy. She explained how the TRCA is working with their partners to grow the legacy of the Greater Toronto Trail Network; and, to connect the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Niagara Escarpment to the Lake Ontario shoreline through trails.

D. Cheriton responded to questions regarding the reforestation of the Goodwood Resource Management Tract; how to secure permission for a trail to cross private property; initiatives to link the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) individual trail maps; future trail connectivity of the Meadoway, a 16 km hydro corridor, from Toronto to Scarborough; and the opportunities for the Conservation Authorities to provide trail connectivity from Scarborough to Scugog.

B) Bruce McDonald and John Fisher, Durham Mountain Biking Association (DMBA), re BUILD, RIDE, RESPECT, Dagmar North Trail

Bruce McDonald and John Fisher, Durham Mountain Biking Association (DMBA), provided a PowerPoint presentation with an update on the Dagmar North Trail improvements. B. McDonald stated that the DMBA is comprised of 1,100 members and explained that the Association advocates for mountain bikers, organizes events, and build sustainable trails.

B. McDonald stated the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is working with DMBA to find a permanent access solution that is safe, enjoyable, and cost effective to the Dagmar North Trails.

B. McDonald stated that the DMBA in partnership with the TRCA are asking Durham Region to help unlock the land, via a new trail (build 100% by DMBA) to gain trail access. He explained that the existing Dagmar Trails (Glen Major) parking lot is well over capacity, particularly in the warmer months, and that the cars park on Concession Road #7 and the parking situation is creating safety issues. The TRCA has asked Durham Region for additional parking and inquired whether approvals would be required for the additional parking location.

The DMBA is requesting that Durham Region help the TRCA and DMBA to get safe access to the forest, as follows:

1) In the short term:

- Permission for a new Trail on Lake Ridge Road and parking on the side road (Uxbridge / Pickering Townline Road); and
- At zero \$ cost to Durham Region; just the permission

2) In the longer term:

- A plan for a turn lane, into Dagmar property, during the reworking of Lake Ridge Road so the TRCA can create a parking lot.

B. MacDonald and J. Fisher responded to questions regarding whether it is legal to cycle along a roadway; and, the approvals required to make the Dagmar Trail happen.

Discussion ensued on how the property of Dagmar inherited its name; and the potential for the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to build an education centre in the Town of Clarendon.

Moved by Councillor Ballinger, Seconded by P. Smith,

That we recommend to Committee of the Whole for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the request of the Durham Mountain Biking Association regarding a letter of support for a new Trail on Lake Ridge Road along with parking on the side of the road allowance of an unopened municipal boundary road, at zero cost to Durham Region, be endorsed, as this reflects the goals of the Region of Durham for active transportation.

CARRIED

C) Anthony Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development, re: Durham Region Cycling Initiatives Update

A. Caruso, Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation update titled, "Durham Region Cycling Initiatives" outlining the 2018 Ontario Bike Summit and Transportation Planning Cycling Initiatives.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2018 Summit
 - The Provincial Cycling network has been finalized (9,800 km)
 - CycleON Action Plan 2.0 was released
 - Cycling Skills: Ontario's Guide to Safe Cycling has been updated to reflect *Highway Traffic Act* amendments and new best practices
 - Next round of Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) funding is expected soon
 - The Minister of Transportation mentioned that going forward, all MTO bridges being replaced will include the appropriate active transportation facilities.
- Transportation Planning Cycling Initiatives
 - Review of Roles and Responsibilities
 - Regional Cycling Plan Update
 - Plan of Action for Regional Cycling Plan (RCP) Update

A. Caruso advised that further initiatives include Share the Road workshops focusing on cycling in Durham Region, and, identifying actions for a more bicycle friendly community. He noted that during Bike Month, May 28, 2018 to June 30, 2018, community events also being promoted include the 25th Annual Ride for the Rouge; Bike to Work Day; and the Oak Ridges Trail Association Adventure Relay.

A. Caruso responded to questions regarding how regional staff converse with the local area municipalities; funds committed specifically for cycling; and addressing municipal pinch-points to improve cycling connectivity.

Discussion ensued with respect to future opportunities for DTCC to interface cross-knowledge with the Regional Works' Department and local Active Transportation Advisory Committees; and the potential for shared-use paths in Durham Region along pipeline corridors.

K. Reinink, Public Health Nurse, Healthy Living, provided an overview of the Health Department's initiatives to adapt active transportation and encourage students to walk or cycle to schools within the Region of Durham. This includes promoting programs such as, Active and Safe Routes to School; Helmet Safety; and Bike to School Week.

4. Discussion Items

- A) Memorandum from Derek Davies, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Planning & Economic Development – re: Smart Commute Durham - Bike Month & Bike to Work Day
-

A copy of the Memorandum from Derek Davies, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development Department, was received as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

Moved by Regional Councillor Ballinger, Seconded by G. Lodwick,
That the Memorandum from Derek Davies, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development Department, re: Smart Commute Durham - Bike Month & Bike to Work Day be received for information.

CARRIED

- B) Regional Trail Network (RTN) Map
-

A copy of the Regional Trail Network map was provided as Attachment #3 to the agenda. S. McEleney advised that the 2018 Regional Trail Network Map is a guiding document of the DTCC's Technical Working Group and also depicts proposed future trails, outside of the official Durham Region Trails guide.

S. McEleney provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Regional Trail Network since the approval of the last RTN map update in 2015.

Detailed discussion ensued with respect to the addition of the Beaver River Trail; the Goodwood Tract connecting to the Rouge National Urban Park; the Canterbury Common Loop; and the Oak Ridges Trail.

Chair Clayton suggested that unbuilt paths are indicated by a dotted line on the RTN map; and he clarified that a Regional Trail Network is required to provide a link between municipalities, along the Waterfront Trail, for example.

Moved by Councillor Ballinger, Seconded by K. Jones,
That we recommend to the Committee of the Whole for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the revised Draft 2018 Regional Trail Network Map be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Information Items

There were no items of information to consider.

6. Other Business

A) Jane's Walk - Durham Region 2018

Committee members were invited to partake in the 2018 Jane's Walk event to be held on May 6, 2018. The walk provides citizen-led walking tours exploring the municipalities within Durham Region and the goal is to get people showcasing and talking about the communities they live in. Details are available on the Jane's Walk Facebook page.

B) UxCycle – September 23, 2018

Councillor Ballinger announced that Uxbridge is inviting residents to ride and celebrate the second annual UxCycle event to be held on Sunday, Sept 23, 2018, at Elgin Park, in the Township of Uxbridge. The event will consist of road and mountain bike routes for all abilities, in a family friendly environment with great music, vendors and local food.

C) Request to Create an Active Transportation Committee in the Township of Uxbridge

P. Smith advised that Suzanne Kershaw, Trudy Leddsham and himself spoke at the Township of Uxbridge Council meeting held on March 26, 2018 on the need to create an Active Transportation Committee of Council. He noted that staff was directed by their Council to create a Terms of Reference for an Active Transportation Committee.

D) Presentation at the May 8, 2018 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) meeting

I. McDougall advised that at the May 8, 2018 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee he will be providing a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Durham Active Transportation Advisory Committee and the potential for future collaboration between DAAC and the DTCC/DATC on "Share the Road" discussions and synergies between slow moving vehicles, bikes and farm vehicles.

E) Vision Zero – Timing of Traffic Signal for Active Transportation

K. Jones updated the Committee on his discussions with Steven Kemp, Manager, Traffic Engineering and Operations, Works Department, in regards to adjusting the signal timing of the traffic lights in the City of Oshawa to permit pedestrians and cyclists to safely cross the intersections. Discussion followed on the demographics of the intersections; rethinking of the speed per second crossing time; and the use of a Leading Pedestrian Interval to give pedestrians a head start when entering an intersection.

7. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Trail Coordinating Committee will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018, in Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

8. Adjournment

Moved by K. Jones, Seconded by P. Smith,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

T. Clayton, Chair,
Durham Trail Coordinating Committee

C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk