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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 10, 2020

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, December 10, 2020 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: R. Lalonde, Whitby, Chair
J. Bate, Oshawa
M. Gibbons, Scugog
K. Haines, Ajax
A. Heywood, Pickering
R. Kerr, Regional Councillor, Oshawa, attend the meeting at 7:33 PM due to municipal business
P. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
*** all members of Committee, with the exception of Chair Lalonde, participated electronically**

Absent: C. Kobelka, Clarington
S. Lee, Regional Councillor, Ajax, Alternate
J. Martin, Brock

Staff

Present: B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
A. Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
D. Culp, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
G. Muller, Director of Planning, Planning and Economic Development
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development
A. Tulloch, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Strategic Planning, Planning and Economic Development
C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by J. Bate, Seconded by A. Heywood,
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee
meeting held on September 24, 2020, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Marlaine Koehler, Executive Director, and David Meyer, Project Manager,
Waterfront Regeneration Trust, re: Great Lakes to Greenbelt – the Emerging
Cycling Network

Marlaine Koehler and David Meyer provided a PowerPoint presentation
regarding the Great Lakes to Greenbelt – the Emerging Cycling Network.

Highlights of the Presentation

- Waterfront Regeneration Trust: Protecting, Enhancing and Celebrating the Great Lakes
 - Vision
- Map: Great Lakes Waterfront Trail
- Map: Great Lakes Waterfront Trail - Durham
- Promotion – WT Microsite
- Great Lakes Waterfront Trail: 2020 Summer of Adventure! A Series of Self-Guided Walks and Bike Rides
- Map: Great Lakes Waterfront Trail Interactive New Features
 - Geolocation function
- Map: Lake Ontario Watershed Network
 - 14 existing connections and 3 additional connections in the watershed
 - 1200 km of fully connected signed cycling routes
- GREENBELT.CA /EXPLORE
 - Maps: 10 Promoted Loops in the Lake Ontario Watershed linking the Greenbelt Route (GBR) and Great Lakes Waterfront Trail (GLWT)
- Landing Page on www.waterfronttrail.org
- Getting the word out --10 signed cycling loops
- Programmatic Advertising Campaign-Results
- Survey of Recreational & Experienced Cyclists Fall 2020
 - Overview Results Fall 2020
- Ongoing Projects – 2020
 - A strategic planning process with municipal partners to expand the GLWT

M. Koehler advised that the vision statement, "Connect people to the Great Lakes waterfront and engage them in the work to make the Great Lakes waterfront a healthy and vibrant place to live and work and visit" guides the development of the Waterfront Trail.

D. Meyer provided an overview of the 2020 ongoing projects including the Lake Superior route expansion; Simcoe to Sudbury program development; the Lake Huron north channel Surface Upgrade Feasibility Study; the connection of the Rouge National Urban Park; the Greenbelt Foundation; and wayfinding for the Trans-Canada Trail Greater Toronto Hamilton Area (GTHA).

M. Koehler and D Meyer responded to questions regarding how the Waterfront Trail organization is engaging the individuals that normally do not cycle, as well as community groups, with a diverse and ethnical perspective; the wayfinding indicators located south of the Herber Down Conservation Area, in the Town of Whitby, to the Waterfront Trails; and, what areas of the Trans Canada Trails in the GTHA are managed by the Waterfront Trails organization, in particular from Lindsay to Uxbridge.

The Committee inquired about the plans to rehabilitate the eroded trails located in the Town of Ajax and City of Pickering. M. Koehler advised that the lead for these trails is the local municipalities.

B) Danielle Culp, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development, Durham Region; re: E-Mobility By-law Update

Danielle Culp provided a PowerPoint presentation update on the E-Mobility By-law.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- What is E-Mobility
- Why are we developing an E-Mobility By-law?
- Proposed project timeline
- Work completed to date
 - Phase 1 – Background is complete
- What we have learned from others?
- What have we heard?
- Elements we have heard to date
- By-law considerations - Discussions
- Next Steps & Conclusions

D. Culp advised that the E-mobility by-law focusses on small-electric-powered transportation solutions, including e-bikes and e-scooters, to help people get from point A to B.

D. Culp also advised that Legal staff have conducted a scan of how micro-mobility is being addressed and incorporated at the Regional level, and have examined the E-mobility by-laws adopted by other jurisdictions, including the

six municipalities across Canada, that have adopted E-mobility related by-laws.

D. Culp advised that there is a strong desire for consistency between municipal and regional by-laws; and, the majority of the local area municipalities prefer a consistent approach to business licensing.

D. Culp provided an update on the next steps and conclusions which includes advising the Region of who else should be informed of this work to assist in advancing the development of the E-mobility by-law; the sharing of DATC's input with staff to help inform and shape the development of the draft E-mobility by-law; and, the circulation of the draft E-mobility by-law for review and input.

Discussion ensued regarding the broad range and dimension of the weighted motor transports under the E-bike and E-scooter categories, where the E-bikes and E-scooters will be allowed to operate; maximum speed limitations; and, in terms safety, the potential for the E-bike and E-scooter categories being a disincentive for pedal cyclists riding in the bike lanes and along the trails.

D. Culp and G. Pereira responded to questions regarding whether the E-mobility by-law will encompass municipal pathways and how the Region and local area municipalities will correlate these by-laws; whether the E-bikes and E-scooters will be regulated by a weighted class; and, who will be the authority for the business licensing of the E-bikes and E-scooters. G. Pereira advised that the Region will be looking at the City of Ottawa E-mobility by-law as a model in regards to the restrictions, permissions, and enforcement.

Chair Lalonde asked the Committee to email any additional comments or suggestions regarding the draft E-mobility by-law to Danielle Culp or Greg Pereira.

C) Alia Tulloch, Planning Analyst, Transportation Planning, Strategic Planning, Planning and Economic Development, Durham Region, re: Active and Sustainable School Travel Update

Alia Tulloch provided a PowerPoint presentation update on the Active and Sustainable School Travel (ASST) Program. A. Tulloch advised that the ASST is the Region's Transportation Demand Management program for schools.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Ontario Active School Travel (OAST) Fund
- 2019/2020 School Travel Planning (STP) Project
 - Participating Schools
- The STP Process
- Data Collection
- Family Survey – Key Findings
- Student Travel Survey – Key Findings

- Neighbourhood Walk-about and Traffic Observation – Key Findings
- School Travel Plans
- Action Plans
- Actions Timeline & Process
- Implementation – Education and Encouragement
- Implementation – Engineering Part 1
- Implementation – Engineering Part 2
- Next Steps - 2021

A. Tulloch provided an update of the Active and Sustainable School Travel program goals including increasing the number of children regularly using active and sustainable modes of transportation to and from school; decreasing traffic congestion around the schools; and, identifying opportunities to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety along the routes to schools.

A. Tulloch advised that the Region conducted School Travel Planning (STP) for 8 schools in the 2019/2020 school year; and outlined the participating schools.

A. Tulloch also advised that STP Action Plan ensures a comprehensive and sustainable approach to getting students using active transportation. The Plan addresses fostering education, encouragement, engineering, enforcement and evaluation activities.

A. Tulloch outlined the next steps in 2021 which includes developing resource kits to help schools with action implementation; supporting the schools with encouragement and evaluation activities; implementing the engineering action items; convening stakeholders throughout the year to discuss progress; and, to identify new schools to work with to develop and implement School Travel Plans over the 2021/2022 school year.

Discussion ensued regarding the encouragement activities for students to use active transportation. A. Tulloch responded to questions regarding the mechanisms the ASST Program intends to utilize as a reinforcement for students to continue to ride to school; and, how the multi-use paths, utilized by the students partaking in the ASST Program, will be maintained during the winter months.

A. Tulloch invited the Committee to email any comments or suggestions regarding the Active and Sustainable School Travel Program to A. Caruso or herself.

5. Discussion Items

A) 2020 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC), Annual Report

A copy of the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) 2020 Annual Report was received as Attachment #2 to the Agenda.

A. Caruso advised that the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Annual Report outlines the activities of the previous year and, the coming year moving forward.

Moved by K. Haines, Seconded by M. Gibbons,
That the Durham Active Transportation Committee recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) 2020 Annual Report, be approved.

CARRIED

B) 2021 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC), Workplan

A copy of the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) 2021 Draft Workplan was received as Attachment #3 to the Agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding proposed changes to the DATC's Work Plan to also support initiatives occurring at the government levels to include the Greenbelt Route; and, that the DATC also provide advice on AT matters related to mid-block crossings.

Moved by Jim Bate, Seconded by A. Heywood,
That the Durham Active Transportation Committee recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2021 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Workplan be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

a) Communications and Advocacy

- In Item 10. insert the following words, "the Greenbelt Route" after the words, "Travel program"; and
- In Item 13. insert the following words, "and mid-block crossing" after the words, "Vision Zero".

CARRIED

C) Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Terms of Reference

A copy of the proposed 2021 DATC Terms of Reference was received as Attachment #4 to the DATC Agenda. A. Caruso provided an overview of the new process for delegations at DATC meetings as outlined Item 9.1 of the Terms of Reference.

Discussion ensued regarding the language outlined in the third bullet under Item 4.1 regarding the development of multi-modal transportation options within the Region to include "the first and last kilometer"; and, the updating of

the Metrolinx Smart Commute Program and to reflect the “Small Mobility Durham Program”.

Moved by M. Gibbons, Seconded by J. Bate,
That we recommend to the Planning & Economic Development
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to
Regional Council:

That the proposed 2021 Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC)
Terms of Reference be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

a) 4. Scope of Activities

- In Item 4.1, in the third bullet, insert the following words, “including the first and last kilometer” after the words, “transportation options”; and

b) 9. Delegations at Committee Meetings

- New Item 9.1, be approved.
CARRIED

6. Information Items

A) Anthony Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and
Economic Development, re: Regional Cycling Plan Update

A. Caruso advised that staff are in the process of finalizing the various components for the updated Regional Cycling Plan and Maps. He added that the Project is being conducted in three phases.

A. Caruso noted that the Phase 2 draft report will be presented to the local area municipalities for comments in early January 2021; to the DATC in March 2021 for review; and forwarded to Regional Council for consideration in April 2021.

7. Other Business

A) Development of a Multi-Use Path in the City of Oshawa

Councillor Kerr provided an update on the concept for the potential development of a multi-use path (MUP) in the City of Oshawa that starts at the east side of Thornton Road and links to the MUP located on the south side of Taunton Road. He noted that eventually the MUP would also provide a link to Gibb Street and extend to Ritson Road at the GO Transit Station.

Councillor Kerr also provided an update on the potential revamping of a temporary green space multi-level bike park located on Taunton Road, on the south-east side of the Oshawa Airport. He noted that the City’s consultant will be bringing forth a report in early 2021 for staff’s consideration.

B) Update on the Reduced Default Speed Limits in the Township of Scugog

M. Gibbon advised that the Township of Scugog has reduced its default speed limits to 40 km/h in the urban areas and 60 km/h on the rural roads; and how the reduction will benefit Active Transportation initiatives.

M. Gibbons also advised that he is reviewing the Town of Scugog's draft Active Transportation and Master Transportation Plans released last week, and will be looking for the synergies with the routing outlined in the Region's Master Transportation Plans.

C) Update on the Town of Whitby's Active Transportation Plan

Chair Lalonde advised that the final draft of the Town of Whitby's Active Transportation Plan will be presented to Whitby Council for consideration at their meeting on Monday, December 14, 2020.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by K. Haines,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM

R. Lalonde, Chair
Durham Active Transportation Committee

C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk