



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Minutes - Final Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

10:00 AM

Virtual Meeting

For consideration by the City Building Committee on December 1, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Councillor, K. Aylwin at 10:05 a.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 8 - Councillor K. Aylwin
Councillor A. Kungl
A. McNair - Nature Barrie
E. Jacoby-Hawkins
J. Northcote
S. Diaz - SMDHU
T. Searls
W. Steimle

Absent: 2 - E. vanWesenbeeck
M. Kavanagh

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor, C. Riepma.

STAFF:

Committee Support Clerk, T. McArthur
Infrastructure Planning Engineer, B. Gratrix
Manager of Parks and Forestry, K. Bradley
Supervisor of Traffic Operations and Community Safety, J. Sharp
Supervisor of Urban Forestry and Natural Areas Stewardship, K. Rankin
Transit Operations Planner, M. McConnell.

The Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "A"

THE DRAFT NEW OFFICIAL PLAN AND CITY-WIDE URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES

Kathy Suggitt, Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis, Development Services Department provided a presentation concerning the draft New Official Plan and the City-wide Urban Design Guidelines.

Ms. Suggitt discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- An overview on the development of the new theme-based Official Plan (OP) and Urban Design Guidelines;
- The key draft maps associated to the vision of the City;
- Urban Design principles;
- A summary of the proposed active transportation policies;
- The key policy highlights to obtain sustainability;
- The timelines and approval process to moving forward with the Plan.

Members of the Committee asked a number of questions to the presenter and received responses.

The Committee agreed to form a working group to review and provide comments on the draft Official Plan and Urban Design Guidelines and report back to the Committee prior to the December 22, 2020 deadline to submit comments.

JUST RECOVERY SIMCOE

Alan McNair, Nature Barrie provided an overview concerning the Just Recovery Simcoe initiative that was started by the County of Simcoe in response to the effects of COVID-19 in the community, families, and the economy. He discussed the possibility of the Committee's involvement in this initiative to expand on the three pillars of "investing in people, investing in nature and investing in the community". Mr. McNair commented that Just Recovery Simcoe framework is in alignment with the City of Barrie's efforts for economic recovery.

The Committee discussed the Just Recovery Simcoe initiative and the framework to assist the community, family and the economy recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

ALLANDALE STATION PARK NATURALIZATION PLAN UPDATE

Alan McNair, Nature Barrie provided an update on the status of the Allandale Station Park Naturalization Plan. He advised that due to COVID-19 the project has not been able to move forward.

Kevin Rankin, Supervisor of Urban Forestry and Natural Areas Stewardship advised that a forest health assessment was completed for the Allandale Station Park area, including the forested area and the natural area outside of the Park. He commented that the next step is deciding where and what to do in those areas, and to possibly set up another working group meeting to move the project forward.

COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Committee discussed the draft workplan created by members of the Committee prior to COVID-19. They agreed that simplifying, being proactive and prioritizing the items on the workplan would benefit the areas that are critical in order to accomplish before the end of 2022 Term of Council.

The Committee agreed to take more time to review the draft workplan and to discuss at the next meeting, the key areas and priority items for the Committee to focus on.

Wilf Steimle provided suggestions to add to the workplan that included addressing the changing elements of transportation, the possibility of gas/diesel vehicles being banned over the next 10 years, a shift away from fossil fuels to new types of transportation particular electric and active transportation and fully autonomous vehicles.

Councillor, A. Kungl provided a suggestion of a project to enhance and protect an existing naturalized space at Crompton Park. She discussed the Park's natural features such as its existing trail paths in the wooded area, a lot of natural pollinators, a clearing that deer frequent. Councillor Kungl suggested that the space needs to be more inviting to the community to walk and enjoy the natural features. Kevin Bradley, Manager of Parks and Forestry provided a suggestion of a subcommittee/working group through this Committee to bring like minds together and staff to help guide and support when time permitted. The Committee agreed to support a subcommittee/working group to enhance the naturalization of Crompton Park and that Councillor Kungl would take the lead on the project.

CITY OF BARRIE WEBSITE - ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION WEBPAGE

The Committee discussed the City resources to be managing and updating the Active Transportation webpage. They provided input and a number of suggestions in terms of content or improvements that they would like to see on the website. Councillor Aylwin advised that any recommendations will be forward to City staff for review and consideration of incorporating on the page.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee agreed to move the Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee meetings to the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. as of January, 2021.

URBAN FORESTRY MOTIONS PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION AT ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE OCTOBER 27, 2020

The Committee discussed the Memorandum from K. Rankin, Supervisor of Urban Forestry and Natural Areas Stewardship dated November 24, 2020 concerning the City's Urban Forestry.

Alan McNair asked a question to City staff concerning the tree maintenance budget and meeting the standard for tree maintenance. He identified the implementation plan for Action Item 6.7 of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy concerning the City's urban forestry and the need for additional resources to be added to the 2021 Business Plan and Budget.

The Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "B"

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY ACTION ITEM 6.7 - URBAN FOREST

That consideration of additional resources be included as part of the 2021 Business Plan and Budget to implement the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, Action Item 6.7 "Increase preventative maintenance and inspection of trees on public property (e.g. tree pruning, removal of diseased/hazardous trees, proactive planting) in order to reduce damage caused by extreme weather events to the urban forest".

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Building Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 12/1/2020.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

CHAIRMAN