



City of Barrie

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

Minutes - Final Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

Tuesday, October 27, 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 10:01 a.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 9 - Councillor K. Aylwin
Councillor A. Kungl
A. McNair - Nature Barrie
E. Jacoby-Hawkins
E. vanWesenbeeck
J. Northcote
S. Diaz - SMDHU
T. Searls
W. Steimle

Absent: 1 - M. Kavanagh

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor, C. Riepma.

STAFF:

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

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

SECTION "A"

URBAN CANOPY TARGETS DISCUSSION

Councillor, C. Riepma introduced a draft urban tree motion to the Committee looking for support and wisdom on urban canopy of trees in the City.

Councillor Riepma provided a brief background on the purpose of the motion in order to improve the life span of trees, to have a sustainable canopy of tree cover in the City and that more needs to be done.

The Committee discussed the draft motion, and provided feedback on the City's current urban canopy and targets.

PARKS MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION

The Committee briefly discussed the possibility of a Parks Master Plan. They agreed to defer this item to the January 2021 meeting for further consideration.

COVID-19 RESILIENCE STREAM OPPORTUNITIES

Councillor, K. Aylwin, Chair provided information associated to the COVID-19 Resilience Stream opportunities from the Government of Canada. He commented on the temporary program of investing in Canada's infrastructure and the available funding that could involve active transportation infrastructure, parks, trails, footbridges, bike lanes, multi-use paths etc. Councillor Aylwin noted the possibility of this program connecting with the conversation on cycling infrastructure implementation updates in the City.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE FROM TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Brett Gratrix, Transportation Planning Lead provided an update to the Committee concerning the Cycling Infrastructure implementation plans throughout the City and the status of those projects. He advised that the 2020 has been a great year for active transportation and have been able to complete 12.7 kilometers through road diets and reconstruction projects. Mr. Gratrix named a number of streets in Barrie that are completed and he noted that Tiffin Street and Hurst Drive are still under construction.

The Committee discussed the implementation on cycling infrastructure and funding opportunities available to support that work.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY WEBPAGE

The Committee discussed the origin of the Active Transportation Webpage and what department would be responsible for managing the page. The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting to discuss ideas for the website.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT TIFFIN-LAKESHORE INTERSECTION

Eric van Wesenbeeck provided his concerns with pedestrian safety at the intersection of Tiffin Street and Lakeshore Drive adjacent to the Allandale Station, and noted that he felt that is an integral part of the connection for pedestrians and cyclists to the waterfront and downtown area.

Mr. van Wesenbeeck identified two areas of concern, one being the crosswalk heading north and south, southbound vehicles are turning left from Lakeshore Drive and the other being the Lakeshore Drive westbound traffic turning right to go north onto Lakeshore. He advised that vehicles do not see the pedestrian crosswalk signal, the watch out warning signal or the pedestrians across the intersection along crosswalks.

Jeff Sharp, Supervisor of Traffic Operations and Community Safety provided a response associated to the ongoing issues and challenges at that intersection and the safety measures City staff have undertaken for that area.

Members of the Committee and City staff provided input and possible solutions for intersection and pedestrian safety.

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

SECTION "B"

PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SAFETY REVIEW AT THE INTERSECTION OF TIFFIN STREET AND LAKESHORE DRIVE

That staff in the Operations Department conduct a pedestrian and cyclist safety review at the intersection of Tiffin Street and Lakeshore Drive and report back to the Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee.

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 Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "C"

COMMITTEE'S WORKPLAN 2020 TO 2021

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting to review the past recommendations of the Committee that were adopted by Council and are still pending action.

REVIEW OF RELEVANT MUNICIPAL POLICY DOCUMENTS RELEASED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND INPUT

Sherry Diaz, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) discussed municipal policy documents that would be relevant to the Committee interests to review and provide comments on the Plan. She suggested the draft new Official Plan and Urban Design Guidelines and the City's Community Energy and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan.

Councillor Kungl provided suggestions for the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, the Age-Friendly Community Plan, and possible synergies around Active Transportation and Sustainability.

The Committee agreed to invite staff from the Development Services to the next meeting to review the draft new Official Plan and Urban Design Guidelines.

DISCUSSION ON HOW BARRIE AND SIMCOE COUNTY CAN FOLLOW A SUSTAINABLE PATH TO ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RECOVERY FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

Al McNair advised that he would circulate information to the Committee concerning the "Just Recovery Simcoe" initiative in preparation for the next meeting.

ALLANDALE STATION PARK NATURALIZATION PLAN UPDATE

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee discussed the possibility of changing the Committee's current meeting date starting in January, 2021. They agreed to defer this item to the next meeting for further consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

CHAIRMAN