



Meeting: Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee
Date: April 7, 2021
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

MINUTES

Draft minutes not yet approved by Committee

Present: Jim Boate, Bart Hawkins Kreps, Phil Haylock, Connor Houston, Councillor Janice Jones, Connie Kobelka, Belva Lukacsovics, Arnold Mostert, Richard Oldfield, Rick Stockman, Jeanne Winters

Regrets: Melissa Claxton-Oldfield

Staff Present: Rob Brezina, Kristin Bullied, Laura Knox, Erica Mittag, Slav Potrykus

1. Agenda

Moved by Jim Boate seconded by Arnold Mostert.

That the agenda be altered to add Federal funding program and Camp 30.

Carried

2. Minutes of January 14, 2021

Moved by Bart Hawkins Kreps seconded by Arnold Mostert.

That the minutes of the ATSR meeting held on January 14, 2021 be revised to correct grammar errors in section 4.19 and 4.16.

Carried

3. New Committee Member Introductions

Welcoming four new committee members: Connor Houston, Phil Haylock, Belva Lukacsovics and Connie Kobelka.

4. Election of Chair

Election of Chair moved by Jim Boate seconded by Bart Hawkins Kreps.

Rick Stockman was nominated, agreed to stand, and was elected the Chair of the ATSR Committee.

Election of Vice Chair moved by Rick Stockman seconded by Jim Boate.

Bart Hawkins Kreps was nominated, agreed to stand, and was elected Vice Chair of the ATSR Committee.

Carried

5. Discussion Items

5.1. Accessibility Trail Update

Erica Mittag, Community Development Coordinator, Diversity and Inclusion, announced the Municipality received \$58,760 in funding to install charging stations for mobility devices on trails and in parks. Staff aim to install up to eight accessible charging stations, some where power is readily accessible and others that would be solar-powered. Several locations have been proposed and staff are reaching out to this committee, as well as the Accessibility Advisory Committee, for feedback. Potential locations include:

- Tooley's Mill Park, Courtice (powered location)
- Courtice Community Complex, Courtice (powered location)
- Harry Gay Park, Courtice (powered location)
- Courtice Shores, Courtice (solar unit)
- Rotary Park, Bowmanville (powered location)
- Memorial Park, Bowmanville (powered location)
- Soper Creek Park, Bowmanville (solar unit)
- Guildwood Park, Bowmanville (powered location)
- Port Darlington East Beach Park, Bowmanville (powered location)
- Samuel Wilmot Nature Area, Cobbledick Rd entrance, Newcastle (solar unit)
- Lakebreeze Drive, Newcastle (solar unit)
- Bond Head Parkette, Newcastle (powered location)
- Newcastle Public Library, Newcastle (powered location)
- Orono Park, Orono (powered location)

Committee members raised the following questions/considerations:

- Locations should be accessible by mobility device. Tooley Mills Park has accessible parking spaces, but is not accessible by sidewalk.
- For charging station locations on a trail, consider including an information board beside the station so trail users know how far/where they can go.
- When sourcing solar powered units, it's important to know how much of a charge they can store and how long it takes for the solar battery to recharge so someone using a mobility device isn't stuck and/or waiting too long if the unit's battery isn't fully charged.
- The location of solar powered units should not be too remote. If the unit's battery isn't charged, someone using a mobility device should be able to return to their vehicle without too much difficulty.
- The charging stations should be able to charge a variety of devices.
- Consider including lighting at the charging stations.
- Question raised about the cost of each station. Erica stated the cost varies depending on the need e.g., powered, solar, existing bench, etc.

Additional questions/comments from the Committee can be sent to Erica by April 14.

5.2. Trail Project Updates

Construction has begun Farewell Creek Trail Phase 2A and is expected to be complete by the end of August. Staff recently provided a report to Council for Phase 2B route options, [Report PWD-017-21](#), where Council supported route 2C which is a flat route that follows along the north side of the creek and will be constructed later this year.

The Bowmanville Creek Valley Trail will be extended from Baseline Rd, under HWY 401 and the CNR line to the Water Front Trail (WFT). A pedestrian signal will be installed to cross Baseline Rd. Construction should be complete by the end of the year. This project is tied into the Bowmanville Ave bridge reconstruction project, just south of the 401. The bridge will not be closed during construction. The map on the WFT website indicates the construction.

A three meter wide trail will be constructed connecting Rhonda Blvd to Bowmanville Ave. This trail will connect to a future multi-use path (MUP) on Bowmanville Ave.

The Soper Creek Trail will extend to Haines Street.

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A MUP will be constructed on HWY2 from Bowmanville Ave to Roenigk Dr. Another MUP may be constructed on Bloor St from Townline Rd to Prestonvale Rd.

In-road cycling lanes will be constructed on Nash Rd from Hancock Rd to Solina Rd.

Darlington Blvd. improvements will include active transportation infrastructure, likely a MUP.

Clarington staff have reviewed and provided comments on the Draft Regional Cycling Plan.

Committee member indicated that Whitby recently released their Active Transportation Master Plan.

Committee member mentioned the WFT at Port of Newcastle was closed Fall 2020 for work related to the Water Treatment Plant and is still closed.

5.3. Durham Active Transportation Group – Update

Durham Active Transportation hosted a meeting of the local transportation groups to discuss common challenges and opportunities to improve connectivity across the Region. The Region wants to move forward with the Cycling Plan by the end of the summer.

5.4. Information Tent/Kiosk – Waterfront Trail

Committee member suggested the Committee set up the ATSR tent for a couple hours on the WFT where we can give out information and promotional materials. Can also potentially partner with other cycling clubs. If/when we move forward with this event, the Committee would first have to get approval from Financial Services to ensure insurance coverage. Tourism can also assist with promotional material and online presence.

Committee member suggested the Committee work with Tourism to create an online cycling challenge for residents to participate in.

5.5. Goal Setting

Committee member suggested that the ATSR Committee concentrate on a few key items/goals. Committee members to consider the following options and discuss at next meeting:

Clarington Draft Active Transportation Master Plan

A systematic review of areas of the plan via email and/or a meeting to discuss.

Bike Friendly Communities

Committee can consider submitting an application to Share the Road/Bike Friendly Communities. Applications can be submitted in one of four categories: Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Evaluation & Planning. If the Committee does not want to submit an application, it is still beneficial to review the information.

E-bike Policy

Oshawa has a wealth of information, but did not reach a conclusion. MTO has criteria regarding ebikes. After some discussion, committee members thought this might not be an ideal goal to focus on.

5.6. Maintenance

The Committee was happy with winter maintenance on trails and would like to see this continue. Members also received similar feedback from the community.

Moved by Jeanne Winters and seconded by Jim Boate

That the Municipality permanently undertake winter maintenance and consider expanding the program to trails located throughout Clarington to allow residents to take advantage of the trail network year-round.

Carried

5.7. Trail Maintenance Detours

Committee member would like to ensure the Municipality does what it can to provide a marked detour route when a trail is closed for maintenance, construction, flooding, etc. Consider procedure for detours. Especially important for cyclists who are not familiar with the trail network. If there is no safe detour route, it would be helpful to put up a sign indicating a 'trail closure ahead'. Some Committee members expressed they can, and should, assist staff in helping find the best detours as they are familiar with the routes.

Staff indicated the Municipality signs detours, however detour routes can be challenging depending on location. Some areas of trail are not well linked to safe road alternates, e.g., the WFT traverses industrial areas, Clarington is bisected by HWY 401, and there are no arterial roads south of HWY 401. The Active Transportation Master Plan will assist in identifying alternate routes. Staff would welcome input on alternate routes from Committee members. Staff also communicate with the WTF Trust so closures are posted on their website.

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Clarington Tourism can assist with trail signage. Staff are aware of grant opportunities for permanent signage e.g., directional, welcome to Clarington, way-finding, etc.

Clarington has information signs at the eastern and western gateways of the WFT and it would be beneficial to upgrade these signs. Suggested we reach out to Ontario by Bike to refresh the signage by June. Tourism will follow-up with Ontario by Bike as well as the way-finding grant to get more details.

Consider consistent signage throughout the Region. This is an option for the Region/Municipalities to approach collectively as long as the trail traverses the Region.

Would be beneficial to have signs along the WFT indicating routes into various downtown areas. Could be a partnership between this Committee and the BIAs.

Jim Boate and Bart Hawkins Kreps volunteered to form a sub-committee to coordinate with Tourism regarding signage. The sub-committee will report back to the next ATSR Committee meeting.

The signage for the WFT connection to the Greenbelt trail will be delivered to Public Works soon and the committee recommended they be installed before the summer season.

6. Other Business

6.1. Updated Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference (TOR) have been updated as discussed in the previous meeting and outlined in a [report to Council](#). Council approved the revisions and the final TOR is attached for the Committee's review/reference.

6.2. Funding Program

Federal Government announced a \$400M five-year funding program for active transportation infrastructure. A Committee member has contacted the Planning Department and Councillor Jones will follow-up.

6.3. Camp 30

Committee member raised concerns about hazards at Camp 30. The Municipality is aware of some concerns and has notified the land owner.

7. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday July 8, 2021 at 7:00pm via Microsoft Teams.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Bart Hawkins Kreps seconded by Jim Boate.

That the meeting adjourn at 10:08 PM

Carried