



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2023-P-18
Date: June 6, 2023

Subject:

Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) 2023 Workplan

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the Durham Active Transportation Committee 2023 Workplan be approved, as outlined in Attachment 1 to Commissioner's Report #2023-P-18;
 - B) That a copy of Commissioner's Report #2023-P-18 be forwarded to the Durham Active Transportation Advisory Committee, Conservation Authorities, and Durham's Area Municipalities.
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Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Terms of Reference of the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) specifies that an annual Workplan that guides DATC's activities for the coming year is to be submitted for consideration and approval by the Planning and Economic Development Committee.
- 1.2 The DATC held its inaugural meeting on April 13th, 2023 to commence its 2023-2026 term, wherein the newly appointed eight area municipal representatives and Council representative endorsed the 2023 DATC Workplan. The purpose of this report is to present the 2023 DATC Workplan.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 In March 2023, Council considered DATC's membership appointments for the 2023-2026 term (Report [#2023-P5](#)).
- 2.2 In January 2023, PEDC received the 2022 Annual Report for the DATC (Report [#2023-P3](#)).

3. 2023 Workplan

- 3.1 The 2023 Workplan (Attachment #1) consists of activities which are a priority and achievable within the calendar year. These activities are grouped into four categories:
 - a. **Sustainability** - Recognizing and advancing Active Transportation (AT) as activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - b. **Cycling Safety and Education** - Encouraging public awareness and education on the identification and implementation of programs such as Vision Zero and Active and Sustainable School Travel; and supporting work to help achieve Bronze-level Bike-Friendly status for the Region of Durham and any area municipalities not yet designated in Durham, and advancing wayfinding and signage initiatives.
 - c. **Infrastructure** - Supporting the implementation of multi-modal transportation options with a focus on advancing the Region's AT network as outlined in the Durham Transportation Master Plan and the Regional Cycling Plan; and
 - d. **Communication and Advocacy** - Collaborating with partners on AT initiatives occurring at all government levels, including the Lake Ontario Waterfront Blueway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust, Conservation Authorities, and the Health and the Social Services Department to raise Durham's AT profile, and promote a healthy lifestyle.

4. Relationship to the Strategic Plan

- 4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
 - a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability's objectives:
 - #1.4 Demonstrating leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.
 - #1.5 Expanding sustainable and active transportation.

- b. Goal 2: Community Vitality's objectives:
 - #2.1 revitalizing existing neighbourhoods and build complete communities that are walkable, well-connected and have a mix of attainable housing

5. Conclusion

5.1 The DATC will actively support Regional active transportation initiatives and provide advice to the Region of Durham throughout 2023. The members look forward to helping the Region expand and improve AT for all residents and visitors to Durham.

5.2 It is recommended that:

- a. The 2023 DATC Workplan be approved (Attachment #1); and
- b. A copy of this report be forwarded to the Durham Active Transportation Advisory Committee, Conservation Authorities, and Durham's Area Municipalities.

6. Attachment

Attachment #1: 2023 DATC Workplan

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment #1



Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) 2023 Workplan

Scope of Activities

The following areas of Active Transportation (AT) will act as a guideline for the DATC Committee's work throughout the year. Many of the initiatives are ongoing, but those that can be substantially achieved in 2023 have been identified:

Sustainability

1. Recognize and advance AT activities related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the Region of Durham. (ongoing)

Active Transportation Safety and Education

2. Provide advice on the identification and implementation of programs, which encourage public awareness and education on AT matters, including the achievement of bronze-level Bike-Friendly status for the Region of Durham and any area municipalities not yet designated in Durham, in collaboration with the Works Department and other stakeholders. (ongoing)
3. Provide input and support for Active & Sustainable School Travel (ASST), also known as Active & Routes to Schools, in some jurisdictions. (ongoing)
4. Promote the use of AT in the Region, especially the important role that it plays in connecting people to transit. (ongoing)
5. Recognize the differing AT needs of commuters and recreational users within the urban and rural areas. (ongoing)

Infrastructure & Policy

6. Continue to advance the Regional Trail Network (RTN) as a key transportation and tourism component of the AT network based on various requests and initiatives in partnership with Planning and Economic Development, Health and Works Department staff and area municipal partners. (ongoing)
7. Support the implementation of multi-modal transportation options in the Region of Durham with a focus on advancing the Region's AT network as outlined in the 2017 Durham Transportation Master Plan and the Regional Cycling Plan 2021. (ongoing)

8. Assist in providing support to the Regional and Area Municipal Active Transportation Plans and support the development of the Region's Durham Meadoway Plan. (ongoing)

Communications and Advocacy

9. Coordinate efforts to advance the shared goals of the various area municipal AT committees. (ongoing)
10. Collaborate with partners on AT initiatives occurring at all government levels, including: Lake Ontario Waterfront Blueway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust, Smart Mobility Durham, the Active and Sustainable School Travel program, the Durham Meadoway, the Greenbelt Route and Public Health. (ongoing)
11. Provide advice to Regional Council on legislative matters, programming, and policies from all levels of government related to AT. (ongoing)
12. Identify and advance initiatives to improve communication and collaboration between the Region and the eight area municipalities' Active Transportation Committees. (ongoing)
13. Provide advice on AT matters related to Vision Zero initiatives and mid-block crossings to improve safety on Regional infrastructure. (ongoing)

2023 Meeting Dates

- April 13, 2023
- June 8, 2023
- October 12, 2023
- December 14, 2023