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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 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  
B. Astley, Oshawa  
M. Gibbons, Scugog attended the meeting at 7:04 PM  
A. Heywood, Pickering  
C. Houston, Clarington, Vice-Chair  
K. Mirani, Brock  
Councillor Shahid (alternate)  
P. Smith, Uxbridge  
T. Van Helsdingen, Ajax attended the meeting at 7:09 PM  
**\* all members participated electronically**

Absent: None

#### Staff

Present: A. Caruso, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development  
A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
D. Culp, Project Planner, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development  
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning, Planning and Economic Development  
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
**\* all staff participated electronically**

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by P. Smith,  
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee meeting held on June 8, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. Presentations**

A) Subha Ramanathan, Manager, Programs & Partnerships, Share the Road Cycling Coalition, re: Bicycle Friendly Communities Award Program

Subha Ramanathan, Manager, Programs & Partnerships, Share the Road Cycling Coalition, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Bicycle Friendly Communities Award Program.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFC) Program Overview
- Applying to the BFC Program
- BFC Application Form: Core Content
- Create a BFC Application Task Force
- Visit the Online Application Form
- Completing the BFC Application
- Tips on Completing the Form
- How is the Application Adjudicated?
- BFCs by Rank
- BFC Feedback Report
- Supports for Applicants

S. Ramanathan responded to questions from the Committee regarding any associated costs with applying for a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) designation; the number of BFC applications received in Canada and their respective success rates; whether it is more appropriate for the Region as a whole or local area municipalities to apply separately; and the timelines for submissions and processing of applications.

B) Becca Nagorsky, Vice-President, Stations Planning, Metrolinx, re: GO Rail Station Access – Supporting Active Transportation

Becca Nagorsky, Vice-President, Stations Planning, Metrolinx, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding GO Rail Station Access – Supporting Active Transportation.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Discussion Summary
- Supporting Active Travel: Metrolinx Plans and Policies
  - GO Rail Station Access
  - The Vision – From Drive and Park to Diversified Access Modes
  - GO Stations – Now vs Future
  - Station Specific Requirements Sheets
  - Station Access Implementation Pillars
- Supporting Active Travel: Station Improvements and Marketing
  - Station Amenities – Bicycle Parking
  - Station Amenities – Micromobility

- Station Amenities – Miscellaneous
- Station Access Marketing – Try Walking, Biking, or Taking Local Transit
- Next Steps
- Barriers to Active Travel to GO Stations: On-Site and Off-Site
  - Customer Barriers to Active Travel To/From GO Stations

B. Nagorsky responded to questions from the Committee regarding the secure bicycle room including details of the subscription and associated fee, the capacity of the room, whether the access code is unique or shared amongst all subscribers, if the room is monitored by closed circuit cameras and/or security, and who is liable for damaged or stolen bicycles; if there are future plans for parking charges to be implemented at GO stations; whether Metrolinx collects data from Presto card users to determine rider origin points; and how infrastructure upgrades at GO stations are prioritized.

Discussion ensued regarding inadequate access to GO stations by certain routes for cyclists and pedestrians and potential remedies; if the elimination of various bus routes has resulted in an increase in persons driving to GO stations; and construction of multi-use paths at GO stations to provide a direct route to the station through the parking lots for cyclists and pedestrians.

C) Danielle Culp, Project Planner, re: Durham Region Wayfinding and Signage Strategy

Danielle Culp, Project Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Region's Wayfinding and Signage Strategy.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Purpose of the Project
- What is a Wayfinding System?
- Vision, Goals and Objectives
  - Vision
  - Guiding Principles for the Wayfinding and Signage Strategy
  - Goals of the Wayfinding System
  - What Does Cycling Wayfinding Typically Look Like?
  - Examples of Fundamental Navigational Sign Types
- Project Timeline and Milestones
  - What Are We Working Towards and Where Are We at in the Process?
- How to Get Involved
  - Engagement Phases
  - Stay Engaged
- Next Steps
  - What's Next?

D. Culp responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether any safety organizations have been consulted to provide input for signage; whether technology will be integrated into the wayfinding and signage strategy that would provide an exact point of location of a person, especially for situations relating to safety; if consideration has been given to the creation of a cycling friendly app for the Region; and the use of illuminating material on the pathways to enhance visibility at night.

**5. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**6. Discussion Items**

There were no discussion items.

**7. Information Items**

A) Durham Region's E-bike Incentive Program

A. Caruso advised that the Region, through partnerships with the Regional Sustainability and Transportation Planning groups, have begun working on an E-bike incentive program, which will be the first of its kind in Ontario and will offer a rebate on the purchase of an electric bike. He further advised that the incentive program is in the beginning stages and that further updates will be provided to the Committee once available.

B) Durham Region Bike Month Report 2023

A. Caruso provided a summary of the Region's 2023 Bike Month activities which took place over the month of June 2023 and included several campaigns at both the Regional and local levels to promote cycling throughout the Region. He advised that plans for next years Bike Month are currently underway and will include a Bike-to-Work Day on June 4, 2024, along with other cycling activities.

**8. Other Business**

A) Port Perry Pedals (Marc Gibbons)

M. Gibbons advised that the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Port Perry Pedals occurred on September 10, 2023 and drew in almost 300 registrants, attracting people of all ages and abilities from across the province. He stated that the event was hosted by the Rotary Club Port Perry benefitting the Lakeridge Health Foundation and surpassed its fundraising target of \$100,000. He further advised that the event consisted of various cycling routes ranging from 10 KM to 160 KM with varying degrees of difficulty making it suitable for families and more experienced cyclists.

B) Clarington Active Transportation Plan (Connor Houston)

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C. Houston advised that consultants from WSP have been engaged by the Municipality of Clarington to develop an active transportation master plan in Clarington with an anticipated completion time of approximately 10 months. He stated that the plan will focus on gap free on-road travel and will include consultation with the Active Transportation and Safe Roads Committee.

C. Houston also advised of a concurrent focus on a parks, arts, and culture master plan, which will explore how active transportation can be integrated into neighborhoods by leveraging available public lands. He indicated that the three plans are intended to form a complete comprehensive master strategy.

C. Houston provided a brief update regarding a report that will be presented at the next Clarington Council meeting with respect to the impacts of speeding, specifically in school and community safety zones, and that he will provide a further update at the December 14, 2023 DATC meeting regarding the outcome of the report which may result in a reduction of the speed limits in these zones from 50 km/hr to 40 km/hr.

C) Uxbridge to Lindsay Rail Trail

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P. Smith advised that the rail trail that spans from Uxbridge to Lindsay and forms part of the Trans Canada Trail is in a deteriorated state due to discontinued maintenance resulting in a decrease of cyclists and pedestrians' enjoyment of the trail. He stated that there is a lack of clarity regarding who is responsible for maintaining the trail and advised that it was previously maintained by the Simcoe Conservation Authority, but due to changes in funding, they have discontinued their maintenance services to the trail.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the trail's ownership; the significance of the trail; why closed trail signage has been posted at various access points to the trail; the increased level of motorized recreational vehicles on the trail worsening the level of deterioration; and the potential next steps required to remedy the situation.

G. Pereira advised that the Region is in discussions with the Province and Infrastructure Ontario, who is the registered owner of the trail, and will provide a further update to the Committee at the December 14, 2023 DATC meeting.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

**10. Adjourment**

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by P. Smith,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM

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R. Lalonde, Chair  
Durham Active Transportation  
Committee

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V. Walker, Committee Clerk