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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 6, 2025

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, March 6, 2025 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:02 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### 1. Call to Order & Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

V. Walker read the following land acknowledgement:

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the growing Inuit communities and large Métis communities here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

#### 2. Roll Call

Present: R. Lalonde, Whitby, Chair  
B. Astley, Oshawa  
A. Heywood\*, Pickering  
C. Houston, Clarington, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Kerr  
K. Mirani\*, Brock

**\* denotes members participating electronically**

Absent: P. Smith, Uxbridge  
T. Van Helsdingen, Ajax

#### Staff

Present: D. Culp, Project Planner, Transportation Planning  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
S. Kemp, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations  
C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning, Community Growth and Economic Development  
F. Mannan\*, Project Manager, Rapid Transit Office

K. Vickers, GIS & Data Specialist  
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
**\* denotes staff participating electronically**

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by B. Astley, Seconded by C. Houston,  
That section 8. A) of the minutes of the Durham Active  
Transportation Committee meeting held on December 12, 2024, be  
amended by replacing the last sentence with the following:

“He advised that the Township of Uxbridge indicated in 2024 that  
they would provide trail monitoring commencing in 2025, however  
no confirmation has been received indicating they would be  
commencing in 2025.”

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by B. Astley,  
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee  
meeting held on December 12, 2024, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**5. Presentations**

A) Fariha Mannan, Project Manager, Durham Region, re: Regional Active  
Transportation Project Updates

Fariha Mannan, Project Manager, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint  
presentation with regards to Regional Active Transportation Project Updates.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2024 Active Transportation (AT) Implementation
- AT Infrastructure Projects Completed in 2024
- 2025 Active Transportation Implementation
- 2025 AT Infrastructure Projects
- 2025 Standalone Infill Projects
- Durham Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project
- BRT – AT Infrastructure Projects
- Federal Active Transportation Fund Application

F. Mannan responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the  
active transportation fund application and the purpose of funding a multi-use  
path (MUP) on a private laneway along Winchester Road to Simcoe Street in  
the City of Oshawa (which was clarified as from the private laneway to

Simcoe Street); and whether there would be an opportunity to add green cycle route signage to the Simcoe Street project at Coates Road in the City of Oshawa.

B) Danielle Culp, Project Planner, Durham Region, and Kody Vickers, GIS & Data Specialist, Durham Region, re: Durham Region Active Transportation Map Viewer

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Danielle Culp, Project Planner, Durham Region, and Kody Vickers, GIS & Data Specialist, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Durham Region Active Transportation Map Viewer.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Overview
- Key Functions
- Demo of the Draft Viewer
- Next Steps

D. Culp and K. Vickers responded to feedback and questions from the Committee with regards to open data and data layers; the source of cyclist count data; the addition of local area municipalities' active transportation infrastructure into the map viewer; the methods that will be used to promote the map viewer; if the Durham Cycling Coalition is expected to be a tester or primary user; whether the map viewer will have the capability to generate routes; whether there is an ability to add bus routes, bus stops and bike parking locations; whether the map viewer will meet accessibility standards; whether definitions of different types of roadways will be defined within the map viewer; and how community members can provide user feedback following the launch of the map viewer.

C) Danny Pimentel, Senior Project Manager, City of Hamilton, re: City of Hamilton Sustainable Mobility Program

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Danny Pimentel, Senior Project Manager, City of Hamilton, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the City of Hamilton Sustainable Mobility Program.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Sustainable Mobility Programs: Focus Areas
- Sustainable Mobility Ecosystem
  - Workplaces
  - Schools
  - Hamilton Bike Share
  - Commercial E-Scooter Program
  - Shared-use Mobility
  - Social Marketing & Events
  - End of Trip Facilities

- Policy & Developments
- Active Transportation (AT) Infrastructure Planning
- Relationships
- Smart Commute Regional Coordination

D. Pimentel responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether testimonials were collected that effectively demonstrate the positive outcome of the program; how the City of Hamilton arranges for residents to access their homes where access is affected by planned street closures in front of schools; whether Bill 212: Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024 is expected to have any impacts on completed active transportation infrastructure projects such as the Hunter Street cycle track where a traffic lane was removed to install a bicycle lane; whether Metrolinx provides a pathway through the Hamilton GO Station parking lot to support cyclists arriving at the station via the adjacent on-road cycle track; whether Metrolinx provides bicycle parking at Hamilton GO Station; and how cycling facilities and infrastructure are maintained during winter months.

**6. Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

**7. Discussion Items**

There were no discussion items to consider.

**8. Information Items**

A) DATC Committee Member Recruitment Process Update – Scugog Vacancy

D. Culp provided an update with regards to the recruitment of a Scugog representative and stated that an application has been reviewed by Regional staff and forwarded to the Township of Scugog. She advised that Township Council will consider the application at its next meeting and decide whether to nominate the applicant for appointment to the DATC.

B) 2025 Share the Road Cycling Coalition Bike Friendly Status Update

D. Culp provided an update with regards to the Bike Friendly Communities Award Program application that was submitted in 2024 and advised that Region staff are awaiting a response from the program organizers as to an anticipated timeframe for receiving a decision. She stated that a further update will be provided as it becomes available.

C) Ontario Bike Summit

D. Culp stated that the Ontario Bike Summit is Canada's largest cycling and active transportation conference which will be taking place in Windsor from May 27 – 30. She further stated that the event will be hosted by the Share

the Road Coalition with partners from across Canada in an effort to make the province more bike friendly.

D. Culp stated that Region staff will be in attendance at the conference and advised that there is an opportunity for a Committee member to attend.

D) Region of Durham Bike Month Update and Motion to Proclaim June Bike Month

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C. Leitch stated that Bike to Work Day will be taking place on June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Region of Durham Headquarters and will feature booths by Durham Tourism, the Regional Health Department, United Way, Cycle Life, and the Durham Region Cycling Coalition.

C. Leitch stated that the event will also include the following activities:

- Breakfast and giveaways for participants;
- Bike raffle tickets and cookbooks will be available for purchase as a fundraiser through United Way;
- A planned bike ride from Whitby GO Station to Regional Headquarters;
- A Durham Region Transit (DRT) bus will be parked at Regional Headquarters to demonstrate how to use the bicycle racks on the front of the bus and allow participants to practice; and
- A helmet demonstration by Parachute Canada.

C. Leitch further stated that various communications will be published on the Region's social media channels and newsletters to promote the event.

C. Leitch advised that other activities being considered for bike month include a bike month pledge; bingo for residents; and an active and sustainable transportation "walk and roll to school" campaign.

C. Leitch responded to questions from the Committee with regards to whether the Region is coordinating its bike month initiatives with the area municipalities; the bike month activities being planned by the area municipalities; and the timing for publishing communications to promote bike month in the Region.

R. Lalonde stated that in previous years the Region has endorsed the Committee's advocacy for bike month.

Moved by B. Astley, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,  
That we recommend to the Community Growth and Economic  
Development Committee for approval and subsequent  
recommendation to Regional Council:

Whereas June is Bike Month;

And whereas Durham Regional Community Growth staff have organized numerous bike friendly activities annually for over a decade to educate residents about cycling safety, promote the benefits of cycling, and encourage residents to bike more by participating in Bike Month throughout the month of June;

And whereas the Durham Active Transportation Committee fully supports the Region of Durham's planned Bike Month activities.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Durham Active Transportation Committee request Regional Council's support of the planned Regional Bike Month activities and proclaim the month of June as Bike Month in the Region of Durham.

CARRIED

E) 1 Metre Campaign to Promote Cycling Safety and Educate Other Road Users of the Requirement to Keep a 1 Metre Buffer Between Vehicles and Cyclists on the Road

D. Culp stated that the Durham Region Cycling Coalition is interested in partnering with the Region on a cycling safety campaign which would promote keeping a 1-metre buffer for vehicles passing cyclists on the road, which is enforceable by law under the Highway Traffic Act. She further stated that the campaign would focus on raising awareness and education on cycling safety and advised that there may be an opportunity for Vision Zero to also collaborate on the campaign.

D. Culp stated that more details will be shared as they become available.

F) Bike for Health

D. Culp stated that the Bike for Health event has recently been renamed Ride for the Ridge. She advised that the event will be taking place on May 25<sup>th</sup> and is organized in partnership with the four founding foundations of Lakeridge Health to raise money to support healthcare in the Region.

D. Culp advised that further details for the event will be shared when they become available.

G) Bicycle Parking Guidelines Update

D. Culp stated that Regional staff are currently preparing a request for proposal to seek consulting services to assist with the development of a bicycle parking guideline for the Region. She further stated that the guideline would assist Regional and local area municipal staff, along with developers and stakeholders, with identifying locations and best practices for implementing and managing bicycle parking infrastructure across the Region.

H) Durham Regional Trails Map Update

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C. Leitch stated that the Community Growth and Economic Development department, in collaboration with the GIS and visualization teams, are working towards enhancing and updating the Region's trails map brochure and online map viewer. He further stated that the current online platform being used will soon be decommissioned and the updated trails map will be integrated into the Region's online map viewer platform. C. Leitch welcomed Committee members to provide input and feedback.

Brief discussion ensued with regards to previous updates to the trails map; and coordinating with the area municipalities.

C. Leitch responded to a question from the Committee with regards to the trails that are included in the trails map resources.

9. **Other Business**

A) Member Motion regarding Motor Vehicle Window Tinting and License Plate Visibility

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B. Astley stated that window tinting on motor vehicles that are not compliant with the specifications set by legislation hinders adequate visibility and poses risks for both drivers and pedestrians.

B. Astley further stated that license plates in a deteriorated condition may not be legible to police and other users of the road which can cause difficulties with vehicle identification.

B. Astley suggested that police be required to assess window tinting and license plate conditions during routine police safety stops and issue fines for non-compliance, in order to mitigate these safety concerns. He advised that a resolution relating to this matter is being prepared and will be presented to the Committee for consideration at the next meeting and welcomed input from the Committee.

Discussion ensued with regards to the jurisdiction and responsibilities of Durham Region Police Services (DRPS) and the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) in regulating and enforcing these matters; the Highway Traffic Act; whether raising these issues with the DRPS Board would be helpful; and whether this matter may be of interest to the Region's Vision Zero team.

B) Active Transportation Network in City of Oshawa

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Councillor Kerr provided an update with regards to the City of Oshawa's vision to implement an active transportation network that safely connects the City of Oshawa from Lake Ontario up to Highway 407, with connections to the Oshawa GO station, post-secondary institutions, and the downtown core.

Councillor Kerr provided details of the following elements of the network that are being considered by City staff that would be implemented in stages, if approved:

- Erecting street signage on Mary Street to only permit parking on one side of the street during rush hours to accommodate cyclists;
- Implementing parking pads for e-scooters in specific locations to encourage residents to utilize e-scooters as a mode of transportation to access downtown Oshawa;
- Ensuring adequate lighting is offered throughout the Michael Starr Trail;
- Implementing cross-rides and multi-use paths (MUPs) where appropriate to connect the Durham College and University of Information Technology campuses in north Oshawa to the adjacent residential neighbourhoods; and
- Replacing the bridge to the GO station to allow cyclists to safely access the station. The installation of a pedestrian MUP bridge is also being considered in this location that would eliminate the need to replace the bridge.

Councillor Kerr stated that discussions with City staff remains ongoing to further develop the plan and address challenges in implementing a comprehensive active transportation network.

C) Interim Staff Liaison for Durham Active Transportation Committee

R. Lalonde stated that Danielle Culp will be taking over the role of staff liaison and welcomed her to the Committee.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by B. Astley, Seconded by C. Houston,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

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R. Lalonde, Chair  
Durham Active Transportation  
Committee

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V. Walker, Committee Clerk