



**CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022
ZOOM MEETING
MINUTES
7:00 – 9:00 PM**

Committee:

David Rawcliffe, Chair
Peter Miasek, Vice Chair
Steve Glassman, Vice Chair
Amit Arora
Colin Cassar
Anthony Ko
Elisabeth Tan
Doug Wolfe
Paul Salvo
Daniel Yeung
Councillor Reid McAlpine, Ward 3
Joska Zerczi

Staff:

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, Transportation
Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation
Anna Lee, Clerks

Agency:

Niko Dimitrakopoulos, YRP
David Simor, Markham Cycles / TCAT
Diana Kakamousias, York Region

Regrets:

Zain Khan
Gerry Shaw
Mauricio Martinez
Mark Battaglia
Councillor Isa Lee, Ward 8
Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton
Gerald Carnegie, YRP
Reena Mistry, YRDSB YRCSB

The Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CPAC) convened at 7:05 PM with David Rawcliffe in the Chair.

1. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of conflicts of interest.

2. APPROVAL/MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA

Approval of modification to Agenda to remove 5.2 Community Engagement and to include the Markham Public Library Trail Animation Project to Other Business.

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM: JUNE 16, 2022

Moved by Peter Miasek

Seconded by Elisabeth Tan

That the Minutes from the June 16, 2022, Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

4. PERTINENT INFORMATION FROM GUEST SPEAKERS

There was no update.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING

5.1 Share AT Facilities and Passing Lanes

Joska Zerczi provided an update on the Share AT Facilities and Passing Lanes. Cyclists on busier trails are not able to go long distances without being constantly slowed down due to pedestrians. The suggestion is to locate the conflict points and create a wider trail or separate lanes for cyclists/micromobility users and pedestrians. This should be added to the scope of work for the newly hired staff the city is hiring to implement the ATMP. Separate or wider paths should also be created in the Rouge National Urban Park.

The Motion below will be brought forth in the next meeting for further discussion.

Motion

WHEREAS pedestrian-cyclist conflicts on certain trails and pathways are an increasing issue in Markham, particularly with the advent of micromobility and growing population, it is therefore moved that staff investigate, as part of the development of the capital plan through the ATMP Capital Plan, opportunities to separate pedestrians from other active transportation users.

AND it is also moved that Markham staff discuss this issue with Rouge National Urban Park staff with regards to trails in the Rouge National Urban Park.

5.3 Jane's Walk 2023

Steve Glassman provided an update on Jane's Walk 2023. Paul Salvo has requested Committee member(s) to take the lead in coordinating the Jane's Walk starting 2023. Paul expressed that he could share the template, contacts and his previous experience to help the new lead. Any interested member(s) are asked to reach out to Steve Glassman or Paul Salvo. This will be an ongoing business item on the agenda until it has been resolved.

6. STANDING ITEMS & ON-GOING PROJECTS

6.1 City's Ongoing AT Project Updates

Staff provided an update on the following City's ongoing AT Projects: Wayfinding Plan on Rouge Valley Trail, Copper Creek PXOs, New Traffic Signals on Bur Oak Ave, Markham Road MUP Cross Rides, PXOs in School Zone, Cycling Map.

Staff will check if more detail can be provided to CPAC on the RVT Wayfinding Plan.

There was a question about the status of the John Street MUP. Staff provided an update where the design is completed, and construction of a 3m MUP from Leslie to Steelcase has begun. The project is being coordinated with intersection improvements at John Street and Steelcase Road. Project is still on schedule and plans to open by the end of the year. Auxiliary items, such as tree plantings, may be delayed until next year.

There was a question about Share the Trail signs. Staff clarified that this is not part of the Rouge Valley Trail wayfinding project. It will be a separate discussion with Operations staff to design and implement. There is also another comment that the cycling map update should be ready for Spring 2022.

6.2 School Programs & Pilots

Peter Miasek provided an overview of the Active School Travel pilot. The full pilot, six tiers that were studied at eight schools, is now completed. David Simor indicated that a draft report on the School Streets test (tier 6) is completed and to be reviewed with Reena and the larger working group. There was a comment to see continuation and expansion of the program at other Markham schools.

6.3 Active Transportation Master Plan

Two new staff will be hired to manage implementation of the ATMP capital plan. The full ATMP report will be available on the City website once it has been reviewed and approved as AODA compliant. Implementation of projects will be discussed in 6.12 and 6.3 Active Transportation Master Plan will no longer be a standing item.

6.4 Reports to Council

DSC met earlier this week on Monday, September 12th and the next meeting will be held in December.

6.5 EA Updates

There was no update.

6.6 Markham Cycling Day

City staff provided an update on Markham Cycling Day. This is the largest CPAC and Markham cycling event. The event has been relocated to Markham Pan Am centre this year. The event will feature 2 community rides at 13km and 30km, as well as the children's races. A full closure at Main Street Unionville (South of Enterprise Blvd) and one lane closure on Enterprise Blvd, a

bike lane delineation on Birchmount Rd., and St. John Ambulance will be on-site to enhance safety for the event. This is a free event with about 500 participants already registered. Additional information can be found on the website: www.markham.ca/cyclingday. Volunteers are still needed, if any member is interested in being part of this event, please reach out to Fion or the subcommittee members.

The subcommittee is requesting to allocate \$5,000 from the 2022 CPAC Budget to support the Markham Cycling Day 2022 event. This is due to not having as many sponsors secured as previous years due to lack of time and approval, as well, the new additional road closure cost.

Motion

Request allocation of \$5,000 from the CPAC Budget to support the 2022 Markham Cycling Day event.

Moved by Daniel Yeung
Seconded by Anthony Ko

CARRIED

6.7 York Region Projects

There was no update.

6.8 Subcommittee Updates

Protected Intersections

Peter Miasek provided an update on protected intersections for McCowan EA between 14th Ave and Highway 7. The CPAC subcommittee had three meetings with York Region staff in July and a fourth one is scheduled for late September. Shawn Ellsworth, the Senior Project Manager, is open to ideas on protected intersections. He will report back on the September meeting.

Also, the 407ETR will no longer accept uncontrolled AT crossings at Highway 407 ramps for McCowan Rd. A separate crossing or signal crossing will be required for pedestrians and cyclists. Three different options were offered by the consultant, and are under review.. Diana Kakamousias of York Region advised that the Region has received positive feedback about the centre median AT facility on Highway 7 at Highway 400.

A question was asked about the plan for the 16th Ave crossing at Highway 404. Diana will speak with the 16th Ave. road project manager on the AT design of the project.

Winter Pedestrian Subcommittee

Councillor McAlpine provided an update. City Council reviewed winter service standards on roads and looked at a range of options for local roads. The motion of plowing local roads at 5cm (at the standard of sidewalks) instead of the current 7.5cm did not pass. A new contract with the snow clearing service, including the purchase and use of new equipment standards, were negotiated. However, the road plowing service standard will remain the same. Due to inflation,

costs of standard service will be rising, and contract durations are for long periods of times, about 12 years. Service standards can be renegotiated if it is deemed as required.

6.9 Road Safety

Peter Miasek mentioned that pedestrian upgrades were implemented on Kennedy Rd at both Carlton Road and Bridle Trail by York Region, including “No Right Turn on Red” restrictions. This arises from parent concerns for 2 elementary school crossings, plus analysis by the Region’s consultant (CIMA). Feedback has been mixed from pedestrians and drivers. The Region may install pedestrian-activated digital “No Right Turn on Red” signage here.

Also, he shared that York Region released the annual traveller’s safety report in early September. He noted that he asked York Region to include hospital data related to winter slips and falls in the data analysis in the future, and that York Region has confirmed they will consider.

Peter also mentioned that York Region has expanded their vulnerable user safety program to 5 additional intersections in Markham – 16th/Woodbine, 16th/Main St Markham, Highway 7/McCowan, Highway 7/Kennedy and McCowan/Carlton. The program includes “no right turn on red” and leading pedestrian travel signals.

Also, Markham staff mentioned that there is a project to initiate traffic review on Apple Creek Blvd and improve the corridor for active transportation users. This is anticipated to be a 2-year study with the anticipated start date by early 2023.

The Road Safety Subcommittee will reconvene once the municipal election is over.

6.10 Open Streets

There was no update.

6.11 Markham Cycles

There was no update.

6.12 2022 Budget Process and AT related items

City Staff provided an update where the process to hire new staff has initiated (developing job descriptions). The new staff is part of the ATMP capital plan approval – the City Council approval included the requirement of two staff to implement the capital plan, noted in the report. Subject to further internal review and hiring of the new staff, the 2023 capital budget for detailed design, project management and contract admin for first 3 years of the ATMP capital plan will be requested.

As well, the 2023 capital budget for traffic calming of Main Street Markham and Carlton Road (4-lane major collector roads) will be requested. The request will be for the design and public consultation of two projects with implementation in Spring/Summer 2024. The design and consultation process will take at least one year, if not more. This will provide a test case for the public consultation process that can be developed for the larger ATMP capital plan.

Also, in regards to the Infrastructure Canada Active Transportation Fund submissions, one was unsuccessful and City staff is waiting to receive a response on the others.

In August it was announced that Markham was successful in receiving a \$2.9M Canada Community Revitalization grant, including \$2M for trails and sidewalks.

The capital budget for 2023 will not be approved until February at the earliest.

6.13 E-bike / E-scooter (Micro Mobility Framework)

Subcommittee would like to hear more feedback from the committee on the future state of infrastructure to accommodate micromobility equipment. As the city grows, the community will want safe infrastructures that facilitate pedestrians, cyclists, and other devices. There is a York Region discussion group on this diverse and challenging topic that staff participates in.

6.14 Discussion Topics for 2022-2023

Committee members are encouraged to bring forward new ideas and share with the committee anything new or interesting that is pedestrian/cycling related.

7. INFO ITEM/NEW BUSINESS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 Cycling Without Age

Peter Miasek brought forward the Cycling Without Age worldwide initiative. This initiative is to give senior citizens and others who cannot cycle an opportunity to so in their community in the form of Trishaws. This will be deferred to October meeting. More information about the initiative can be found here: <https://cyclingwithoutage.ca/hamilton-burlington>.

7.2 Any Other Business

Markham Public Library Trail Project

Peter Miasek informed the committee about the Markham Public Library (MPL) Trail Project which was selected for the My Main Street Community Activator program. MPL was rewarded \$25,000 to animate the trails and main streets adjacent to Markham Village and Unionville Library branches making for a more accessible, inclusive, and animated experience for the community. Through the Government of Canada's My Main Street Community Activator program, delivered by the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI), the MPL Trail Project will help support the revitalization of local neighbourhoods and help drive economic activity by animating public spaces and increasing visitors and foot traffic,

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Cycling Without Age presented by Peter Miasek.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee adjourned at 9PM.