



**CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JUNE 15 2023
MINUTES**

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Members:

Peter Miasek, Vice Chair
Anthony Ko
Daniel Yeung
Doug Wolfe
Joska Zerczi
Amit Arora
Andrew Dang
Brenda Kazan
David Mok
Cliff Chan
Councillor Reid McAlpine, Ward 3
Councillor Ritch Lau, Ward 2
David Simor, Markham Cycles

Guests:

Alfred Sung
David Rawcliffe, Chair

Staff:

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation
Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, Transportation
Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

Agency:

None

Regrets:

Steve Glassman, Vice Chair
Colin Cassar
Maurizio Martinez
Reena Mistry - YRDSB
Sonia Sanita, York Region Public Health
Wincy Tsang, Smart Commute
Diana Kakamousias, York Region
Niko Dimitrakopoulos, YRP
Gerald Carneige, YRP

1. CALL TO ORDER

David Rawcliffe, Past Committee Member, and Interim Chair, convened the Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CPAC) at 7:09 PM.

2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

3. APPROVAL/MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA

There were no modification to the Agenda

4. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM: February 16, 2023 (formal) & May 18, 2023 (informal)

The Committee reviewed the notes from the informal May 18th meeting. Earlier informal meetings had reviewed the notes from April 20 and March 16. All three sets of informal meeting notes are appended to these minutes.

The committee approved the formal February 16th meeting minutes, as amended. number was corrected on page four of the February 16th Minutes to read 85 rather than 8-5.

Moved by Peter Miasek
Seconded by Doug Wolfe

The Minutes of the February 16, 2023 Cycling and Pedestrian Committee (CPAC) were approved, as amended.

Carried

5. PERTINENT INFORMATION FROM GUEST SPEAKERS

5.1 Introduction of new committee members

David Rawcliffe, Past Committee Member, Interim Chair, welcomed the new members to the Committee.

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, reviewed the membership of the Committee, advising some members have just completed their terms on the committee, and several other members' terms are expiring on November 30, 2023. An updated list of new appointment and re-appointment with term expiry dates were shared with the Committee.

Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator, advised that most of the members with terms expiring on November 30, 2023, are completing their first term on the committee and are eligible to be considered for a second term on the committee.

5.2 Cycling without Age Update Alfred Sung

Alfred Sung provided a presentation on Cycling without Age. A video of the program was displayed to the Committee. The program connects seniors with volunteer cyclist that take them for ride on a trishaw. The program started in Denmark and is growing around the world. To get the program started in Markham, one trishaw has been purchased. In the first year of the program, the focus will be on recruiting volunteers to ride the trishaw, resolving all legal matters, and on marketing and promoting the program to seniors. The trishaw will be showcased at several community events to promote the program. Fundraising and crowd funding is being undertaken and is required to support the program. An application was submitted for both provincial and federal funding, but the grant applications were not successful. A target of \$55,000 has been set for fundraising. The funds are required to purchase another trishaw, and to

cover the insurance and legal costs. A partner is also being sought out to store the trishaw in a location on Main Street Unionville. It was noted that the most successful Cycling without Age programs have strong government support.

Alfred Sung is seeking volunteers from the Committee. It was suggested that Alfred contact York Region to seek potential funding and resource to support this project.

For further information, consult www.cyclingwithoutage.ca/york

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING

There was no business arising from the last meeting.

6. STANDING ITEMS & ON-GOING PROJECTS

6.1 City's Ongoing AT Project Updates St

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, provided an update on the following active transportation projects:

- Markham Centre Trail
- Rouge Valley Trail
- John Street MUP
- Victoria Square Boulevard
- Cycling & Trail Map Update
- Huntington Trail Bridge
- Copper Creek PXO
- Sidewalk Network Completion Program

An overview of City projects that have received the Federal Active Transportation Funds was provided which included 7 proposed projects. . The streets involved are Calvert, Carleton, Clegg, Alstate, Ferrier, Gillingham and Main St. Markham North. The details of the update are included in the staff presentation, which will be provided to Members

Peter Miasek, advised that CPAC has a sub-committee that reviews the design of active transportation projects, and that CPAC may from time to time make recommendations or proposals on the design of an active transportation project to staff and to Council.

Committee discussed the following relative to the staff update on the City's active transportation projects:

- Questioned if the design of MUP on Victoria Square Boulevard has shifted to a sidewalk plus a cycling track design;
- Questioned the type of surface treatment being used on the trails;

- Suggested that the graphics on the cycling trail map should be more user friendly, and inquired if CPAC would have the opportunity to review the map;
- Inquired about the plan and timing for the interactive map – presumably to be consistent with PDF version
- Questioned when construction of Victoria Square Boulevard will start.

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, advised that the re-construction of Victoria Square Boulevard Phase 1 is anticipated to start in the spring of 2024, and to be completed by the end of 2025. Mr. Cheah explained that concrete (even though initially more expensive) is the standard surface for Markham cycling facilities as it has a longer lifecycle and is more cost efficient in the long-term than asphalt.

Ms. Ho confirmed that she will be seeking CPAC's input on the Cycling and Trail Map, and that Staff plan to print copies of the map in early July. Will work with GIS group on the interactive version.

Peter Miasek advised that City Staff have not completed its detailed design for road improvements for Elgin Mills Road.

Committee inquired about the status of a proposed connection from Russell Jarvis Dr to the Rouge Valley Trail, and asked for it to be included in the sidewalk program.

Committee noted that the City may get complaints in regards to the active transportation projects being done on Carlton Road and on Main Street North. Staff advised that public consultation on these projects will be undertaken for both of these streets, as the work is anticipated to be of the interest of the community and Council.

6.2 School Programs & Pilots

Peter Miasek advised that the notes from the CPAC's April informal meeting provide an overview of the school programs and pilot projects. Mr. Miasek noted that the City is supportive and is working with YRDSB to submit an application to the National Active School Street Initiative that provides funding for the implementation of 2 school street pilot between 2024 and 2027.

6.3 Reports to Council

There was no update provided on reports to Council.

6.4 EA Updates

No update

6.5 Markham Cycling Day Staff

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, provided an update on Markham Cycling Day. The event was held on June 11th in Markham Centre and was well attended. There were approximately 1,400 residents that registered to participate in the event, and it is

estimated that 1,000 residents attended the event. The event included Tour De Markham Community Rides, which were 12, 30 and 60 KM in length. There were also children's races onsite. The event had a total of six sponsors, and 20 agencies/organizations participated in the event. The volunteers from the Committee that supported the event were thanked.

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, and the Committee, expressed their sincere appreciation to Fion Ho for her hard work and dedication to the 2023 Markham Cycling Day event.

A small gift was provided to her as a token of the Committee's appreciation.

6.6 York Region Projects

There was no update provided on the York Region Projects.

6.7 Subcommittee Updates Subcommittee

No update was provided on this item.

6.8 Road Safety

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, advised that a Special Development Services Committee will be held on July 4, 2023. Some of the subject matters being covered at the meeting include intersection safety, traffic calming, automated speed enforcement, an overview of the City's existing safety programs and the development of a City road safety plan in 2024. The feedback on these subject matters will help form the basis of the City's Road Safety Action Plan.

Peter Miasek advised that CPAC's motion on branding of road safety as a Vision Zero program was deferred by the Development Services Committee until the Road Safety Action Plan was brought back to the Development Services Committee. Mr. Miasek suggested possibly reintroducing the motion. The Sub-Committee also met with the Mayors Mrakas and Lovatt, York Region Transportation Committee chairs, to discuss its Vision Zero motion, as ideally Markham and York Region will both support the vision.

6.9 Open Street

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, advised that City staff provided an update to DSC on May 26. The original intent of the event has changed as COVID-19 public health restrictions are no longer in effect and City events and programs have returned back to normal. Instead, the Open Street Program will be reimagined as a special City event in 2024 by the Economic Development & Culture, Event Staff. Staff were unsure if the Committee would still play a role in the event.

6.10 Markham Cycles

There was no update provided on Markham Cycles.

6.11 Budget for AT related items & CPAC Budget S

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, advised that the 2024 Budget process is now underway. A list of the capital projects being proposed was presented to the Committee.

The Committee was advised that they should submit any project ideas for the 2024 Capital Budget this month.

New Members that wished to view the 2023 Capital Budget Projects were recommended to view the February 16th Cycling and Pedestrian Committee Presentation, as the projects are listed in this presentation. Staff were requested to provide the new Members with access to the shared Google Account, which contains the Committees past files.

Staff clarified the 2023 CPAC Budget was \$28,000, and that its remaining budget is about \$8,000.

6.12 E-Bike/ E-Scooter (Micro Mobility Framework)

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, advised that staff have drafted a report to provide background information to Council on the development of a City micro mobility strategy, noting the report has been delayed as it will be brought forward with an Economic Development Report on a related matter in September. Mr. Cheah noted that development of the City's micro mobility strategy will be included as part of Markham Transportation Strategic Plan Update.

6.13 Discussion topics for 2023

This item was not discussed.

7. INFO ITEM/NEW BUSINESS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was no new business.

7.1 Election of Committee Chair & Vice-Chairs Staff

Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, advised that at the next meeting elections will be held for the election of the Chair and Co-Vice-Chairs.

David Rawcliffe, and Peter Miasek reviewed the roles of the Chair and the Vice-Chair. Roles may include speaking on behalf of the Committee at a Standing Committee meeting, sitting on a sub-committee, or chairing a sub-committee. The Chair also

reviews Committee minutes and agenda prior to each meeting. The time commitment is generally a couple of hours a month.

7.2 Winter Maintenance Discussion at June 19 GC

Peter Miasek advised that staff are proposing no change to the existing winter maintenance service levels at the Special June 19th General Committee meeting. This is the same conclusion Committee Members came to when reviewing the subject matter, as they could not come to a consensus on the subject matter. Members were hoping that more data would be available on the numbers of slips and falls by pedestrians, but no study has been done.

The staff report also recommends that sidewalks and trails on Regional roadways or lands be transferred to the responsibility of the Region.

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, advised that jurisdictional responsibilities were being reviewed by York Region, noting the review includes jurisdictional responsibilities over sidewalks and cycling facilities on Regional roads. Mr. Cheah clarified that it is the responsibility of the owner to plow private property driveways, such as plazas.

7.3 Bahal National Centre expansion Plan Staff

David Rawcliffe, Interim Chair, and Past Committee Member, spoke briefly about the expansion of the Baha'i National Centre, noting that the project should be of interest to the Committee from a cycling and pedestrian perspective. Mr. Rawcliffe, suggested that a clear cycling path should be included if the City were to make improvements to Leslie Street. Mr. Rawcliffe also noted that the proposed emergency access road would be encroaching on a very sensitive area of the meadow.

7.4 Catch Basin on John St.

Staff advised that the catch basin on John Street is being replaced with a design that is safe for cyclist.

7.5 2023 Meeting Dates Staff

The Committee was advised that the next official Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meetings will be held on:

- September 21, 2023
- November 16, 2023

The schedule of the informal meetings in October and December will be discussed at the September meeting.

8. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

The election of the Chair, and Co-Vice-Chairs will be included as an agenda item on the next agenda.

Staff and the Committee thanked David Rawcliffe for being an excellent Chair and for bringing a pedestrian perspective to committee discussions over the years. They also thanked Mr. Rawcliffe for his long-standing service on the Committee.

9. Adjournment

The Cycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:05 PM.