



**CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018
CIVIC CENTRE – CANADA ROOM**

MINUTES

Attendance

Committee:

David Rawcliffe, Chair
Councillor Don Hamilton
Paul Traicoff
Janet Jones
Elisabeth Tan
Bob Evans
Paul Salvo
Gordon Lawson
Gerry Shaw

Staff:

Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Engineering
Fion Ho, TDM Coordinator, Transportation
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets:

Peter Miasek, Vice Chair
Zain Khan
Marc Clark
Anthony Ko
Daniel Yeung
Councillor Alan Ho
Steve Glassman
Justin Hung
Shawn Smith, York Region
Samantha Maurice, SMART Commute

The Cycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee convened at 7:05 p.m. with David Rawcliffe presiding as Chair without quorum. Quorum was achieved at 7:08 p.m.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None disclosed.

2. APPROVAL/MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

3. REVIEW OF STATUS OF CPAC WORK ITEMS

No comments.

**4. MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM
CYCLING & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2018**

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton
Seconded by Elisabeth Tan

That the minutes from the January 18, 2018 Cycling & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

Vision Zero: Collision Analysis

Staff advised the Committee that the City of Markham has not done much analysis relative to collision information. A map with Pedestrian & Cycling Collisions from 2011 to 2017 was displayed and noted that the information is obtained from motor vehicle collision reports.

There was discussion regarding the large amount of collisions in the Milliken area and the number of collisions on local roads.

Vision Zero: Motion and Conference

Elisabeth Tan reviewed the following proposed motion:

Whereas CPAC has studied Vision Zero for several years; has suggested, by motion on February 16, 2017, that Markham City Council *consider adopting Vision Zero*; and CPAC has seen other municipalities including the City of Toronto adopt Vision Zero recently; and,

Whereas that CPAC understands that a substantial, professional analysis by city staff or its designated consultant is appropriate to consider the public, budgetary and organizational impacts of Vision Zero; and,

Whereas that a full report is necessary to provide council with the implications of Vision Zero so that its adoption is done with a meaningful implementation plan; and,

Whereas, although excellent projects have been planned and completed by Markham and York regional staff planners to improve the safety of our citizens, Vision Zero provides the framework to ensure best practices are followed; and,

Whereas, Vision Zero is identified as an effective policy to prevent road traffic fatality and injury and has been recognized by the World Health Organization in 2014; and,

Whereas the public promotion of Vision Zero will emphasize that Markham values safety on its roads and streets for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists, as Markham is a leading, progressive community as demonstrated by adopting and implementing Vision Zero.

Therefore be it resolved, that CPAC recommends to City of Markham Council:

- 1 That Markham Council direct city staff to review Vision Zero in the context of Markham, to conduct or cause to have completed an impact study and to report back to CPAC and City Council before the end of 2018; and,
- 2 That Council directs CPAC and city staff to vigorously network with other municipalities in the region, and with York Regional staff, with the objective of having them work in concert with Markham on this urgent initiative.

Staff suggested that the words “impact study” be replaced with “a strategy.”

There was discussion regarding the various positive impacts associated with Vision Zero.

The Committee stated their support for the proposed motion, and decided to place this on a future agenda for further consideration, and vote. And that upon the January 2018 CPAC minutes being tabled at the February 26, 2018 DSC, Councillor Don Hamilton will pull it to address the need for more Vision Zero information to be presented to DSC and to ask staff or CPAC to give some background information at the April 30, 2018 DSC meeting, when the March 2018 CPAC minutes will be on the DSC agenda.

Staff advised that a Vision Zero Conference is being held in the City of Toronto from Wednesday February 28 to Friday March 2, 2018. It was suggested that the CPAC budget be used to have staff and members of the Committee attend the conference. It was suggested that one person attend the full three day conference and others can do a day pass likely for the Thursday itinerary.

Moved by Gord Lawson

Seconded by Bob Evans

That up to a maximum of \$1,300 be used to have two members of the Cycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee members and a staff member attend the conference.

Carried

EA Subcommittee Road Widening Motion

The Committee discussed and considered the following motion:

Whereas CPAC has a primary responsibility to advise council about matters of safety for pedestrians and cyclists; and,

Whereas CPAC has examined several road widening projects planned for the Markham neighborhoods; and,

Whereas six lane roads are rated at 60 km/ hour, with it not uncommon for motorists to drive down wide arterials at speeds exceeding 80 km/hour; and,

Whereas Markham is designed without a fine grid, so there are long distances between intersections, making it common for pedestrians to illegally walk across the roads midblock; and,

Whereas a substantial body of research disputes the efficacy of street widening as a solution to congestion; and,

Whereas road widening projects in established Markham neighbourhoods cannot accommodate 6 lanes, dedicated cycle paths, and pedestrian walkways on both sides of the road- the compromises made sacrifice Markham's stated goals of encouraging active transportation by providing safe and pleasant paths for all users; and,

Whereas HOV and dedicated bus-ways do little to reduce congestion. Other, less capital intensive measures are more productive in encouraging the use of public transportation; and

Therefore be it resolved that CPAC recommends to Markham Council:

- 1) That Markham city staff notify CPAC at earliest possible stages and solicit input from CPAC on any projects, both city and region driven; and
- 2) That Markham city council understands that CPAC on principle rejects the idea of road widening of any existing arterial in the city limits; and,
- 3) That city planners look to CPAC for compromise transportation solutions to facilitate development of the edges of Markham and to ease congestion; and,
- 4) That city and regional planners work to improve public transit in Markham as it intensifies, particular emphasis on commuting solutions along the HWY 7 East/ West and the Kennedy Road North/South corridor; and further,
- 5) That city and regional planners alter widening projects to improve street beautification, with dedicated cycle and pedestrian paths, and timed measures to improve traffic flows, all at significantly less capital costs.

It was suggested that clause four replace the words “Kennedy Road North/South corridor” with “designing commuting solutions along all arterial roads.” The Committee suggested that clause three be deleted, and add the word “consider” to the last clause.

Moved by Janet Jones

Seconded by Elisabeth Tan

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- 2) That Markham city council understands that CPAC on principle rejects the idea of road widening of any existing arterial in the city limits; and,
- 4) That city and regional planners work to improve public transit in Markham as it intensifies, particular emphasis on commuting solutions along the HWY 7 East/ West **and designing commuting solutions along all arterial roads**; and further,
- 5) That city and regional planners **consider** altering widening projects to improve street beautification, with dedicated cycle and pedestrian paths, and timed measures to improve traffic flows, all at significantly less capital costs.

Carried

There was a second motion relative to Kennedy Road, McCowan Road and 16th Avenue Environmental Assessments, and the Committee suggested that the motion be withdrawn and that Elisabeth and Janet work on a new motion for consideration.

2018 CPAC Priorities/Workplan

This item was deferred to the March 2018 meeting.

Active Transportation Facilities on Mid-Block Crossing and north of Major Mackenzie Drive Letter

Staff displayed a copy of the letter written by Bob Evans, signed by the Chair and submitted to York Region stating CPAC's support for Option 4.

Staff advised that York Region will take it as input from an interested stakeholder, but the Mid-Block crossing will be going through the City of Markham and Town of Richmond Hill, and noted that the Town of Richmond Hill rejected Option 4.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS IN PRIORITY ORDER

York Region Environmental Assessment List & 2018 Capital Works Program

Staff provided a list of the York Region EA's and some of the 2018 Capital Project works program for information purposes.

Markham Cycling Day

It was noted that the date has been confirmed for Sunday September 23, 2018. Gerry Shaw advised that they are looking for a lot of volunteers for the day of the event and if anyone is interested in joining the subcommittee that typically meets monthly until July and then almost weekly to please contact Gerry, Paul or Zain.

Earth Day Outreach

It was noted that Earth Day event is scheduled for Saturday April 21, 2018.

Jane's Walk Update

Paul advised that the following dates and locations have been set:

- May 5 – Thornhill
- May 6 – Rouge National Park
- May 6 - Buttonville

7. INFO ITEM/NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Bike Valet

It was suggested that Elisabeth have the various event organizers contact City staff regarding the location and promotion of bicycle racks.

Canada Smart's City Challenge

Staff are encouraging CPAC members to go the City's website www.markham.ca and complete the survey for Canada Smart's City Challenge.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Follow-ups from this meeting, as well as:

- Markham Cycling Day
- Cycling and Walking Gaps at Unionville GO Station
- 2018 CPAC Priorities/Workplan

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Cycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:55 PM.