



A meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was held on October 29, 2020 at 7:02 p.m., in the City Hall Auditorium, 1 Wellington Street, Stratford.

Committee Present: Councillor Burbach – Chair presiding, Councillor Vassilakos, Bernard Goward, Stephen Barlow, Cambria Ravenhill, Wayne Sjaarda and David Daglish

Staff Present: Nancy Bridges – Recording Secretary

Regrets: Lorraine Kuepfer – Vice-chair and Matthew Orchard

MINUTES

1. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.

None declared.

2. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – September 16, 2020

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos, seconded by Cambria Ravenhill

THAT the ATAC minutes dated September 16, 2020 be adopted as printed.

Carried.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. Share the Road Workshop Recommendations

Councillor Vassilakos summarized the priority projects from the Share the Road workshop report.

i. Updating Report card

Councillor Vassilakos recommended having a few Committee members look at re-designing the report card. She suggested looking at other municipalities to see what they are using. Securing the help of a graphic designer could improve the quality of the report card and the goal would be to include it on the City of Stratford's website. She noted it would be beneficial to wait until the spring, although research on the project can start any time.

Steve Barlow and Councillor Burbach volunteered to work with Councillor Vassilakos on this project.

ii. Resident Survey/Data Collection on active transportation in Stratford

Councillor Vassilakos stated she will reach out to Huron Perth Public Health to see if they already have data on this issue. David Daglish volunteered to assist in the preparation of a resident travel survey and evaluation of the data.

Councillor Burbach noted she would like to see the data tied into the report card. She noted the Director of Infrastructure and Development Services indicated the update to the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan has been proposed as part of the 2021 budget.

Councillor Vassilakos will check with staff to see if a consultant is being hired to update the Plan, as they may be able to develop a survey as part of this project.

iii. Bike Month Festivities

Councillor Vassilakos noted that the current pandemic may not allow for planning of this type of event and wondered if it should be put on hold. Councillor Burbach noted that in the Spring it may be possible since the event is outside. Cycle Stratford is already planning events so it may be beneficial to support them in their efforts instead of planning competing events. Wayne Sjaarda, representative for Cycle Stratford, noted they intend to have weekly events in June. They would appreciate help from ATAC to promote the events.

iv. Wayfinding

Councillor Vassilakos noted wayfinding is being reviewed with the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. She noted the map project and signage are being reviewed as well. The examination of traffic calming and traffic diverting techniques to reduce vehicle traffic on bike routes within the City has not been reviewed and she wondered if the topic should be put on hold and looked at with the consultant during the Bike and Pedestrian Master plan revamp.

v. Bike Share

Councillor Vassilakos noted ATAC has considered a bike share program in the past but it was determined that it was not practical for Stratford at that time. Councillor Burbach will do some research into other bike share programs and their cost. She noted that the uptake in other communities has been high, especially during the pandemic. Councillor Vassilakos noted the intercommunity bus program may be beneficial to a bike share program.

vi. Celebrating Success

The Committee discussed various ways they could celebrate the active transportation accomplishments of ATAC and the City as a whole. Bernard Goward recommended submitting letters to the editor expressing

appreciation for the accomplishments however it was noted that it would be difficult to ask people to write these letters.

Councillor Vassilakos stated that presenting a letter from ATAC to the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee outlining all the active transportation projects that were completed would be a good way to get information to the media. If presented at a Sub-committee meeting it has the potential for further discussion and acknowledgment. Councillor Burbach suggested submitting letters from ATAC and Cycle Stratford.

vii. Other ideas that emerged as priorities

Councillor Vassilakos summarized the list of other ideas from the report and the Committee discussed some in more detail.

Councillor Burbach noted trail counters could be beneficial to know the number of people using the City's existing cycling facilities. Councillor Vassilakos noted the City does have trail counters however it would be hard to gather useful data when the infrastructure is not complete.

Councillor Vassilakos stated that she would like to see a Police Services representative attend the ATAC meetings going forward. They previously had a representative who attended ATAC meetings and then moved to the School Travel Planning Committee. Now that the School Travel Planning Committee is no longer meeting, it would be beneficial to have police representation at ATAC.

Councillor Vassilakos noted the application for the Bike Friendly Community certification is almost ready to be submitted and she will take care of completing this process.

b. Update from Staff regarding linkages (multi-use trails on Douro Street and McCarthy Road)

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services (IDS) provided an update via email on the two linkages and that they may be delayed until 2022. Councillor Vassilakos noted that today the province announced funds for Active Transportation projects. She has been in contact with the Director of IDS regarding the possibility of moving the McCarthy Road linkage to 2021 if the funds are received from the province.

Councillor Vassilakos noted the City has completed a downtown traffic study and that funds from the province could be used to complete projects noted in this study.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Zoom meetings

Councillor Burbach noted that upcoming ATAC meetings will be held electronically using Zoom. Council has approved this change due to the current pandemic.

5. NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, November 25, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Electronic Participation

Motion by Wayne Sjaarda, seconded by Steve Barlow

THAT the October 29, 2020 ATAC meeting adjourn.

Carried.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Start time: 7:02 P.M.

End time: 7:43 P.M.