



Active Transportation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was held on October 27, 2021, at 7:02 p.m., electronically.

Committee Present: David Daghish – Chair presiding, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Vassilakos, Wayne Sjaarda, John Zelek, Bernard Goward, Stephen Barlow, Anna Stratton and Lee Chandler

Staff Present: Tatiana Dafoe – City Clerk, *Taylor Crinklaw – Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Michael Mousley – Manager of Transit, Nick Sheldon – Project Engineer, Mike Beitz – Corporate Communications Lead and Nancy Bridges – Recording Secretary

Also Present: Sarah Merkel – HPPH

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the ATAC meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Introductions

Taylor Crinklaw, Director of Infrastructure and Development Services introduced Nick Sheldon, Project Engineer, as the new staff representative for the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

*Taylor Crinklaw departed the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None declared.

4. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Motion by Lee Chandler, seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

THAT the ATAC minutes dated September 15, 2021 be adopted as printed. Carried

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

a. Bicycle Parking Improvement Plan Update

Nick Sheldon, Project Engineer, introduced himself and provided a step-by-step update of the Bicycle Parking Improvement Plan, including:

- Current bike facilities include:
 - i. Two bike corrals
 - ii. Twenty-two post and rings units, with 4 extras in stock to replace damaged units
 - iii. Five modular style
 - iv. Twenty-four grid-style bike racks
 - v. Three flat style bike racks
- An additional bike corral will be installed near the intersection of Centre Street/John Street as part of the TJ Dolan multi-use trail project.
- Grid-style racks will remain in use at this time as they represent approximately 50% of the bike parking downtown.
- Grid-style racks are owned by the Stratford City Centre BIA and remain in use.
- Two bike corrals have been installed and a third will be installed during the TJ Dolan multi-use trail construction.
- An online "request a bike ring" program does not exist at this time as there are not sufficient funds in the budget to purchase additional bike racks.
- Staff has created a bike parking facilities map and ideally it will be uploaded to GIS.
- The bike valet can be booked online and is stored at the Public Works yard.
- The bike valet has been rented seven times and there is no rental fee.

Sarah Merkel recommended a similar program to the memorial benches be implemented to allow citizens to sponsor a post and ring unit.

Councillor Vassilakos noted the purchase of 75 post and ring units could continue to be included in the budget and allow the grid racks to be phased out. Wayne Sjaarda noted that after discussions with various groups, additional post and ring units could be installed in Market Square.

Councillor Burbach noted that a bike parking map was developed by Destination Stratford and it includes photos of the different types of parking available. She recommended reaching out to Destination Stratford to see if the City could use their map as well.

b. Transit advertising

Mike Mousley, Manager of Transit, noted the media screens on the busses are used to display information relating to news, meetings, detours, COVID-19 and

public health. Some staff resources are required but it is a good way to get information to the public quickly. Advertising informing patrons they can bring their bicycle onboard is a good campaign and it could be noted that it is operator discretion whether to allow bicycles during peak times. Other bicycle safety notices could be included, and the campaign could begin in the Spring of 2022. The Manager noted that the system can use static photos or MP4 videos (no sound) up to 90 seconds.

A short discussion followed regarding other topics for inclusion however the Manager recommended limiting the size of the campaign to 1 or 2 slides per month. Ms. Merkel stated that she would be willing to spearhead this project in the new year and work with the Manager of Transit to ensure he has all the information he requires. Councillor Vassilakos will assist Ms. Merkel and they will provide content to staff for review.

c. TJ Dolan signage

Bernard Goward asked for clarification on whether volunteers could paint the trail blazes free of charge now or whether it needed to wait until phase 2. The City Clerk noted that volunteers are permitted to paint the blazes but a realistic timeframe would be Spring 2022. Staff are focused on getting a quote from the Graphic Designer for the signage and staff need time to review the proposed locations of the blazes.

6. New Business

a. Bike lane concerns

*Taylor Crinklaw, Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, returned to the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Mr. Sjaarda expressed concerns with the new bike lanes on Romeo Street and the lack of consistent road markings. The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services noted the concern and stated that staff was forced to work with the current road dimensions and that bike lanes were included where able.

David Daghish noted the newly painted lines on Romeo Street are wearing off already. The Director noted the lines would be repainted based on the warranty.

Councillor Vassilakos inquired if additional signage could be used to inform cyclists and drivers of the bike lanes appearing/disappearing. The Project Engineer noted that additional signage is outstanding to complete this project and a further review of painting sharrows could be done by staff.

b. Sidewalk closures

Steve Barlow expressed concerns with how sidewalks are closed during construction projects and how this often causes difficulties for pedestrians. He questioned whether additional accommodations could be made to make it easier for pedestrians to get around the construction site without having to cross the street.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services noted that staff does consider pedestrian access during construction projects and attempts are always made to notify pedestrians in advance of the closure. The Project Engineer noted staff will try to be more cognizant of these concerns for future long-term construction projects. The Director requested that specific concerns be brought to the attention of the Engineering department.

7. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, November 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., electronically.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Bernard Goward, seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the October 27, 2021 ATAC meeting adjourn. Carried

Start Time: 7:02 P.M.

End Time: 8:00 P.M.