



Active Transportation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in the Mansbridge Room at the Stratford Rotary Complex.

Committee Members Present: David Daglish – Chair Presiding, Councillor Harjinder Nijjar, John Lewis, Pat Ranney – Cycle Stratford Representative, Christine Lee – Avon Trail Representative

Staff Present: Vicky Trotter – Council Committee Coordinator, Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

Also Present: Linda Wakenhut

Regrets: Inspector Jason Clarke, Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, Ian Morton, Kelley Teahen, Nick Sheldon – Project Manager

1. Call to Order

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

Reading of the Land Acknowledgement and Moment of Silent Reflection.

Reading of the Respectful Workplace Policy.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and The General Nature Thereof

None declared.

3. Welcome New Member

Members and staff introduced themselves to the Christine Lee, Avon Trail Representative.

4. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Motion by John Lewis

Seconded by Councillor Nijjar

THAT the minutes from the Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting dated September 25, 2024 be adopted as printed. Carried

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

5.1 Festival Route Working Group Appointments

This item has been deferred to the November meeting for further discussion with all members present.

5.2 Avon Trail Signage Update

Vicky Trotter updated members that the 3-sided trail sign for Confederation Park to direct people to hike the Avon Trail is now complete. Community Services staff will install the sign near the bridge to nowhere and the waterfall area and are currently working on the exact placement.

The previously recommended blazing project throughout the City is in the process of Council approval. Once a decision has been made, Vicky Trotter will update ATAC members.

5.3 Safety Concerns Crossing Ontario Street at York Street

Members agree Ontario Street at York Street is a dangerous area for anyone to cross the road to the Shakespearean Gardens, Courthouse, Stratford Intermediate School or back over to York Street to access the municipal parking lot. Vicky Trotter noted that as this is a provincial highway, all recommendations will need to go through the province and ultimately, it will be their decision to make any changes.

Some suggestions for improvements from members were:

- Improve the stairs and path under the bridge and add visible signage so people know it is there and can safely cross on the path under the bridge;
- Investigate the possibility of a round-a-bout on Ontario Street in the area of Church Street and St. Andrew Street. This would slow traffic down coming around the bend and allow for a safer crossing at the round-a-bout or further down near York Street;
- Investigate a pedestrian cross-over with stop lights and indicator lights prior to the crossing to warn drivers when people are crossing;

- Investigate a possible pedestrian bridge in that area for safe crossing over the road.

Members will continue the discussion at the next meeting and decide how they would like to proceed with any recommendations. Vicky Trotter will contact Nick Sheldon to request some background information in preparation for discussion at the meeting.

6. New Business

6.1 Pedestrian Access on Road 111 and Highway 7/8

Vicky Trotter noted that this project is being managed by the MTO and there is a link set up that citizens can go to for project information and to submit comments.

John Lewis stated he has talked to concerned citizens who feel there will not be adequate sidewalks or pathways for pedestrians and cyclists in that area.

Ms. Trotter stated that there may be additional entrances from the new subdivision into the Stratford Mall area as well as Douro Street. There will not be a road leading to the highway, there will be an entrance/exit from Road 111.

David Daghish stated that it is his understanding that they MTO is still considering whether there will be a traffic circle or traffic lights installed at this intersection. After their traffic study, they have determined that one of the two will be necessary.

Christine Lee inquired if the City has by-laws in place that require developers to add certain sidewalks, pathways and bike lanes within new subdivisions such as this one. Ms. Trotter responded that at a minimum they are required to have a pedestrian sidewalk on one side of the street. Ms. Lee stated that there are surrounding municipalities and cities that have great examples of bike lanes, trails and pathways that Stratford could learn from. Ms. Trotter noted that these types of plans are contained in the City's Transportation Master Plan, which was updated last year.

Pat Ranney inquired about the province requiring municipalities to gain approval of bike lanes if they are going to impact traffic. How does this impact the Transportation Master Plan.

Ms. Trotter will follow-up with Nick Sheldon to inquire when the City will be looking at sidewalks or multi-use trails in the Road 111 and Highway 7/8 subdivision, as well as the recent changes proposed by the provincial government regarding bike lanes.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next ATAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stratford Rotary Complex in the Mansbridge Room.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

Seconded by Pat Ranney

THAT the October 23, 2024 ATAC meeting adjourn. Carried

Start Time: 7:02 P.M.

End Time: 7:50 P.M.