



A meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was held on the above date at 7:00pm in the Mansbridge Room, 353 McCarthy Rd. W., Stratford.

Committee Present: Lorraine Kuepfer – Vice-chair presiding, Cambria Ravenhill, Ryan Ritskes, Marianne Hawley, Wayne Sjaarda, Councillor Vassilakos and Councillor Burbach

Staff Present: Tatiana Dafoe – Acting Clerk and Nancy Bridges – Recording Secretary

Regrets: Stephen Barlow – Chair, Bernard Goward and Dave Mabee

Also Present: Sarah Merkel - PDHU

MINUTES

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

None declared.

2. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – June 26, 2019

Motion by Marianne Hawley, seconded by Councillor Burbach

**THAT the ATAC minutes dated June 26, 2019 be adopted as printed.
Carried.**

3. DELEGATION – Keith Vaters

The delegation scheduled for tonight's meeting withdrew his request to speak.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. Update from Acting Clerk regarding proposed bike corral locations

A summary of the three proposed locations was given to the committee in advance. Tatiana Dafoe, Acting Clerk, explained that the Erie parking lot redevelopment is on hold until January 2020 and that bike parking will be a consideration in this project. The 39 George Street property is also not a viable option for the bike corral at this time.

Staff noted that the George Street parking spot would add bike parking without eliminating any vehicle parking, as a no parking zone would be converted. The Albert Street parking spot is close to Downie Street and in a visible, high foot traffic area for safety.

The committee agreed that they would prefer the York Street parking lot and Albert Street locations, as the George Street spot is too far from the downtown core. Two locations in the York Street lot were proposed: on the East end of lot or near the walkway on north side of lot, near dam.

Councillor Vassilakos would like staff to review which location works best for staff. The Acting Clerk will have staff create a map of the locations and get comments/concerns from other departments. This information will be brought back to a future ATAC meeting.

Councillor Vassilakos noted that ATAC would like to be included in the bike parking discussions surrounding the Erie parking lot redevelopment.

b. Remaining 2019 budget

Councillor Vassilakos proposed moving forward with the community bench project included in the 2019 budget. She recommended pursuing the idea of a 'friendship bench' and locating it in Market Square. The idea behind a friendship bench is to sit down next to whoever is sitting on the bench and engage them in conversation. It is a way to connect members of the community together. CRP Plastics manufactures this type of bench and Councillor Vassilakos will obtain pricing and report back at the October meeting.

A short discussion followed about the remaining money in the budget. Councillor Burbach noted that the committee has the option to purchase the bike corrals in 2019 and for staff to install them in 2020. She also stated the bike valet could benefit from flag signage to help advertise the valet during events. Councillor Burbach will obtain pricing for signage and report back at the October ATAC meeting.

The committee briefly discussed other locations for the friendship bench and agreed that Market Square is the ideal spot.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Share the Road signage

Councillor Vassilakos inquired if anyone on the committee knew where other municipalities obtained their share the road signage. Sarah Merkel from the PDHU will reach out to other municipalities for information on their signage programs.

b. Share the Road public workshop

Councillor Vassilakos noted that she had been in contact with Justin from Share the Road and they discussed the possibility of him coming back to Stratford to do a follow-up workshop for the community. She noted that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee and Cycle Stratford may have funds in their budget to help with the cost of this workshop.

Ms. Merkel stated that it would be beneficial to look at what was originally suggested versus what has been completed and see where the areas are that are lacking. She inquired as to the cost of having Share the Road do the workshop.

Councillor Vassilakos noted that it would be approximately \$3,500 and that ATAC has budgeted for \$2,000 for Share the Road/education and she stated that a workshop of this nature would be important in engaging the public. Ms. Merkel stated that the PDHU may be able to help with the cost as well.

**Motion by Councillor Vassilakos, seconded by Ryan Ritskes THAT the Active Transportation Advisory Committee put \$2,000 towards a Share the Road public education workshop and that additional funds to cover the costs be requested from Energy and Environment, Cycle Stratford and the Perth District Health Unit.
Carried.**

Wayne Sjaarda inquired about applying to receive the Bicycle Friendly Community designation. Councillor Vassilakos noted that there has been interest from staff, however the issue of finding time to complete the grant application is the biggest problem. Cambria Ravenhill noted that the Bicycle Friendly Community designation is a natural extension of the School Travel Plan and that it would be great to have recognition for all the hard work.

The committee agreed that now having a designated staff person for the School Travel plan has been instrumental in getting information about the program out into the community.

Ryan Ritskes inquired why the map design and printing did not happen in this budget period. Councillor Vassilakos noted that the main reason for this project not being completed is the decision to wait and incorporate this project in with the larger wayfinding project being completed by the City. The Acting Clerk noted the wayfinding project may be going to Council in October and ideally there will be time to spend that portion of ATAC's budget in 2019.

c. Update on cycling route maps

Sarah Merkel provided an update on the cycling maps that were developed over the summer by members of ATAC. These maps were included in a communication that was sent out to all parents affected by the amalgamation of the high schools. She noted there have been over 350 views to the five different maps and the feedback has been very positive.

d. Pedestrian Crossover – Forman Ave.

Sarah Merkel noted that a pedestrian crossover is being built across Forman Avenue, near the high schools. Information and education has gone to parents and she has forwarded information from the health unit to City staff to communicate to the broader community. Ms. Merkel provided a quick description of the crossover, noting that it will have lights on the side of the road, not on top. Vehicles will be required to stop to allow pedestrians to cross prior to continuing on their way.

The committee questioned the enforcement of the new crossover. Councillor Vassilakos noted that Stratford Police Services will be on-site to ensure compliance. Ms. Merkel noted that schools will be encouraged to send out cross over information once the construction is complete.

Councillor Vassilakos stated that this additional delay for vehicles will hopefully encourage more students to walk and bike to school. If the convenience is removed, it increases the chances of using alternate methods to get to school.

e. Inter-city Transit Focus Group

Lorraine Kuepfer will attend the Focus Group on behalf of ATAC.

The committee had a brief conversation around the benefits of bike share programs and having bike racks on buses.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, October 23, 2019 – 7:00pm
Mansbridge Room, 353 McCarthy Rd. W., Stratford

Motion by Cambria Ravenhill, seconded by Councillor Burbach
THAT the September 25, 2019 ATAC meeting adjourn.
Carried.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Start time: 7:06pm
End time: 8:00pm

