

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting No. 5

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, in Committee Room No. 4, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:30 p.m.

Members present:

- Mr. Martin Abela, Scarborough
- Mr. Bill Brown, South Riverdale Community Health Centre
- Ms. Judith Bussey, Toronto
- Mr. Joel Courchesne, Toronto
- Ms. Deanne Fisher, Toronto
- Ms. Dorothy Fletcher, Older Women's Network
- Mr. Boyd Hipfner, North York, Advocacy Committee CNIB
- Mr. Crawford Murphy, Toronto Cycling Committee
- Mr. J. Richard Nelson, East York
- Councillor Jane Pitfield
- Mr. Wayne Scott, Hoof & Cycle Couriers
- Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, Etobicoke

Also Present:

- Ms. Lois James, Save the Rouge Scarborough
- Ms. Joan Miles, Green Tourism Association
- Mr. Lewis Pearsall, Toronto
- Mr. Martin Pilar, Toronto
- Ms. Helen Riley, Feet on the Street
- Mr. Tom Timmins, ARC/CBN/RMRA
- Mr. Ian Wheal, Toronto Field Naturalists

Staff Present:

- Mr. Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian & Cycling Infrastructure
- Ms. Lisa Ing, Co-ordinator, Transportation Services

Regrets:

- Ms. Madeleine McDowell, York
- Ms. Peg Lush, Feet on the Street

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Mr. J. Richard Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting held on April 18, 2001 were confirmed as amended.

4.2 One-Way Streets Where A Sidewalk Has Not Been Provided

On a Motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Section 4.2 as contained in the Minutes of the Meeting held on April 18, 2001, be deleted and the following new Section 4.2 be inserted:

“The Toronto Pedestrian Committee referred this matter to an Ad Hoc Group to be formed consisting of members of the Research Sub-Committee and interested Committee members to develop a proposed recommendation and report back.

4.14 Outstanding Items

On a Motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Section 4.14 as contained in the Minutes of the Meeting held on April 18, 2001, be deleted and the following new Section 4.214be inserted:

“The Toronto Pedestrian Committee defer this matter sine die in order that the Chair may investigate and report back.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

4.5 Toronto Pedestrian Committee Web Page

On a motion by Mr. Martin Abela the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requested that staff review the proposed modification to the Pedestrian Committee Web page and report on the feasibility of adding a “Walking in Toronto” section similar to the “Cycling in Toronto” section and add links to “Discovery Walks”, and City park walking trail information.

PRESENTATION

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received a presentation from Mr. Leo DeSorcy, Program Coordinator, Urban Development Services, Urban Design, North District with respect to some background for the creation of the first Official Plan for the amalgamated City and specifically “The Avenues” (a new term for incremental growth areas) consisting of four study areas namely: Finch Avenue / Weston Road, Bloor Street West, The Queensway / Kipling Avenue, and Kingston Road / Morningside Avenue.

The four areas examined in the study which are now known as Avenues were chosen for two reasons. First they are representative of the areas to be identified in the new Official Plan as suitable for accommodating substantial amounts of new growth, especially new housing, on an incremental basis and without negative impact on nearby stable areas. Second, in comparison to other less distressed Avenues, all four are in need of special attention if their potential is to be realized. Both goals – the accommodation of new growth within the city’s boundaries and the revitalization of areas with unrealized potential – are key objectives for the City’s new Official Plan, and are seen as having both local and regional benefits.

The results of the study are intended to provide specific direction for future development and community improvement in each of the Study Areas, as well as a generic approach to be used in planning studies and initiatives for other such areas in the future.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee thanked Mr. DeSorcy for the presentation.

5.1 COUNCILLOR APPOINTMENT TO THE TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 11, 2001) from the City Clerk, Striking Committee advising that the City of Toronto Council, at its meeting held on April 23,24,25,26 and 27, 2001, and Special meeting held on April 30, May 1 and 2, 2001, in adopting, as amended Clause No. 1 of Report No. 4 of the Striking Committee, entitled: “Appointments to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee”, appointed Councillor J. Pitfield, to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, for a term of office expiring May 31, 2002, and until her successor is appointed.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.2 APPOINTMENTS TO THE TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 7, 2001) from the City Clerk advising that the City of Toronto Council, at its meeting held on April 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, 2001, and Special meeting held on April 30, May 1 and 2, 2001, adopted, without amendment, Clause No. 12 of Report No. 5 of the Works Committee, entitled: “Appointments to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee”, appointing new members to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, for a term of office expiring November 30, 2003, and until their successors are appointed.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.3 TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (March 28, 2001) from City Clerk, Works Committee, forwarding for consideration, a report from the City Clerk (Works Committee) regarding Traffic Calming Policy as presented at Works Committee, and requesting that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee forward its comments to the Works Committee for consideration at its June 6, 2001 meeting.

On motion by Mr. Martin Abela, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends that comments on this item be prepared by the Chair based on discussion of the report, reviewed by the Research Sub-Committee and at least two other committee members and forwarded to the June 6, 2001 Work Committee meeting.

5.4 ROAD AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DECISION ROUTING.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (April 10, 2001) from David C. Kaufman, General Manager, Transportation Services, providing for information copy of letter sent to Mayor and Members of City Council regarding Road and Traffic Operations Decision Routing.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

5.5 STREET LITTER COLLECTION.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 8, 2001) from Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, advising for information, that the Solid Waste Management Services Division (of the Works and Emergency Services Department) is now responsible for litter collection on sidewalks, medians, boulevards and public lane ways and in gutter, tree pits and planter boxes. In addition this Division will be responsible for sidewalk power washing and by-law enforcement relating to illegal dumping in the public lane ways.

On motion by Mr. J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

5.6 PROPOSED HARMONIZED WARRANTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF 40 KM/H SPEED LIMITS AND ALL-WAY STOP SIGN CONTROL. (ALL WARDS)

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (April 17, 2001) from Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, providing for information, brief summary of the presentation delivered by Mr. Peter Hiller, Manager, Operational Planning and Policy, to an informal meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on March 21, 2001, proposing a set of criteria and principles which can be applied uniformly across the City of Toronto when streets are being considered for a 40 km/h speed limit or intersections are being considered for All Way Stop Sign Control.

On motion by Mr. Boyd Hipfner, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.7 2001 TORONTO FATAL COLLISION STATISTICS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 1, 2001) from Transportation Services, Transportation System, Traffic Data Centre & Safety Bureau, submitting for information, the 2001 Toronto Fatal Collision Statistics leaflet presenting an analysis of fatal collisions to May 1, 2001 showing relevant facts and trends.

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.8 CITY OF TORONTO'S CAR FREE DAY.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 7, 2001) from City Clerk (Toronto Pedestrian Committee), requesting a representative be appointed to assist on the Working Group with respect to the City's Car Free Day.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee appointed Mr. Wayne Scott as the representative on the Working Group with respect to the City's Car Free Day.

5.9 TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 4, 2001) from Rhona Swarbrick, Member, submitting for information, the activities of the Chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee for the month of April, 2001.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

**5.10 TRAFFIC FATALITY #9 / 2001 –
MARCH 19, 2001 – TORONTO POLICE SERVICE – NEWS RELEASE
VICTORIA PARK AVENUE NORTH OF PARMA COURT.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (March 21, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick and Ms. Janice Etter, Research Sub-Committee, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, providing for discussion, draft memo from the Research Sub-Committee, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, regarding March 19, 2001, Toronto Police Service News Release regarding Traffic Fatality #9/01, Victoria Park Avenue North of Parma Court.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

**5.11 PEDESTRIAN RELATED PROGRAMS INITIATED OR PARTICIPATED
IN BY CITY DEPARTMENTS.**

Research Sub-Committee, (Janice Etter)
(May 9, 2001)

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 9, 2001) from Janice Etter, Research Sub-Committee recommending that in order to raise awareness of the full scope of pedestrian issues and the profile of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee within the various City departments that deal with issues related to pedestrian safety and amenity, it is proposed that:

- (1) the Toronto Pedestrian Committee send a letter to the Commissioner, Works and Emergency Services, requesting that the Pedestrian Committee be routinely informed of all internal and external activities and/or programs with which it is involved that have elements that pertain to pedestrian issues, and invite the committee's comments and/or participation; and
- (2) the Toronto Pedestrian Committee send similar letters to the Commissioners of Urban Development Services and Economic Development, Culture, and Tourism; the Medical Officer of Health, Department of Public Health; and the Chairs of the Toronto Transit Commission and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

5.12 MONTHLY BRIEFING WITH RESPECT TO ISSUES BEING UNDERTAKEN AND OR CONSIDERED BY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 8, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, requesting monthly briefing by staff with respect to issues being undertaken and or considered by Transportation Services.

On motion by Councillor Jane Pitfield, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requested that the staff provide monthly briefing to the Committee with respect to issues being undertaken and or considered by Transportation Services.

Councillor Pitfield also advised she would keep the Chair apprised on items before Works Committee that would be of interest to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

5.13 WALKING INITIATIVE MEETING MINUTES (MARCH 27, 2001).

Paula Waddell, Co-ordinator, Toronto Heart Health Partnership
(April 18, 2001)

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (April 18, 2001) from Paula Waddell, Co-ordinator, Toronto Heart Health Partnership, forwarding for information, minutes of the last walking initiative meeting and activity plan that was submitted to the Ministry of Health for April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002.

On motion by Mr. J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.14 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON OUR STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, INCLUDING AT STOP SIGNS, RED LIGHTS AND CROSSWALKS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (April 30, 2001) from Older Women's Network (Ontario) Inc., forwarding copy of communication sent to the Mayor with respect to public safety.

On motion by Ms. Dorothy Fletcher, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

5.15 OUTSTANDING ITEMS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (February 23, 2001) from Ms. Helen Riley, Feet on the Street, requesting:

- (i) status of all Pedestrian Committee recommendations originating in 1999 and 2000; and
- (ii) microphones to be used at committee meetings or other arrangements.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter sine die to allow the Chair to investigate and report back.

**5.16 URBAN DESIGN REVIEW FOR SITE PLAN APPROVAL.
(REVIEW SAME FOR JUNE PRESENTATION)**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from the Planning & Development Department, providing copy of Preliminary Urban Design Review for Site Plan Approval (checklist from District 1) for review at the June 20, 2001 Toronto Pedestrian Committee Meeting.

(Note: Checklist is not available from the other Districts however they review the same type of issues.) Members to provide comments to presenters with respect to the issues of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received and advised staff of questions for the presenter to bring to next month's meeting.

5.17 BRIEFING WITH RESPECT TO AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING INITIATIVES.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it verbal briefing report from the Mr. Wayne Scott, Automobile Dependence Reduction Officer, Toronto Hoof & Cycle Courier Coalition, and a member of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, regarding "Questionable automobile advertising initiatives"; including a number of advertisements and copies of complaint letters written to Advertising Standards Canada (distributed at the April and May meetings).

On a motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends the Works Committee, and City Council endorse the Toronto Pedestrian Committee's plan to launch an initiative aimed at identifying and eliminating all false, misleading or unsafe images and statements contained in Canadian advertisements promoting the sale and/or use of cars and light trucks,

by utilizing maximum public involvement to identify, analyze and report any and all infractions to the appropriately mandated authorities.

On the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion, a vote was taken, as follows:

Yeas: Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, Bill Brown, Crawford Murphy, Wayne Scott, Martin Abela, Boyd Hipfner, and Dorothy Fletcher – 7

Nays: J. Richard Nelson - 1

Abstained: Judith Bussey, Deanne Fisher – 2

Decided in the affirmative by a majority of 4.

5.18 RESTRICTING MOTOR TRAFFIC TO DOWNTOWN STREETS IN YORKVILLE, KENSINGTON MARKET AND A SECTION OF CHINATOWN IN ORDER TO FACILITATE PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING TRAFFIC.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 21, 2001) from Ms. Lela Gary, Air Pollution Coalition of Ontario (APCO) requesting the support of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee on a deputation she intends to make to the Downtown Community Council meeting scheduled to be held on June 12, 2001, on restricting motor traffic to downtown streets in Yorkville, Kensington Market and a section of Chinatown, in order to facilitate pedestrian and cycling traffic, based on recommended strategies presented by the Transit Advisory Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

5.19 APPOINTMENT TO THE TORONTO CYCLING COMMITTEE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick regarding Appointment to the Toronto Cycling Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 20, 2001.

OTHER MATTERS ARISING:

Clause 1 of Report No. 4 of the Works Committee, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on February 29, March 1, and 2, 2000 entitled: "Road Classification – Review of Outstanding Issue and Proposed Classifications (All Wards)"

On a motion by Rhona Swarbrick the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requested that staff clarify if the Road Classification item was adopted by Council and further what is the status of Councillor Miller's motion with respect to this matter (i.e.: "It is further recommended that:

- (a) the Proposed Road Classification System be considered as a preliminary document to be evaluated in the broader context of goals for public health, sustainable transportation, environmental protection and the City of Toronto's Official Plan; and
- (b) the communication dated February 24, 2000, from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, be referred to the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services for further consideration and report thereon to the Works Committee.")

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Chair.