

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting No. 6

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, June 20, 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
- Mr. Paul Collier, Toronto
- Mr. Boyd Hipfner, North York, Advocacy Committee CNIB
- Ms. Peg Lush, Feet on the Street
- Ms. Madeleine McDowell, York
- Mr. Crawford Murphy, Toronto Cycling Committee
- Mr. J. Richard Nelson, East York
- Mr. Wayne Scott, Hoof & Cycle Couriers, Vice-Chair
- Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, Etobicoke

Also Present:

- Ms. Lois James, Save the Rouge Scarborough
- Mr. Martin Pilar, Toronto
- Mr. Tom Timmins, ARC/CBN/RMRA
- Mr. Ian Wheal, Toronto Field Naturalists

Staff Present: Mr. Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian & Cycling Infrastructure

Regrets:

- Ms. Deanne Fisher, Toronto
- Ms. Dorothy Fletcher, Older Women's Network
- Councillor Jane Pitfield

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Mr. J. Richard Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting held on May 23, 2001 were confirmed as amended.

PRESENTATION.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received a presentation from Mr. Eric Pedersen, Program Coordinator, Urban Development Services, Urban Design, South District with respect to the Preliminary Urban Design Review for Site Plan Approval used in the former City of Toronto.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee discussed a number of site plan approval categories and suggested the following be considered under the Site Plan Approval review:

- Barrier free/handrails on slopes(special needs based on age /visibility / mobility);
- right turn policy, eliminate island; wider sidewalks aligned at curb cut;
- reconstruction of sidewalk / expansion joint;
- wheelchairs – expansion joint – any consideration given;
- landscaping / hiding spots; such as plant material, walls / safety concerns;
- corners in design;
- distance from main entrance to nearest transit;
- amenities such as benches for pedestrians / shelters for transit users; and
- canopies – seem to be decorative only – consider pedestrian /weather protection.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the presentation and thanked Mr. DeSorcy.

Mr. Pedersen advised Committee that Urban Development Services mandate is to improve matters under the site plan approval review such as partnership with the Toronto Pedestrian Committee; and if members have any suggestions they could e-mail him at epederse@city.toronto.on.ca.

6.1 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 received the aforementioned report.

6.2 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, Chair, submitting for information, the activities of the Chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee for the month of April, 2001.

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

**6.3 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 July 18, 2001.

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

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 9, 2001) from Research Sub-Committee, (Janice Etter), 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 July 18, 2001.

6.5 APPOINTMENT TO THE TORONTO CYCLING COMMITTEE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a request 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 July 18, 2001.

6.6 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), providing correspondence 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 received the aforementioned report.

6.7 APPOINTMENT TO VACANT CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a request from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, regarding vacant Chair position.

On motion by Mr. Bill Brown, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends the nomination and appointment of Mr. Wayne Scott to the position of Vice-Chair.

6.8 2001 TORONTO FATAL COLLISION STATISTICS.

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

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

6.9 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES STAFF UPDATE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (June 5, 2001) from Mr. Dan Egan, Manager, Transportation Services, submitting for information, Transportation Services staff update with respect to the following matters:

- (1) Road Classification Report – adopted February 29, March 1 and 2, 2000 and is now City Policy, however can be revised by report to Works Committee and adoption by City Council;
- (2) City of Toronto Pedestrian Collision Study – brief presentation made by staff on the study findings, next step produce draft report on finding of the study;
- (3) Pedestrian Safety/Education Campaign – staff provided preliminary outline with respect to: proposed project scope, potential campaign topics, types of campaigns, product, potential partners and private sponsors and proposed timing (tentative - late August – November).
- (4) Review of Pedestrian Refuge Island and Split Pedestrian Crossover Study: Phase 2 Draft Report – staff will make a presentation at the July 18, 2001 Toronto Pedestrian Committee meeting; and
- (5) Pedestrian Master Plan Brainstorming Session – confirmed Thursday, July 5, 2001 commencing at 6:00 p.m.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report, subject to requesting Councillor Miller to comment on whether Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure's response with respect to the Road Classification Plan reflects the intention of his motion adopted at the February 29, March 1 and 2, 2001 meeting of City Council.

6.10 QUESTIONABLE MOTOR VEHICLE ADS INITIATIVE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 28, 2001) from Mr. Wayne Scott, providing draft copy of a presentation prepared for the close of the current Smog Summit of questionable motor vehicle ads which outlined the following for consideration:

- (i) Images of illegal, irresponsible and unsafe driving;
- (ii) False and misleading images and information; and
- (iii) Promotion of driving and driver privilege.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends the proposed list of questionable motor vehicle advertisements be presented at the Toronto Smog Summit.

6.11 T. TIMMINS – QUESTIONABLE AUTOMOBILE ADVERTISING.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 28, 2001) from Mr. T. Timmins, ARC, providing for information copy of letter sent to Advertising Standards Canada.

On motion by Ms. Peg Lush, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned communication from Mr. Timmins, thanked him and requested that he keep the Committee updated.

6.12 TORONTO AT THE CROSSROADS: SHAPING OUR FUTURE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (May 23, 2001) from Mr. William Brown, providing summary of Pedestrian Committee's recommendations with respect to Toronto at the Crossroads: Shaping Our Future.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on July 18, 2001.

6.13 PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE AS IT RELATES TO THE PROPOSED CITY-WIDE TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (June 11, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Chair, providing copy of communication to Betty Disero, Chair, Works Committee from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick regarding Pedestrian Infrastructure as it relates to the proposed City-wide traffic calming policy.

On motion by Mr. Boyd Hipfner, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommended to the Works Committee that it:

- (1) consider at its July 2001 meeting, the communication (June 11, 2001) from Rhona Swarbrick, Chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee regarding Pedestrian Infrastructure as it relates to the proposed City Wide Traffic Calming Policy;
- (2) permit Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Chair or Mr. Wayne Scott, Vice-Chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to depute and reflect the Committee's views at its July, 2001 meeting; and

- (3) endorse the comments in the aforementioned communication subject to adding the following:

“That sidewalks be installed on both sides of a street prior to traffic calming measures being considered.”

6.14 RESPONSE TO WORKS COMMITTEE, CITY STAFF REPORT OF MARCH 8, 2001 - TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY (ALL WARDS).

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (June 11, 2001) from Mr. Bruce Voogd, Chair, The Roncesvalles-Macdonell Residents' Association, providing copy of response to the Works Committee regarding Traffic Calming Policy (All Wards).

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on July 18, 2001.

6.15 IMMEDIATE SAFETY OF PEDESTRIANS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (June 4, 2001) from Mr. Lewis Pearsall, providing correspondence from Lewis Pearsall with respect to:

- (a) immediate safety of pedestrians; and
- (b) clarification of the process regarding public attendees input to discussions of the Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on July 18, 2001.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Chair.