

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting No. 1

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, January 23, 2002, 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. Rita Brooks, Toronto, Co-Chair
- Mr. Paul Collier, Toronto
- Ms. Deanne Fisher, Toronto
- Mr. Boyd Hipfner, North York, Advocacy Committee CNIB
- Ms. Peg Lush, Feet on the Street
- Ms. Madeleine McDowell, York
- Mr. Wayne Scott, Hoof & Cycle Couriers, Co-Chair
- Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Etobicoke
- Ms. Elizabeth Walker, Older Womens's Network

Also Present:

- Ms. Sue Cross, Councillor Pitfield's Assistant
- Ms. Janice Etter, Etobicoke
- Ms. Dorothy Fletcher, Feet on the Street,
(Older Women's Network)
- Ms. Joan Miles, Green Tourism Association
- Ms. Gwen Michael, Ryerson University Student
- Ms. Helen Riley, Feet on the Street
- Mr. Tom Timmins, ARC
- Mr. Ian Wheal, Toronto Field Naturalists
- Constable Darrin Little, Traffic Services,
Toronto Police Service
- Ms. Ann Marie Sluga, Corporate Communications

Staff Present:

- Mr. Daniel Egan, Manager, Transportation Services
- Ms. Lisa Ing, Co-ordinator, Transportation Services

Regrets: Mr. Crawford Murphy, Toronto Cycling Committee
Mr. J. Richard Nelson, East York
Mr. Igor Batuk (Toronto)
Councillor Jane Pitfield

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on November 28, 2001 were confirmed.

1.1 RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication (November 28, 2001) from Mr. Joel Courchesne, advising with regret, that he has to resign his position as member of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee as he and his family are moving to Montreal.

The Committee was advised that Mr. Igor Batuk will be the new member replacing Mr. Courchesne.

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned communication.

1.2 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES STAFF UPDATE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Mr. Daniel Egan, Manager, Transportation Services (January 9, 2002), submitting for information, Transportation Services staff updates regarding:

- (1) Pedestrian Safety Initiatives Pilot Project – advising that the following Pedestrian Safety Initiatives Pilot Projects were endorsed by the Toronto Pedestrian Committee at their November 28, 2001 meeting:
 - (1) Broad Pavement Markings for crosswalks;
 - (2) In-Pavement Level Delineation Lighting for pedestrian crossovers;
 - (3) Flashing Walk Display (in place of current “flashing don’t walk” display);
and
 - (4) Pedestrian Count Down Timer.

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Based on staff and Pedestrian Committee input following the November 28, 2001, meeting the Project Steering Committee has chosen the following two additional Initiatives:

- (5) A Leading Pedestrian Phase (pedestrian walk signal in advance of the vehicular green phase); and
- (6) Passive Pedestrian Detection within the Crosswalk (to extend the walk time for a pedestrian still in the crosswalk).

The consultant (IBI Group) will develop the specifications for pilot studies for these six initiatives.

- (2) 2002 Budget Review Process - Mr. Daniel Egan, Manager, Transportation Services gave the Committee a copy of a chart outlining the various steps of the Budget Review process before the budget receives final approval by City Council in early March, 2002 and an overview of the projects scheduled with respect to pedestrian related items contained in the Works and Emergency Services Capital Budget.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

1.3 PRESENTATION - 2002 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick (December 7, 2001) requesting staff to make a presentation regarding:

- (a) the City budget process in general; and
- (b) funding being requested for pedestrian issues in Transportation's 2002 preliminary budget estimates, including how much is being requested, and where it is included in the budget.

On motion by Ms. Peg Lush, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requests that:

- (1) staff report back on ways the Pedestrian Protection Pilot Projects (Pedestrian Safety Initiatives) can be accommodated in the Capital and/or Operating budget for 2002. (Continuation of balance of discussion deferred to the February 18, 2002 meeting).

- (2) staff, members and interested parties establish a Budget Sub-Committee to begin in May 2002, to meet with the Infrastructure staff, Councillor appointee, and any other interested members in order that pedestrian related items from the Committee can be put forward earlier in the budget review process.

1.3(a). 2002 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick (January 17, 2002), advising that street lighting is a critical component of the pedestrian environment, especially at PXO's intersections, and location where there is a pattern of mid-block crossings; and recommending:

- (i) that top priority be given to replacing burnt-out street lights where they illuminate pedestrians waiting to cross at intersections and PXO's;
- (ii) that in the interests of pedestrian safety, the allocation for street lighting spot repairs be maintained at its existing level or increased, and not subject to a reduction; and
- (iii) that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee communicate to Toronto Police Services, the Toronto Transit Commission and the Fire Department that whenever they are involved in investigations of collisions involving pedestrians, they not only assess the pedestrian environment for such factors as street lighting, but report such deficiencies as burnt-out street lights in order that they can be repaired immediately.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred the aforementioned communication for discussion at the next meeting scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002.

1.4 SHARING OF MULTI-USE PATHS IN PARKS BY PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS AND IN-LINE SKATERS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Mr. J. Richard Nelson, representative on the Toronto Cycling Committee (December 16, 2001), submitting, for information, notes from the December 11, 2001 meeting of Working Group on Sharing Multi-use Paths for information.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick , the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned communication.

1.5 2001 TORONTO FATAL COLLISION STATISTICS.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Transportation Services, Transportation Systems, Traffic Data Centre & Safety Bureau (December 31, 2001),² submitting for information, the revised 2001 Toronto Fatal Collision Statistics leaflet presenting an analysis of fatal collisions to December 31, 2001 showing relevant facts and trends.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requests that:

- (a) the aforementioned report be received; and
- (b) staff provide a Quarterly report to the next meeting, scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002 such that the data include Personal Injuries by severity (fatal, major, minor, and percentage of charges laid).

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requests that the City Clerk invite Superintendent Gary Grant, Toronto Police Service to address the Committee at its next meeting, scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002, to address the Pedestrian Committee with respect to Pedestrian safety issues and any initiatives being considered by the Toronto Police Service in order that fatal collisions may be prevented in the future.

1.6 PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC FATALITY # 26: KEELE STREET AT DOVEHOUSE AVENUE.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick (November 22, 2001), submitting for consideration, report from Rhona Swarbrick, Research Sub-Committee with respect to Pedestrian Traffic Fatality #26: Keele Street at Dovehouse Avenue.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred the aforementioned communication for discussion at the next meeting scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002.

1.7 TORONTO PEDESTRIAN CHARTER.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it reports from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick and Ms. Janice Etter, Research Sub-Committee:

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- (a) (January 7, 2001), submitting for discussion, copy of draft #1 revised (January 7, 2002), of the Toronto Pedestrian Charter and recommending that Committee members bring comments to the meeting in writing, so it's easier to make changes and circulate the new draft as soon as possible before the February Toronto Pedestrian Committee meeting in case further changes are necessary before being presented to the Planning and Transportation Committee for its April 29, 2002 meeting.
- (b) (January 13, 2002) copy of draft #2 revised, of the Toronto Pedestrian Charter for discussion.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee approved in principle the draft of the Toronto Pedestrian Charter – draft #2 dated (January 13, 2002) and requested that Committee members bring comments in writing, and send or e-mail same to Ms. Rhona Swarbrick and/or Ms. Janice Etter, Research Sub-Committee, so that they can make changes and circulate the new draft as soon as possible before the February Toronto Pedestrian Committee meeting in case further changes are necessary before being presented to the Planning and Transportation Committee for its April 29, 2002 meeting.

1.8 ADVERTISING STANDARDS CANADA.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a verbal report from Mr. Wayne Scott (January 23, 2002), submitting update with respect to information contained in letter received from Advertising Standards Canada.

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received this report for information; and requested that a Sub-Committee be established to review complaints and be delegated the responsibility for pursuing this issue, to Advertising Standards Canada and providing status reports as appropriate. The membership to include the following members: Mr. Wayne Scott, Mr. Martin Abela and Mr. Paul Collier.

1.9 PILOT PROGRAM – PUBLICATION BOX ENCLOSURES.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from City Clerk (December 13, 2001), submitting for information, Clause No. 1 contained in Report No. 17 of The Works Committee, headed “Pilot Program – Publication Box Enclosures”, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

1.10 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it:

- (a) a report from City Clerk (Council) (December 10, 2001), submitting for information, Clause No. 4 contained in Report No. 17 of The Works Committee, headed "Proposed Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act", which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.
- (b) a report from City Clerk (Works Committee) (November 14, 2001), advising for information, that the Works Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report; and referred the recommendations of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services for a report thereon to the next meeting of the Works Committee, scheduled to be held on January 15, 2002.
- (c) a communication from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick (January 17, 2002), recommending that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee delegate to the Research Sub-Committee responsibility for pursuing this issue along with any interested members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee and other groups and individuals, and providing status reports as appropriate.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned reports (a) and (b) for information; and approved the recommendation in (c) being that the Research Sub-Committee be delegated the responsibility for pursuing this issue along with any interested members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee and other groups and individuals, providing status reports as appropriate.

1.11 OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from City Clerk (Works Committee) (December 13, 2001), advising for information, that the Works Committee referred the communication from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to the City Clerk for a report through the budget process on the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for the Chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Ms. Madeleine McDowell, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

1.12 CAR FREE DAY EVENT FOR 2002.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from City Clerk (December 13, 2001), submitting for information, Clause No. 3 contained in Report No. 17 of The Works Committee, headed "Car Free Day 2002", which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

1.13 COLLEGE STREET REDEVELOPMENT.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Dr. Bob Frankford, College Street Development Committee, Harbord Village Residents Association (November 23, 2001), submitting correspondence thanking the Pedestrian Committee for its letter of support for its College Street Revitalization proposal and requesting to know if the Pedestrian Committee would support Brown and Storey's design with respect to the proposed removal of TTC Streetcar islands, which are felt to be hazardous to pedestrians.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- (a) supports the removal of Toronto Transit streetcar islands as proposed in Brown and Storey's design for College Street (Bathurst Street to Spadina Avenue);
- (b) advises that the Committee has expressed concern at Toronto Transit Committee and Works Committee meetings with respect to issues related to the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, Section 166(1) requirement when approaching a stationary streetcar – which gives the right of way to drivers at streetcar stops where streetcar islands exits; and
- (3) requests that contact be maintained with respect to issues related to the Brown and Storey design for College Street.

1.14 SUMMARY WITH RESPECT TO ASSESSMENT OF THE PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT THROUGH STREETSCAPING (GEOMETRIC DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR CANADIAN ROADS, TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, SEPTEMBER 1999, CHAPTER 3.3, STREETSCAPING).

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Mr. Paul Collie (January 22, 2002), providing a summary of Toronto Pedestrian Committee members

assessment of the pedestrian environment and assessment of identified priorities for improving the pedestrian environment through streetscaping.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred the aforementioned report for discussion at the next meeting scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002.

1.15 SIDEWALKS ARE FOR PEDESTRIANS POSTER

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report from Ms. Barb Wentworth, Bicycle Safety Planner (January 8, 2002), regarding "Sidewalks are for Pedestrians" Poster Campaign, for information. Posters will be distributed at the meeting.

Ms. Wentworth advised that the Poster Campaign would be launched in the Spring of 2002 and would advise Committee of the date and time. The Chair thanked Ms. Wentworth.

On motion by Ms. Madeleine McDowell, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report and requested that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee be involved in any future projects that involves pedestrians.

1.16 INSTALLATION OF BICYCLE POST AND RING STANDS IN SIDEWALKS. (43 QUEEN'S PARK CRESCENT EAST (OPPOSITE QUEEN'S PARK, JUST NORTH OF THE CENTRE FOR MEDIEVAL STUDIES)

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication from Ms. Janice Etter, Research Sub-Committee (January 17, 2002), submitting for discussion and requesting an explanation of how these post and ring stands were set in the sidewalk in the first place when this clearly breaches the principle that sidewalks are for pedestrian and should be kept clear of obstructions.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred the aforementioned communication for discussion at the next meeting scheduled to be held on February 27, 2002.

1.17 DRIVE-THRU FACILITIES.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a copy of a newspaper article (January 21, 2002) regarding a proposed "drive-thru" facility to be located at St. Clair Avenue West and Christie Street.

The Committee was advised that a rally was being held on Saturday, January 26, 2002 and requested that members attend and support the local neighbourhood community who are protesting the drive-thru facility proposed.

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On motion by Ms. Madeleine McDowell, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requests that members attend the rally in support of the local community.

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

Co-Chair.