

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting 3

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, April 6, 2005, in Committee Room 4, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:36 p.m.

Members Present:

J. Richard Nelson, Co-Chair
Helen Riley, Co-Chair
Rita Brooks
Laurel Fortin
Dr. Bob Frankford
Angela Kennedy, Trustee, Toronto Catholic District School Board
Daina Leja
Crawford Murphy, Toronto Cycling Committee
Dylan Reid
Councillor Bill Saundercook
Wayne Scott, Feet on the Street
Elizabeth Walker, Older Womens' Network

Regrets:

Igor Batuk
Paul Collier
Deanne Fisher
Peter Tesar
Councillor Sylvia Watson

Also Present:

Joan Doiron (Feet on the Street)
Ian Wheal, Toronto Field Naturalists
Janice Etter, Pedestrian Planning Network and U.S.P.A.G.
Mike McLean
Joyce Cohen
Karolina Ivankovic, Councillor Sylvia Watson's Office
Tina Pulic, Councillor Sylvia Watson's Office
Andrew Schulz

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David J. Scott, T2000 Ont.
Constable Lee-Ann Bishop, Traffic Safety Programs, Toronto Police Service
Sergeant Brian Brown, Traffic Safety Programs, Toronto Police Service

Staff Present:

Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure Unit,
Transportation Services
Jacqueline White, Manager, Traffic Operations, South District

Helen Riley in the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

- A. On motion by Crawford Murphy, the Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on March 2, 2005, were confirmed.
- B. On motion by Helen Riley, the Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on January 26, 2005, were re-opened, and amended.

3.1 Guidelines for Drive-Through Establishments

Marsha Kelmans, Urban Designer, Transportation Planning and Greg Stewart, Program Manager, Transportation Planning, presented to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee the guidelines for drive-through establishments.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to its meeting of May 11, 2005.

3.2 2005 Transportation Services Pedestrian Projects – Staff Update

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a report (March 31, 2005) from the Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure Unit, providing, for information, an update on Pedestrian Assessment Tools, Laws Affecting the Use of the Segway Human Transporter and U.S. State Legislation.

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

3.3 Updates – Committee Members

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered:

- (1) the following updates from Committee members:
 - (a) Regent Park Road Width;
 - (b) Union Station;
 - (c) St. Clair Avenue Reconstruction;
 - (d) Toronto's Walking Couriers; and

- (2) a communication (March 10, 2005) from the Administration Committee, advising that the Committee, on March 8, 2005, considered the report (February 16, 2005) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services responding to the Administration Committee request that the City of Toronto set an example and deliver courier packages by foot, bicycle or public transit, and recommended:
 - (a) that the report (February 16, 2005) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services be received and directed that it be forwarded to the Pedestrian Committee for information; and
 - (b) that the Commissioner of Corporate Services be requested to report to the Administration Committee for its next meeting on April 26, 2005, with a breakdown of costs by department, examples of what type of material is sent by courier, if Members of Council use this service and if their office budget covers the cost, etc.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- (1) requested the Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure Unit, to organize a presentation to Committee on the pedestrian related design of the St. Clair Avenue Reconstruction Project; and

- (2) received the communication (March 10, 2005) from the Administration Committee, forwarding, for information, a report (February 16, 2005) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services.

3.4 Steps in the Right Direction – Report by “Feet on the Street” 10 Year Anniversary

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the following:

- (1) draft report (January 11, 2005) from Helen Riley and Joan Doiron of Feet on the Street, titled “Steps in the Right Direction;
- (2) copy of a letter (March 25, 1995) from Helen Riley, Feet on the Street, to the Commissioner of Planning and Transportation, Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto; and
- (3) copy of Appendix /Action (December 14, 2004), outlining recommendations and Action to Date, regarding pedestrian crossings, signals, traffic regulation and enforcement, and safety on sidewalks.

On motion by J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communications.

3.5 Establishment of Working Groups

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (March 21, 2005) from Helen Riley, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, providing suggestions on the establishment of working groups for the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Elizabeth Walker, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- (1) established the following Working Groups:
 - (a) Promoting Walking:
Laurel Fortin (contact)
Deanne Fisher
Angela Kennedy;
 - (b) Pedestrian Friendly Environments – Urban Design and Streetscaping:
Daina Leja (contact)
Dylan Reid
Rita Brooks
Elizabeth Walker; and

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(c) Pedestrian Safety:

H. Riley (contact)
J. Richard Nelson; and

- (2) requested that each Working Group report to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee on a work outline.

(Sent To: Laurel Fortin, Promoting Walking Working Group, Daina Leja, Pedestrian Friendly Environments Working Group, Helen Riley, Pedestrian Safety Working Group – May 3, 2005)

3.6 HTA – Speeding / Demerit Points – Increase Fines

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee discussed the pros and cons of increasing speeding fines and/or demerit points respecting the Highway Traffic Act.

On motion by J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee referred this matter to the Pedestrian Safety Working Group.

(Sent To: Helen Riley, Pedestrian Safety Working Group - May 3, 2005)

3.7 Segways on Sidewalks

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication from J. Richard Nelson, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee forwarding the following recommendation for consideration by the Toronto Pedestrian Committee with respect to Segways on Sidewalks:

“The City of Toronto avoid amending its bylaws in any way that could allow the circulation of Segway scooters or other similar motorized vehicles on sidewalks, footpaths, or recreational paths, noting that the presence of Segway scooters and other similar motorized vehicles on sidewalks and footpaths would be detrimental to the safety and free circulation of pedestrians and to the enjoyment of the walking experience.”

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On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommended to the Works Committee that City Council approve the following motion:

“The Toronto Pedestrian Committee notes with satisfaction that the City of Toronto Legal Services Division has determined that Segway Scooters, are motor vehicles (as defined by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation) are not permitted on sidewalks or footpaths under Chapter 400 of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code, Section 400-12D(1);

The Toronto Pedestrian believes that the presence of Segway Scooters and other similar motorized vehicles on sidewalks and footpaths would be detrimental to the safety and free circulation of pedestrians, and to the enjoyment of the walking experience; and

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee strongly recommends that the City of Toronto continue to prohibit the circulation of Segway Scooters, or other similar motorized vehicles on sidewalks, footpaths or recreational paths.”

(Sent To: Works Committee c: J. Richard Nelson, Co-Chair, Helen Riley, Co-Chair, Manager, Pedestrian and Infrastructure Unit – April 11, 2005; David White – April 20, 2005)

3.8 GO Transit Bus Terminal and Union Station Barriers on Bay Street

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the following communications:

- (1) (March 23, 2005) from Mr. David White, regarding the pedestrian conditions that exist between the GO Transit Bus Terminal and Union Station immediately south of Front Street West; and
- (2) (March 7, 2005) from the Director, Facilities Services, GO Transit regarding pedestrian crossing safety issues at the GO Transit Bus Terminal at Bay and Front Streets.

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On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- (1) requested that the Director, Facilities Services, GO Transit, be advised that the Committee continues to be dissatisfied with the intersection connections for pedestrian traffic between Union Station and the GO Transit Bus Terminal on Bay Street, south of Front Street;
- (2) requested the Manager, Pedestrian and Infrastructure Unit, to report to the June 8, 2005, meeting of the Committee on possible solutions to the current pedestrian traffic situation between Union Station and the GO Transit Bus Terminal on Bay Street, south of Front Street; and
- (3) requested that the Co-Chair of the Committee write Mr. David White and advise him of the action taken by the Committee.

3.9 Intersection at Victoria Street and Gould Street

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the following communications:

- (1) (March 21, 2005) from Ryerson University Nursing Students regarding the intersection at Victoria Street and Gould Street at the Ryerson Bookstore; and
- (2) (April 5, 2005) from Councillor Kyle Rae (Ward 27 – Toronto Centre-Rosedale) advising that it would be premature for the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to be commenting on whether a permanent street closure at the intersection at Victoria Street and Gould Street at the Ryerson Bookstore is or is not viable.

On motion by J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- (1) received the following communications for information:
 - (a) (March 21, 2005) from Ryerson University Nursing Students regarding the intersection at Victoria Street and Gould Street at the Ryerson Bookstore; and
 - (b) (April 5, 2005) from Councillor Kyle Rae (Ward 27 – Toronto Centre-Rosedale) advising that it would

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be premature for the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to be commenting on whether a permanent street closure at the intersection at Victoria Street and Gould Street at the Ryerson Bookstore is or is not viable; and

- (2) requested the Co-Chair of the Committee to write the Ryerson University Nursing Students regarding the action taken by the Committee.

(Sent To: Katrina Wolgemuth c: Councillor Kyle Rae (Ward 27 - Toronto Centre Rosedale) - April 20, 2005; Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure Unit, c: Acting General Manager, Transportation Services – April 26, 2005)

3.10 Other Items

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the following:

- (1) report (February 2005) from Transportation Services, Transportation Systems, Traffic Data Centre and Safety Bureau submitting the 2005 Toronto Fatal Collision Summary leaflet presenting an analysis of fatal collisions to February 28, 2005, illustrating relevant facts and trends; and
- (2) communication (March 16, 2005) from W. Barry Sherwood, P.Eng., Project Manager, York Region, Transportation and Works Department, on the Dufferin Street Class Environmental Assessment.

On motion by J. Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communications.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Helen Riley, Co-Chair