

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting 3

Wednesday, September 12, 2007

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, in Committee Room 3, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present:

3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Councillor Bill Saundercook, Co-Chair	X
Dylan Reid, Co-Chair	X
Rita Brooks	X
Roger Brook (Feet on the Street)	X
Paul Collier	X
Laurel Fortin	X
J. Richard Nelson	X
Peter Tesar	X
Elizabeth Walker (Older Women's Network)	X
Shawn Micallef	X
Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller (TCDSB)	X

Regrets:

Councillor Karen Stintz
Deanne Fisher
Dr. Bob Frankford
Daina Leja
Crawford Murphy
Trustee, Toronto District School Board

Staff Present:

Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure,
Transportation Services
Jennifer Hyland, UDS, City Planning
Lisa Ing, Transportation Coordinator, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure
Paula Craig, UDS, City Planning
Penelope Palmer, Transportation Infrastructure Management Group

Councillor Saundercook assumed the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Rita Brooks, the minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, held on July 10, 2007, were confirmed.

3.1 York Street Pedestrian Promenade Plan

Al Rezoski, Senior Planner, Downtown Section, City Planning, gave a briefing on the York Street Pedestrian Promenade Plan and explained why this matter was before the Committee.

City Council at its meeting of July 25, 26 and 27, 2006 approved a motion directing the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City to consult with the York Quay Ratepayers Association, Harbourfront, Union Station Working Group and Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation and develop a Pedestrian Promenade Plan for York Street between Front Street and Queens Quay, and report the results to City Council in 2007.

Plans of the section were circulated with the agenda.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the briefing.

3.2 South Kingsway – The Queensway Interchange Pedestrian Issues

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (August 28, 2007) from Randy Colbert, Toronto Urban Renewal Network, respecting the existing and potential opportunities to improve pedestrian conditions at the intersection of South Kingsway and the Queensway intersection.

The Committee also had before it a submission (September 12, 2007) from Fred Sztabinski, Project Coordinator, Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation

The following persons addressed the Committee:

- Randy Colbert, Toronto Urban Renewal Network - Member;
- Sheila Brazel, Toronto Urban Renewal Network - Member;
- Fred Sztabinski, Project Coordinator, Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation;

- Peter Reinis, Swansea Resident;
- David Hanna;
- Martin Collier, Toronto Urban Renewal Network- Member; and
- Rhona Swarbrick.

Penelope Palmer, Transportation Infrastructure Management Group, who headed the Environment Assessment for the Kingsway/Queensway project addressed the Committee and answered questions.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee took the following action:

On motion by Roger Brook, reaffirmed its support for the “Link Road” option for the reconfiguration of South Kingsway – The Queensway Interchange, and recommended to the Planning and Growth Management Committee to reopen the issue; and

On motion by Councillor Saundercook, further that the appropriate staff attend a future meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to discuss improvements in 2008 for cyclists and pedestrian ramps.

(Planning Growth and Management Committee; c. General Manager, Transportation Services; Randy Colbert, Toronto Urban Renewal Network – October 2, 2007)

3.3 Transportation Services – Staff Update

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a report (August 28, 2007) from the Manager, Pedestrian Cycling Infrastructure, regarding:

1. Ontario Segway Pilot Project

Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian Cycling Infrastructure, gave an update on the Segway Pilot Project and requests the Toronto Pedestrian Committee for its input to support a proposal from the Transportation Services to submit a report to Council to amend the City’s bylaws to permit the use of Segways by disabled persons on City of Toronto sidewalks.

William Brown, addressed the Committee, and filed a written submission.

On motion by Richard Nelson, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee endorsed the Province of Ontario Pilot Project as is.

(Manger, Pedestrian Cycling and Infrastructure – September 14, 2007)

2. Walk 21 Conference Update.

The Committee heard an update of Walk 21 Conference by Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure

3. Presentation on Draft Toronto Walking Strategy.

Presentation material was distributed at the meeting on the Draft Walking Strategy Outline showing the six key areas where the current and ongoing action plus the proposed new action that the City is taking:

1. Leadership and Support;
2. Integrating Networks;
3. Making Toronto Streets;
4. Spaces and Places for People;
5. Promoting a Culture of Walking; and
6. Neighbourhood Action Plans.

Richard Nelson declared a conflict of interest as his firm does work for the Ministry of Transportation.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the update.

3.4 Nominating Sub-Committee

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, member of the Nominating Sub-Committee reported on the nomination process to fill the seven citizen member positions for the Toronto Pedestrian Committee. This search was conducted by the Nominating Sub-Committee with administrative support from staff at Transportation Services, within the guidelines

established by Toronto City Council and the Toronto Pedestrian Committee Terms of Reference. The Nominating Sub-Committee received 22 applications and on

August 22, 2007, held a private session meeting to review the applications received and create a short list of candidates to be interviewed. On September 5, 2007 and September 6, 2007, the Sub-Committee interviewed 13 candidates and nominated candidates to fill the seven citizen member positions on the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, and also nominated 5 alternates to fill positions should they become vacant. Transportation Services staff have prepared a report of the recommendations of the Nominating Sub-Committee, to be submitted to the Planning and Growth Management Committee on October 4, 2007, and subsequently to City Council.

Dylan Reid thanked Daniel Egan, Manager of Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, Lisa Ing, Transportation Coordinator and Natalie Bagues, Support Assistant, for their help with this process.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the update.

3.5 Working Groups

Rita Brooks gave an update from the Urban Design Groups about a project to create a process to create the design of a section of King Street and the division of different functions and users can intersect in a more democratic and open process.

Brown & Storey Architects, working with the Toronto Pedestrian Committee are proposing a new model of working and communicating ideas. The model they would like to reinterpret as a case study, is one in which the design of the street and its infrastructure can work as a game board that would enable different groups to create their own ideal design.

In order to make this believable and realistic, a set of prescriptive constraints and parameters and on the ground dimensions and sizings are given as working templates. This provides a conciliatory basis to make decisions and tradeoffs.

The idea would be to generate over a series of two or three working sessions a set of refined alternatives that could perhaps lead to a limited number of alternatives or even to the best alternatives.

The resultant game board alternatives can then be visualized to show a realistic impression of the results. This will be done by the architects through selective view of the street. The tool kit of parts and the process itself will be documented and the existing street measured and photographed so that the materials could be easily installed as an exhibition for the Walk 21 conference.

Councillor Saundercook supported this project, but suggested that they first meet with Councillor Adam Vaughan, Ward 20 – Trinity-Spadina, and brief him on this project as

this is in his Ward and get his input before inviting Brown & Storey Architects, and then have another workshop.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the update.

3.6 Road Alterations, Traffic and Parking Regulations – Lansdowne Avenue between College Street and Bloor Street West

This matter was discussed at the Toronto Pedestrian Committee meeting of July 10, 2007, and it was received for information. This item was brought forward so that the Committee could further comment on this issue.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a motion by Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

“That the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, through the Committee Secretary, write to the Chair of the Toronto and East York Community Council (TEYCC) expressing the Toronto Pedestrian Committee’s thanks to the TEYCC for approving the improvements to Lansdowne Avenue between College Street and Bloor Street West that were proposed in the staff report (March 12, 2007) from the Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District, (TE4.80), because these changes to Lansdowne Avenue will greatly improve the walking environment”.

On motion by Elizabeth Walker, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee approved the motion.

(Chair, Toronto East York Community Council; c. Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee – September 14, 2007)

3.7 Lack of Sidewalk Space for Pedestrian

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (August 2, 2007) from Agnes Faraci, respecting the increasing lack of sidewalk space for pedestrian.

Peter Tesar commented on the matter and informed the Committee that Agnes Faraci had complained to the By-law Officer about the problem and to date had not received a call back.

On motion by Peter Tesar, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received this matter and requested the Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure to look into the complaint and report back to the Committee as a follow up.

(Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure; c. Agnes Faraci
- September 14, 2007)

FOR INFORMATION:

3.8 Collision Summary Leaflets

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the communications (July 13, 2007 and August 9, 2007) from Dora Marsh, Traffic Data Centre and Safety Bureau, Traffic Management Centre providing an analysis of:

- Fatal Collision Summary Leaflets for the period Jan 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007; and.
- Fatal Collision Summary Leaflets for the period January 1, 2007 to July 31, 2007.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communications.

3.9 Vehicles Driving Illegally on the Martin Goodman Trail and Parking in Parks

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (July 25, 2007) from the City Clerk forwarding City Council's decision which was adopted at its meeting on July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2007.

On motion by Roger Brook, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communication.

3.10 Transit Improvement Project - St. Clair Avenue West between Westmount Avenue and McRoberts Avenue

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (July 25, 2007) from the City Clerk forwarding City Council's decision which was adopted at its meeting on July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2007.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/te/decisions/2007-07-16-cc11-dd.pdf>

On motion by Elizabeth Walker, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communication.

3.11 Change to Agenda Closing for Toronto Pedestrian Committee

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee was informed that the agenda closing for the November 13, 2007 meeting will be on October 29, 2007, and that all agenda closings will be on a Monday from now on.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the matter for information.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Chair