

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting 6

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present:

3:00 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair	X
Councillor Karen Stintz	X
Matthew Blackett	X
Roger Brook (Feet on the Street)	X
Laurel Fortin	X
Margaret Hastings-James	X
Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller (TCDSB)	X
Sean Marshall	X
Trustee Josh Matlow (TDSB)	X
Shawn Micallef	X
Beth Milroy	X
Jennifer Niece	X
Stephanie Tencer	X
Elizabeth Walker (Older Women's Network)	X

Regrets:

Councillor Bill Saundercook, Co-Chair
Greg Crompton
Fred Sztabinski
Peter Tesar

Staff Present:

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

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair assumed the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Matthew Blackett, the minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, held on November 13, 2007, were confirmed.

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, asked the Members if they required to receive the items of the agenda electronically or just the agenda. The agenda package is also sent out by mail. Members agreed that they wish to receive the items electronically as well.

6.1 Appointment of the Toronto District School Board Representative to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the communication (December 3, 2007) from David Tomczak, Senior Manager, Board Services forwarding the Toronto District School Board appointment of Trustee Josh Matlow as its representative to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the appointment and welcomed Trustee Josh Matlow to the Committee.

6.2 Appointment of the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee Representative to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered the communication (December 17, 2007) from the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee forwarding the appointment of Ms. Margaret Hastings-James as its representative to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the appointment and welcomed Margaret Hastings-James to the Committee.

6.3 Guidelines for Greening Parking Lots

Allison Reid, Urban Designer, City Planning, gave a presentation respecting the City's draft Design Guidelines for 'Greening' Parking lots, and provided copies of the draft guidelines for the purpose of consultation with the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, as identified interest groups.

The Design Guidelines for "Greening" Surface Parking Lots respond to both the urban design and environmental challenges associated with a surface parking lot. The

guidelines are intended to create surface parking lots that are not only efficient, but also safe, attractive and environmentally responsible. 'Greening' the surface parking lots involves planting trees, providing good quality soil and generous landscaped areas, creating direct, comfortable and safe pedestrian and cycling routes, encouraging on-site stormwater management, reducing the urban heat island effect, and using sustainable materials and sustainable materials and technologies.

The Design Guidelines for 'Greening' Surface Parking Lots implements built environment and natural environment policies of the Official Plan. The Guidelines also provide design options and strategies to implement many environmental performance targets of the Toronto Green Development Standards (GDS).

The Design Guidelines also provides the necessary direction and strategies to implement and achieve a higher standard in surface parking lot design and is shown in five sub-sections, each sub-section provides a range of strategies and specific measures intended to improve the urban design and environmental conditions of the surface parking lot:

- Location and Layout;
- Vehicle Access and Circulation;
- Pedestrian Access and Circulation;
- Landscaping; and
- Stormwater Management.

Allison showed illustrations for discussion purposes, diagram of site plan on small corner site, long narrow site and large site with multiple buildings. She also illustrated additional diagrams to represent further options to consider when designing various parking lot features.

The Committee thanked Allison Reid for her presentation.

The website link for the guideline is:

http://www.toronto.ca/planning/urbdesign/greening_parking_lots.htm

On motion by Stephanie Tencer, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee agreed that creating "Design Guidelines for 'Greening' Surface Parking Lots" was a great idea and referred the draft to the Urban Design and Pedestrian Environment Working Group to prepare a report and bring it forward to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee for a future meeting.

(Matthew Blackett, Chair, Urban Design and Pedestrian Environment Working Group; c. Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, Transportation Services; Allison Reid, Urban Designer, City Planning - January 23, 2008)

6.4 Presentation on the Union Station Pedestrian Planning Initiatives by City Planning Division.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian deferred this presentation to its next meeting of February 19, 2008.

6.5 Accessible Pedestrian Routes after Heavy Snowfall

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (January 3, 2008) from Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee respecting inadequate provision by the City of Toronto, for ensuring safe and accessible pedestrian routes after heavy snowfalls.

Peter Noehammer, Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District, gave a presentation respecting snow clearing during winter.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee endorsed the communication (January 3, 2008) from Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, and recommended to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee that the recommendations in the attachment to the communication be included in the ongoing program review of winter services for pedestrians currently being undertaken by Transportation Services. The Toronto Pedestrian Committee further requests that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee be considered as a stakeholder in this review.

(Public Works and Infrastructure Committee; c. Peter Noehammer, Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District; General Manager, Transportation Services – January 23, 2008)

6.6 Transportation Services - Staff Update

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (January 10, 2008) from Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, regarding:

1. Toronto Walking Strategy Update including report from the consultation with Toronto Pedestrian Committee, held on December 4, 2007.

Dan Egan, gave a brief update on the on the Walking Strategy and spoke about the December 4, 2007 meeting.

In response to a request from staff, members of the Committee agreed to informally draft a vision statement for the City of Toronto's Walking Strategy. Laurel Fortin offered to lead this process with assistance from Margaret Hasting-James, Jennifer Niece; and Dylan Reid. Beth Milroy also mentioned that the Working Group would circulate the outcome of this to all Members.

2. City of Toronto Walking Website:

Pauline Craig, City Planning, reported on the progress of the new "walking" section of the City of Toronto website. She noted that the development site would be ready within a few days and expressed hope that the new site would be launched publicly soon.

3. 2008 New Sidewalk Installations:

Dan Egan, briefly informed the Committee that Transportation Services were going to install new sidewalks and this was included in the 2008 Transportation Capital Works Program. He also mentioned that pedestrian and cycling infrastructure staff were currently reviewing new sidewalk installations for 2009 Transportation Capital Works Program.

4. Sustainable Transportation Initiatives: Short Term Proposals

The Committee were informed that in October 2007 City Council adopted the staff report, "Sustainable Transportation Initiatives: Short Term Proposals", and directed staff to undertake several pedestrian focused initiatives. City staff will keep the Toronto Pedestrian Committee updated on these projects as they are developed.

Dylan Reid reminded the Members about the Community Conference on March 1, 2008, at Metro Hall. They were going to organize speakers from Walk21. Jennifer Niece, member of this Committee was one of the speakers.

6.7 Safety of Level Pedestrian-Railway Crossings

(Deferred from the November 13, 2007 meeting)

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (October 29, 2007) from Roger Brook, forwarding a motion requesting Transportation Services staff to study the safety of level pedestrian-railway crossings and report back to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee on the findings in three months; in particular interest would be the safety record of current pedestrian only level crossings in Toronto as well as the safety record of level crossings across Canada, with respect to pedestrians and cyclists. It should also specify whenever possible whether the deaths or accidents were caused by accident or

suicide and whether safety features were present, such as crossing arms extending across the sidewalk.

Roger Brook explained to the Committee with the help of slides, the safety record of current pedestrian only level crossings in Toronto and across Canada, with respect to pedestrians and cyclists.

Members asked Roger question on the slides and discussed with Transportation Services staff, who agreed to get more information about this.

On motion by Roger Brook, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this to a future meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

6.8 Working Groups

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, briefly spoke on the following and asked Members if they wish to be on these Working Groups:

- Urban Design and Pedestrian Environment:

The following Members were interested to be on this Working Group:

- Matthew Blackett (Chair);
- Roger Brook;
- Sean Marshall;
- Shawn Micallef;
- Dylan Reid; and
- Stephanie Tencer

- Pedestrian Budget:

The following Members were interested to be on this Working Group:

- Fred Sztabinski (Chair);
- Laurel Fortin;
- Greg Crompton; and
- Beth Milroy.

The Committee agreed that a roll out plan be organized within the next few weeks for the Working Groups and Transportation Services agreed to book the venues for the Working Group meetings. All members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee will be informed of the meeting dates by e-mail. Daniel Egan informed Members that non members could participate in the Working Groups.

- Queen's Quay Redevelopment:

As part of the revitalization of Toronto's central waterfront, Waterfront Toronto in partnership with the City of Toronto is undertaking an environmental assessment study of Queens Quay between Lower Spadina Avenue and Lower Jarvis Street. This study is exploring how to implement long standing City policy objectives including revitalizing Queens Quay into a scenic waterfront drive and completing the Martin Goodman Trail which today is absent through the central waterfront. The first public forum took place on January 10, 2008.

Stephanie Tencer gave a brief on the Queen's Quay redevelopment, informing the Committee that she sits on the 'Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee' for the Queen's Quay Environmental Assessment (EA) process (she was not formally representing TPC, but was invited to contribute specifically on pedestrian-related issues). This committee is made up of 16 members representing a broad range of different interests.

The EA process is currently in the planning phase, and 4 options have been identified - do nothing, modify operations, physical modifications within the existing right-of-way or physical modification within an expanded right-of-way. The next phase of the EA is the design phase, where people will be able to comment on specific elements of the design. The distinctions between the planning and design phases were somewhat difficult for people to grasp.

Main issues that arose included:

- not wanting the outcome of the EA process to be pre-determined based on the design competition that was already held before the EA began;
- the tensions between a Queen's Quay that is a local street verses one for tourists verses one for commuters passing through;
- anticipating the significant challenge of dealing with access to existing buildings along Queens Quay, as well as accommodating tour bus parking, which currently park illegally.

The first stakeholder advisory committee meeting was a walking tour along the site. Stephanie took a bunch of photos and posted them on her photo site:

<http://stephanietencer.smugmug.com/gallery/3759903/1/216348632>

That way if Toronto Pedestrian Committees members want to post any comments there, or email comments to her directly, she can communicate their concerns to the rest of the Queens Quay EA team.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the updates on the Working Groups.

6.9 Appointment to the Toronto Police Services – Traffic Services Community-Police Liaison Committee

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee heard a brief report by Elizabeth Walker, the previous representative to this Committee, who was on Traffic Services Community-Police Liaison Committee for a long time. Elizabeth informed the Committee about the different type of subjects this Committee dealt with, to name a few:

- SMART;
- Festivals;
- Ontario Safety Region; and
- MAD

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee appointed Sean Marshall as its representative on the Traffic Services Community-Police Liaison Committee.

(Superintendent Stephen Grant, Toronto Police Service - Traffic Services Community-Police Liaison Committee; c. Stephen Burns; Sean Marshall - January 23, 2008)

6.10 Toronto Pilot for the Air Quality Health Index

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (January 11, 2008) from Marian Pitters, Pitters Associates, who is assisting Toronto Public Health with planning and facilitating the Air Quality Health Index Workshop. As part of the evaluation for the Toronto Pilot for the Air Quality Health Index, the Environmental Protection Office is planning to hold a stakeholder workshop on February 13, 2008, to learn about the challenges and opportunities in implementing the program. The Environmental Protection Office is inviting the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to forward a name of a Member to this workshop.

On motion by Elizabeth Walker, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee appointed Roger Brook as its representative to attend the Air Quality Health Index Pilot Project workshop.

(Marian Pitters, Pitters Associates; c. Roger Brook, Member, Toronto Pedestrian Committee; General Manager, Transportation Services; Carol Mee, Toronto Public Health; Lorraine Fung, Toronto Public Health - January 23, 2008)

FOR INFORMATION:

6.11 Collision Summary Leaflets

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (December 10, 2007) from Dora Marsh, Traffic Safety Unit, Traffic Management Centre providing Fatal Collision Summary Leaflet for November 2007.

On motion by Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communication for information.

6.12 Gardiner Expressway at Kipling Avenue and Islington Avenue Interchanges Class Environment Assessment Study – Schedule ‘C’ Notice of Study Commencement

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (December 21, 2007) from John P. Kelly, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Transportation Services Division, providing for information that the Transportation Services Division has initiated a Class Environment Assessment Study to examine geometric and operational improvements for the Gardiner Expressway at Kipling Avenue and Islington Avenue interchanges and requests comments on how this project may impact facilities or programs.

On motion by Dylan Reid, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee forwarded the following names of its members to track the process and provide input regarding the Environment Assessment Study for the Gardiner Expressway at Kipling Avenue and Islington Avenue interchanges:

- Roger Brook; and
- Sean Marshall.

(Scott Mitchell, Coordinator, Transportation Services; c. Roger Brook, Member, Toronto Pedestrian Committee; Sean Marshall, Member, Toronto Pedestrian Committee – January 30, 2008)

6.13 York Street Pedestrian Promenade Plan, Front Street West to Queens Quay West

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (November 29, 2007) from the Toronto and East York Community Council forwarding for information, the decision considered at its meeting on November 27, 2007, on the York Street Pedestrian Promenade Plan, Front Street West to Queens Quay West.

On motion by Beth Milroy, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communication for information.

6.14. Air Pollution Burden of Illness from Traffic in Toronto

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (December 3, 2007) from the Dr. David McKeown, Medical Officer of Health, forwarding for information, at the request of the Toronto Board of Health, a new study conducted by the Toronto Public Health on the Air Pollution Burden of Illness from Traffic in Toronto.

On motion by Stephanie Tencer, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the communication for information.

Copies of the study were distributed at the meeting and can be viewed at: <http://www.toronto.ca/health/hphe> or can be obtained from the Environmental Protection Office, Toronto Public Health, at Telephone No. 416 392-6788.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Chair