

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Meeting 11

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 3:00 p.m.

*Members Present:

3:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.

Councillor Bill Saundercook, Co-Chair	X
Dylan Reid, Co-Chair	X
Councillor Karen Stintz	X
Matthew Blackett	X
Greg Crompton	X
Laurel Fortin	X
Beth Milroy	X
Stephanie Tencer	X
Elizabeth Walker	X

* Members were present for some or all of the time indicated.

Regrets:

Roger Brook
Margaret Hastings-James
Trustee Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, Toronto Catholic District School Board
Trustee John Matlow, Toronto District School Board
Sean Marshall
Shawn Micallef
Jennifer Niece
Fred Sztabinski
Peter Tesar

Staff Present:

Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure,
Transportation Services
Jennifer Hyland, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, Transportation Services
Pauline Craig, Assistant Planner, City Planning - Transportation

Penelope Palmer, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure Planning, Transportation Services Division (for Item 1)
Allison Reid, Urban Designer, Urban Design, City Planning (for Item 2)

Councillor Saundercook, assumed the Chair.

Declarations of Interest

None declared.

Confirmation of Minutes – May 13, 2008

On motion by Dylan Reid, the minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on May 13, 2008 were amended by adding to the attendance “Colin MacDonald, Special Assistant to Councillor Saundercook”. The Minutes, as amended, were confirmed.

11.1 Jarvis Street Streetscape Improvement Environmental Assessment Study

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a presentation by Penelope Palmer, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure Planning, Transportation Services Division, titled “Jarvis Street Streetscape Environmental Assessment.”

Penelope Palmer, responded to questions from members of the committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee unanimously adopted the following motions and referred them to the General Manager, Transportation Services, as part of the City’s consultation process on the Jarvis Street Streetscape Environmental Study:

1. The Toronto Pedestrian Committee strongly endorses the principle of removing one lane of traffic from Jarvis Street and reallocating the majority of the space to substantially expand the sidewalks and improve the streetscape. (Motion by Dylan Reid)
2. The Toronto Pedestrian Committee suggests that the Jarvis Street Streetscape Improvement co-ordinate with historical and site interpretation studies, and cultural institutions on Jarvis Street, to make sure there is a seamless urban design and pedestrian experience. (Motion by Matthew Blackett)

11.2 Response to Design Guidelines for ‘Greening’ Surface Parking Lots

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (June 1, 2008) from Stephanie Tencer, submitting on behalf of the Urban Design and Pedestrian Environment Working Group, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, a response to the Draft Design Guidelines for ‘Greening’ Surface Parking Lots.

Summary of Recommendations from the Working Group:

That City Council be requested to:

- a. adopt the recommended changes to the Design Guidelines for Greening Surface Parking Lots document, as outlined in this report;
- b. endorse the Design Guidelines for Greening Surface Parking Lots document.
- c. seek out ways to actively encourage the implementation of the Design Guidelines for Greening Surface Parking Lots document.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee also considered a communication (June 1, 2008) from Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee submitting the following motion for consideration by the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

“In order to encourage the retrofitting of existing surface parking lots to the new ‘Green’ standards, which would greatly enhance pedestrian safety and the walking environment, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends to the Planning and Growth Management Committee that the City of Toronto investigate the feasibility of using fiscal mechanisms, such as property tax rebates, to encourage property owners to retrofit existing surface parking lots to the standards specified in the ‘Design Guidelines for ‘Greening’ Surface Parking Lots.”

The Draft Design Guidelines for ‘Greening’ Surface Parking Lots (November 2007) were given to Members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

Allison Reid, Urban Designer, Urban Design, City Planning, responded to questions from Members of the Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee referred:

1. the recommendations in the communication (June 1, 2008) from Stephanie Tencer, Urban Design and Pedestrian Environment Working Group, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, to Toronto City Planning, Urban Design, for incorporation in the final Design Guidelines for Greening Surface Parking Lots. (Motion by Stephanie Tencer)

2. the following motion by Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, to the Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, Transportation Services, for a report back to the Committee on the best way to proceed.

“The Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends to the Planning and Growth Management Committee that in order to encourage the retrofitting of existing surface parking lots to the new ‘Green’ standards, which would greatly enhance pedestrian safety and the walking environment, that the City of Toronto investigate the feasibility of using fiscal mechanisms, such as property tax rebates, to encourage property owners to retrofit existing surface parking lots to the standards specified in the ‘Design Guidelines for ‘Greening’ Surface Parking Lots.’”

(Motion by Dylan Reid)

11.3 Roncesvalles Avenue – Streetscape Improvements – Class Environmental Assessment Study – Schedule ‘B’ Notice of Study Commencement.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (May 16, 2008) from John P. Kelly, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, advising that the City of Toronto has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment Study to examine potential streetscape improvements on Roncesvalles Avenue between Queen Street West and Dundas Street West, and providing information on how to provide comments and remain informed on the progress of the study.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received, for information, the communication (May 16, 2008) from John P. Kelly, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Transportation Services, and indicated that it is interested in providing input regarding this study.

11.4 Don Valley Parkway Stormwater Management Project – Municipal Class Environmental Assessment – Notice of Commencement and Public Open House.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a Leaflet advising that the City has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for proposed stormwater management measures along the Don Valley Parkway, and advising that an opportunity exists for input at key stages of the study, and an open house will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2008.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received, for information, the Leaflet regarding the Don Valley Parkway Stormwater Management Project, Municipal Class Environmental Assessment – Notice of Commencement and Public Open House.

11.5 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Item 14.9 – Increased Penalties for Red-Light Running Offences.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a communication (May 2, 2008) from The City Clerk, forwarding, for information, the action taken by City Council on April 28 and 29, 2008 regarding Increased Penalties for Red-Light Running Offences.

On motion by Stephanie Tencer, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received, for information, the communication (May 2, 2008) from the City Clerk.

11.6 Collision Summary Leaflets

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee considered a Fatal Collision Summary Leaflet January 1 to December 31, 2007, from Transportation Services, Traffic Management Centre, Traffic Safety Unit.

On motion by Beth Milroy, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received, for information, the Fatal Collision Summary Leaflet, from Transportation Services, Traffic Management Centre, Traffic Safety Unit.

11.7 Update by Committee Members - Metrolinx

Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee, handed out, to interested members, copies of the report (February 2008) titled “Active Transportation - Development of a Regional Transportation Plan for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, for consultation – Green Paper No. 3”. Matthew Blackett advised that he is attending a meeting on Monday and will report back to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee with an update.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received this matter for information.

Motions

Introduce Item No. 11.7 motion moved by Dylan Reid, Co-Chair, Toronto Pedestrian Committee (carried).

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Chair