

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**City Clerk's Division**

**Minutes of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee**

**Meeting No. 9**

**Wednesday, October 31, 2001**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on Wednesday, September 26, 2001, 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  
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. Crawford Murphy, Toronto Cycling Committee  
Mr. J. Richard Nelson, East York  
Councillor Jane Pitfield  
Mr. Wayne Scott, Hoof & Cycle Couriers, Co-Chair  
Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, Etobicoke  
Ms. Elizabeth Walker (Older Women's Network)

Also Present: Dr. Bob, Frankford, Harbord Village Residents Association/  
(HVRA)  
Ms. Lois James, Community Research Centre of Scarborough /  
Save the Rouge, Scarborough  
Mr. David O'Connor, Resident  
Ms. Helen Riley, Feet on the Street  
Mr. Ian Wheal, Toronto Field Naturalists

Staff Present: Mr. Dan Egan, Manager, Transportation Services  
Ms. Lisa Ing, Co-ordinator

Regrets: Mr. Joel Courchesne, Toronto

**Declaration of Interest.**

Mr. J. Richard Nelson declared an interest re. Minute No. 9.5(a)(2) Transportation Services Staff Update with respect to Pedestrian Safety Campaign in that he works for the firm that has the consulting contract, and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

Mr. J. Richard Nelson declared an interest re. Minute No. 9.6(i) Transportation Services Staff Update with respect to Pedestrian Safety Campaign in that he works for the firm that has the consulting contract, and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

**Confirmation of Minutes.**

On motion by Mr. J. Richard. Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee held on September 26, 2001 were confirmed.

**9.1 ELECTION OF CO-CHAIR  
TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 9, 2001) from City Clerk, advising that the term of office of Ms. Rhona Swarbrick as Chair, has concluded; and requesting nominations for Co-Chair, for the balance of the term of office commencing October 31, 2001 and expiring November 30, 2003 and until his or her successor is appointed.

On motion by Mr. Bill Brown, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report and requested that the City Clerk send correspondence to Ms. Swarbrick expressing sincere appreciation for her exemplary service and thank her for her leadership as Chair on the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

On motion by Councillor Pitfield the Toronto Pedestrian Committee nominated Ms. Rita Brooks to the position of Co-Chair. Ms. Brooks accepted and nominations closed. Ms. Brooks appointment as Co-Chair was confirmed.

**9.2 2002 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication from City Clerk (October 17, 2001), advising the schedule of meeting dates, agenda closings and location of meetings for the Toronto Pedestrian Committee for 2002.

On motion by Councillor J. Pitfield, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned communications for information

### **9.3 PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE DON VALLEY PARKWAY.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 15, 2001) from Mr. Martin Abela, Member of Toronto Pedestrian Committee, recommending that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee forward this communication to the Mayor and Members of City Council for its consideration at the November 6, 2001 Council meeting advising that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee strongly supports:

- (1) the Planning and Transportation Committee recommendation (July 3, 2001) that no further action be taken with respect to the proposal to widen the Don Valley Parkway as it will further damage the Don Valley ecosystem and is totally inconsistent with City of Toronto policies respecting the reduction of car dependencies as contained in the existing Official Plans of the former municipalities and the emerging new Official Plan for the City of Toronto; and
- (2) the report of the Commissioner of Urban Development Services (May 31, 2001) that concludes that the widening of the DVP would be a major reversal of existing Official Plan policies and contrary to the emerging planning policy directions of the City's New Official Plan.

On motion by Mr. Martin Abela, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommended that this communication be forwarded to City Council to be considered at its meeting of November 6, 7 and 8, 2001 as the Committee was advised that this would be considered a time sensitive matter at this meeting of City Council.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee was also advised that a walk about has been arranged for Sunday, November 4, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. and any interested parties should meet at the footbridge in Riverdale Park (South of Braodview Station) as detailed on a poster provided regarding a campaign to stop the DVP Expansion (stop the City from adding four lanes to the Don Valley Parkway) prepared by the Toronto Environmental Alliance.

### **9.4 COLLEGE STREET REDEVELOPMENT.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it the following communications:

- (i) (September 24, 2001) from Dr. Bob Frankford, College Street Development Committee, Harbord Village Residents Association, advising that the Harbord Village Residents Association has commissioned a design plan by Brown and Storey, Architects, for College Street, to improve the quality of life and local economy along the street; and requesting a deputation before the Toronto

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Pedestrian Committee to present the design plan for College Street redevelopment.

- (ii) (October 28, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for information copy of web site page that gives honourable mention to the College Street Creative Landscape for Making a Living Site (Harbord Village Residents Association).

Dr. Bob Frankford, College Street Development Committee, Harbord Village Residents Association gave a presentation on the College Street design plan to create a new streetscape that would take into account the needs of pedestrian, cyclists and transit in the City of Toronto.

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee supported the initiative of the Harbord Village Residents Association for a design plan for the redevelopment of College Street and thanked Dr. Frankford for his presentation and suggested that he might like to provide a similar presentation to the Toronto Cycling Committee.

#### **9.5 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES STAFF UPDATE.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 17, 2001) from Mr. Dan Egan, Manager, Transportation Services, submitting for information, Transportation Services staff update with respect to:

- (1) Pedestrian Master Plan - one of the first steps will be conducting a telephone survey of Toronto residents to collect information about walking in the City. The survey results will assist in understanding what measures are needed to improve the pedestrian environment. Toronto Pedestrian Committee members needs to brainstorm about what kind of information the survey should collect).
- (2) Pedestrian Safety Initiatives Pilot Project – Staff provided to committee members a copy of a survey to be completed; and the Transportation Services Division plans to assess potential new technologies and products for reducing the number and severity of pedestrian injuries at traffic controlled locations. In order to assist in the review, members were asked to rank their preferences for the implementation of six proposed pilot projects; to be discussed at a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 13, 2001 in Room 309 at Metro Hall from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- (3) Cycling in Municipal Parks – staff provided information regarding the speed limit of bicycles in Municipal Parks.

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- (4) Traffic Fatality at Victoria Park Avenue / Parma Court – staff were requested to review the existing pedestrian walking speed at this signalized intersection. District 3 Traffic Operations staff have investigated this request and determined that the existing walking speed is sufficient for pedestrians to safely cross the intersection.

Mr. J. Richard Nelson declared an interest with respect to Pedestrian Safety Campaign in that he works for the firm that has the consulting contract, and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

On motion by Mr. Bill Brown, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report.

**9.5(a). TRANSPORTATION SERVICES STAFF UPDATE.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (September 10, 2001) from Mr. Dan Egan, Manager, Transportation Services, submitting for information, Transportation Services staff update with respect to:

- (1) Pedestrian Master Plan - one of the first steps will be conducting a telephone survey of Toronto residents to collect information about walking in the City. The survey results will assist in understanding what measures are needed to improve the pedestrian environment. Toronto Pedestrian Committee members need to brainstorm about what kind of information the survey should collect).
- (2) Pedestrian Safety Campaign - The Toronto Pedestrian Committee met on July 23, 2001, for a Pedestrian Safety Campaign Brainstorming session; and following this session, the Transportation Services Working Group met and recommended that Mid-Block Crossing (Pedestrians crossing major roads at mid-block locations) be the primary focus of this campaign. Mid-block crossing is the most frequent pedestrian collision type and generally results in more severe injuries and a significant number of pedestrian fatalities. A campaign focussed on this issue/collision type would have primary messages aimed at both drivers and pedestrians.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee noted that they felt the presence of Safety Officers in the school to talk to children about safety had a great impact on children and that is now missing as the Police have stopped sending Safety Officers to the schools.

- (3) Review of Pedestrian Refuge Island and Split Pedestrian Crossover Study: Phase 2 Report – staff presented the draft report at the July 18, 2001 meeting and is reviewing the final report which will be available by the October 31, 2001 meeting.

Mr. J. Richard Nelson declared an interest with respect to Pedestrian Safety Campaign in that he works for the firm that has the consulting contract, and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

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

## **9.6 PEDESTRIAN-RELATED (WORKS COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS)**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 17, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting copies of correspondence forwarded to Works Committee at its meeting held on October 17, 2001 regarding the following pedestrian-related topics:

- (i) Pedestrian Safety Initiatives Pilot Project;
- (ii) Pilot Programme – Publication Box Enclosures; and
- (iii) Proposed Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act.

### **9.6(i) PEDESTRIAN SAFETY INITIATIVES PILOT PROGRAM**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 29, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for consideration, copy of draft advising City Council that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee strongly supports the Works Committee's recommendation regarding Pedestrian Safety Initiatives Pilot Program; and requested that a copy of the memorandum to the July 12, 2000 meeting of the Works Committee be resubmitted as an indication of Toronto Pedestrian Committee's support of Recommendation No. (3).

Mr. J. Richard Nelson declared an interest with respect to Pedestrian Safety Campaign in that he works for the firm that has the consulting contract, and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

On a Motion by Martin Abela, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requested that City Council when considering Clause 1 of Report No. 16 of the Works Committee, give consideration to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee memorandum submitted to the July 12, 2000 meeting of the Works Committee by the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services in preparing the report scheduled for submission to the Works Committee in the Spring of 2002.

### **9.6(ii) PILOT PROGRAMME – PUBLICATION BOX ENCLOSURES.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 17, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for consideration, copy of communication addressed to the

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Works Committee regarding the Pilot Programme – Publication Box Enclosures; and her comments in response to the report of the Commissioner, Works and Emergency Services (October 3, 2001) and that her comments were limited to the reference to pedestrian mobility on page 4 under “Urban Design”.

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

- (1) lists a member of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to deputate at Works Committee with respect to the Pilot Programme – Publication Box Enclosures; and
- (2) consider the Toronto Pedestrian Committee as a ‘preferred stakeholder’ to be involved in any public consultation events being arranged for the purpose of seeking input and receiving feedback with respect to the Pilot Programme – Publication Box Enclosures.

**9.6(iii) PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it:

- (i) communication (October 29, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for consideration, proposal to request the Works Committee to request reports from the Legal Department and Transportation Services with respect to this matter; and
- (ii) report (August 29, 2001) entitled “A Proposed Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act”, which was before the Toronto Transit Commission at its meeting on August 29, 2001, together with a memorandum from the TTC General Counsel detailing the proposed wording changes to Section 166 of the Highway Traffic Act that the Commission would like implemented; and requesting that City Council approve a formal motion requesting the Ontario Minister of Transportation to amend Section 166 of the Highway Traffic Act to require motor vehicles to stop behind a streetcar where passengers are boarding or exiting.

On motion by Paul Collier, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommended to the Works Committee that it:

- (1) requests that the City Solicitor report on an interpretation of paragraph 130 of Section 210 of the Municipal Act which reads as follows:

“2.10. By-laws may be passed by the Council of local municipalities:...

130. For setting aside and designating in a suitable visible manner, on any highway upon which street cars or buses are operated, any part or

parts as a 'safety zone' and for prohibiting motor or other vehicles from driving over or upon any such safety zone while any pedestrian is thereon or about to enter thereon".

- (2) requests that the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, and the General Manager of Transportation Services report on:
  - (i) the merits of removing the reference to 'safety zones' in terms of improving the roadway crossing environment for pedestrians boarding or exiting a streetcar;
  - (ii) modified or new traffic management and traffic operation practices that would protect pedestrians crossing between a sidewalk and a 'safety zone' when using a streetcar service; and
- (3) defer any action with regard to the proposed amendment to the Highway Traffic Act, Section 166 (1) until a response from the City Solicitor, the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the General Manager of Transportation Services has been brought back to a future meeting of the Works Committee.

#### **9.7 KIDESTRIANS – BOOKLET ON CHILDREN'S SAFETY.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 3, 2001) from Mr. William E. Brown, South Riverdale, Health Promotion Program, recommending that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee review this guide with the goal of assisting Canadian Tire Child Protection Foundation to:

- (1) incorporate the findings from the most recent literature on children's ability to assimilate and utilize safety measures on a regular daily basis;
- (2) expand this guide to include a parental focus by placing fundamental responsibility for child safety upon the appropriate adult person(s) operating vehicles; and
- (3) direct resources towards public agencies to develop new policies and programmes designed to make our communities safe for all residents and ensure the responsibility for childhood safety is placed where it is most efficacious.

(Copies of "Kidestrians" Booklet was provided to members of the Committee at the last meeting.)



The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred consideration of this matter until the next scheduled meeting to be held on November 28, 2001.

#### **9.8 ROAD SAFETY.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 2, 2001) from Dorothy Fletcher and Elizabeth Walker, Co-Chairs, Mobility Committee, Older Women's Network (Ontario) Inc., submitting for information copy of communication to Toronto Police Service regarding Road Safety.

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

#### **9.9 OLDER WOMEN'S NETWORK (ONTARIO) INC.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 2, 2001) from Dorothy Fletcher and Elizabeth Walker, Co-Chairs, Mobility Committee, Older Women's Network (Ontario) Inc., advising that Elizabeth Walker has been appointed by the Older Women's Network (Ontario) Inc. to replace Dorothy Fletcher as the official representative on the Toronto Pedestrian Committee as its representative.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information; and requested that the City Clerk send correspondence to Ms. Fletcher expressing sincere appreciation for her service on the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee welcomed Elizabeth Walker as Ms. Fletcher's replacement representing the Older Women's Network (Ontario) Inc.

#### **9.10 CLOSURE OF SPECIFIC STREETS IN TORONTO**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 18, 2001) from City Clerk, Planning and Transportation Committee, forwarding for information list of communications received by the Planning and Transportation Committee regarding closure of specific streets in Toronto.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2001.

**9.11 CAR ADVERTISEMENT COMPLAINT  
(ADVERTISING STANDARDS CANADA).**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (August 21, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick and Janice Etter, providing for information, copy of correspondence to Janet Feasby, Director, Public Affairs and Communication regarding Car advertisement complaint for information.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

**9.12 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 (July 11, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for review, and follow up to the September 26, 2001 meeting, Geometric Design Guidelines for Canadian Roads, Transportation Association of Canada, September, 1999, Chapter 3.3, Streetscaping.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2001.

**9.13 TORONTO HEART HEALTH PARTNERSHIP'S WALKING INITIATIVE.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (September 26, 2001) from Mr. J. Richard Nelson and Paula Waddell, Co-ordinator, Toronto Heart Health Partnership, providing for information, oral report on Toronto Heart Health Partnership's Walking Initiative.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2001.

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

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 23, 2001) from Mr. J. Richard Nelson, TPC representative on the TCC, recommending that a joint working group be formed with representation from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, the Toronto Cycling Committee and the Walking Initiative of the Toronto Heart Health Partnership, with appropriate staff support.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee deferred this matter to the next meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2001.

**9.15 RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF TORONTO PEDESTIRAN COMMITTEE.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a communication (October 21, 2001) from Ms. Judith Bussey, advising that due to a change in her personal circumstances, she has to resign, but is interested in working on any special projects that the sub-committees may require help for specific issues.

On motion by Mr. Wayne Scott, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information; and requested that the City Clerk send correspondence to Ms. Bussey expressing sincere appreciation for her service on the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee welcomed Ms. Rita Brooks to the Committee as the next alternate member.

**9.16 2001 TORONTO FATAL COLLISION STATISTICS**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (September 30, 2001) from Transportation Services, Transportation Systems, Traffic Data Centre & Safety Bureau, submitting for information, the revised 2001 Toronto Fatal Collision Statistics leaflet presenting a analysis of fatal collisions to September 30, 2001 showing relevant facts and trends.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned report for information.

**9.17 DRIVE-THRU FACILITIES.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 26, 2001) from Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for consideration, a request for the Planning and Transportation Committee to direct staff to investigate the need for a specific by-law that addresses issues related to drive-thru facilities in all parts of the City.

Councillor Mihevc addressed Committee.

On motion by Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends to the Planning and Transportation Committee that it requests that the Commissioner of Urban Development Services investigate the need for a specific by-law that addresses issues related to drive-thru facilities.

On a Motion by Ms. Madeleine McDowell, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee requested that the City Clerk write to McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd. advising that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee has concerns and is requesting that the City investigate the need for a specific by-law that addresses issues related to drive-thru facilities in all parts of the City; and specifically for the health of children who are regular customers, due to fumes from cars, smog from idling cars and danger with regards to moving vehicles, who are regular customers

#### **9.18 REIMBURSEMENT OF OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 12, 2001) from Councillor Jane Pitfield and Ms. Rhona Swarbrick, submitting for consideration, a request that Works Committee recommend to Budget Committee that volunteer members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee and other advisory committees of Council, be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in conducting Committee business.

On motion by Councillor Pitfield, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee proposes that the Works Committee recommend to the Budget Committee that volunteer members of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, and other advisory committees of Council, be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in conducting committee business.

#### **9.19 NORTH YORK CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE.**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee had before it a report (October 26, 2001) from Ms. Helen Hanson, Member, submitting for information brief report outlining various concerns, i.e.:

- (a) Sidewalk blocked by parked vehicles; including City trucks (North York Civic Centre circle drive and adjoining walkway and sidewalk;
- (b) Newspaper clippings:
  - (i) Pilot project flashes 'walk' sign for safety (October 19, 2001 – North York Mirror).

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(ii) Senlac-Sheppard West (October 10, 2001 – North York Mirror);

(October 19, 2001) copy of note to Alan Pinkerton, Transportation Services, District 3 asking details of new sidewalk s.s. Sheppard West of Senlac.

North York Cycling and Pedestrian Committee response to Mirror new item (October 11, 2001);

On motion by Ms. Peg Lush, the Toronto Pedestrian Committee received the aforementioned communication and material.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Chair.