

Windsor Bicycling Committee

Meeting held May 4, 2022

A meeting of the Windsor Bicycling Committee is held this day commencing at 4:30 o'clock p.m. via Zoom video conference, there being present the following members:

Councillor Kieran McKenzie, Chair
Ken Acton
Klaus Dohring
Teena Ireland
Jessica Macasaet-Bondy
Erika Valvasori
Ellen van Wageningen

Guests in attendance:

Lauren Hedges, Parallel 42 Systems regarding *Item 4.1*
Gail Robertson of GailNow regarding *Items 4.1 and 4.2*

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Jeff Hagan, Transportation Planning Senior Engineer
Rania Toufeili, Policy Analyst
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 4:31 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule A attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Declaration of Conflict

None disclosed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved E. Valvasori, seconded by K. Acton,
That the minutes of the Windsor Bicycling Committee of its meeting held December 2, 2021 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. Business Items

4.1 Cycling Initiatives City Wide – Update

The Chair introduces Lauren Hedges, Project Lead for the C3Tech Initiative to develop the cycling app which is being co-sponsored by the WBC. He adds that this project is well underway and several partners have been added to the group.

Lauren Hedges advises that when this project was initially brought to Parallel 42 Systems, the funding source to develop the cycling app was provided solely by the WBC. Following that, sponsorship was received from Parallel 42, CWATS, the Ontario Tourism Innovation Lab and from Share the Road, County of Essex. The C3Tech Cycling Hackathon was officially kicked off on April 1, 2022 and will run for five weeks. Participants in the Cycling Hackathon will have an opportunity to participate in weekly events to learn more about design and software development. Participants are encouraged to contact her to share their thoughts about what can make for a useful digital application that will improve the cycling experience (at WindsorEssexCycling.ca).

J. Hagan provides an update of the current city wide cycling initiatives as follows:

- The Hawthorne cycle track near Lauzon Parkway is under construction and will provide a convenient route around Lauzon Parkway and Tecumseh Road which is the worst intersection in the city for cyclists' collisions.
- There are a number of road reconstructions with a bikeway element to them – North Talbot and on Cabana Road.
- Another roadway project is the Matchette Multi-Use Trail Phase 2 which will continue to Ojibway Nature Centre.
- The University Avenue bike lanes are still on track for construction in 2022.
- The Kildare protected bike lanes were approved by City Council which will be going forward for construction. This is one of the projects that the city applied for funding through the National Active Transportation Fund. One of the requirements is that they cannot proceed with construction until the funds are awarded.
- Working on a multi-use trail that will connect from Walker and Seminole down to Kildare and Seneca to help close that loop and to connect with the bikeway project on Kildare.
- Environmental assessment for University and Victoria will be going to Council on May 9, 2022 which includes cycle tracks from Huron Church to McDougall.
- Sandwich South Master Servicing Plan which looks at the lands south of the airport.

K. Dohring asks in terms of the pop up bike lanes on University Avenue, he refers to the City of Waterloo that have pop up bike lanes with massive concrete curbs at the bottom and high visibility bollards going up. He indicates that he is a proponent of physical separation and hopes that there will be concrete curbs at the bottom. He advises that he commutes everyday on Kildare Road along with Shepherd and Seminole and adds that

he is looking forward to the protected bike lanes. Lastly, he thanks Council and Administration for viewing the WBC as being representative of a growing group and for viewing cycling with a positive attitude.

J. Macasaet-Bondy refers to the National Active Transportation funding candidates noted in Mr. Hagan's update and asks if those projects will be approved.

J. Hagan responds that a report went to Council earlier in the year with the projects to be submitted for the Grant. He adds that the Federal Government has a pool of funds earmarked for each municipality and notes that he is confident that the funding will be received.

In response to a question asked by the Chair regarding the University Avenue pilot and the timelines, J. Hagan responds that it will be in the fall.

Moved by E. Valvasori, seconded by K. Dohring,
That the update provided by the Transportation Planning Senior Engineer regarding the cycling initiatives city wide **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

4.2 Bike to Work Event – May 15-20, 2022

The Chair introduces Gail Robertson of GailNow who will provide information related to the Bike to Work Day in partnership with Bike Windsor-Essex. He invites cyclists to meet on Friday, May 20, 2022, at 8:00 o'clock a.m. to cycle to the west side of Jackson Park (near the splash pad) and to view the maps and leave comments. He notes that these comments will be triaged by the WBC and will be part of a report to Council. By actively soliciting public input into what they would like to see in our community to promote a greater degree of commuter cycling, this will provide an opportunity to gather this information to bring back to Council in the form of a report.

Gail Robertson provides the following comments as a consultant and as an advocate of cycling:

- Present to make suggestions on providing public awareness on what is happening with cycling including the many trails available for cyclists.
- In terms of Bike to Work Week, there is an opportunity for the WBC to use social media (Facebook and Twitter) to highlight what is happening with cycling using a hashtag.
- She asks members who use Twitter to tag her to allow it to be shared.

The Chair remarks that the intention is to create excitement around Bike to Work Week along with a ride on May 20, 2022 to bring cyclists together.

In response to a question asked by J. Macasaet-Bondy regarding advertising through traditional media, the Chair responds the event will be promoted with a Press Release; media will be invited to attend along with Bike Windsor Essex as a partner (who have their own network of folks to bring to the event).

Moved by K. Dohring, seconded by J. Macasaet-Bondy,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$500 for costs associated with the purchase of bottled water for the participants at the Bike to Work Day event to be held on May 20, 2022.
Carried.

4.3 Community Acknowledgement Awards

The Chair advises that the WBC at its meeting held December 2, 2021 approved \$1,100 for the Community Recognition Cycling Program.

Gail Robertson provides the following remarks relating to the Community Acknowledgement Awards:

- Looked at the overall perspective of how to get some momentum going.
- The Bike to Work week is very important as it provides public awareness of the Windsor Bicycling Committee.
- Once there is a momentum, the next step is announce the Community Cycling Champion Awards which will involve a call for nominations.
- There will be a need for some regulations regarding criteria for what the WBC considers a community cycling champion award recipient to be.
- Year one will be building on the brand, getting the word out about and what is happening with cycling
- The announcement regarding the recipients of a Community Cycling Champion Awards will likely occur around Labour Day. Following that, there will be outreach to the award winners.
- Suggestion to provide a certificate to the award winners rather than a plaque (due to the cost) and also to post and acknowledge the recipients on social media.

The Chair states that this is an opportunity to provide recognition to those who are promoting cycling in our community. Once the criteria is determined, i.e. that an organization has bike parking facilities, the WBC would like to acknowledge their positive contributions to promoting cycling in our community. Then, we would invite people to nominate groups/organizations to provide a brief statement regarding what they are doing to promote cycling. The WBC would then decide who is deserving of acknowledgement.

Moved by J. Macasaet-Bondy, seconded by E. van Wageningen,
That the Community Cycling Acknowledgement Awards plan as presented by Gail Robertson, Consultant **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

K. Acton advises that annually the Windsor Region Society of Architects sponsors films with the Windsor International Film Festival (WIFF) relating to cycling and infrastructure. He asks that the WBC consider sponsoring a film at WIFF and to provide the Community Cycling Acknowledgment Awards at WIFF.

4.4 Fireworks Bike Corral

The Chair asks for volunteers to assist with the Fireworks event to be held on June 27, 2022. The Chair, E. van Wageningen, K. Acton, and T. Ireland volunteer to assist with the fireworks event.

E. van Wageningen refers to the Bike to Work and the Fireworks events and notes there is an opportunity for the WBC to ask the public to provide information relating to businesses and organizations that are bike friendly. She suggests giving handouts to the public with an e-mail to provide feedback.

K. Acton suggests reaching out to CUPE Local 82 to determine if there is interest in partnering with the WBC to provide fencing and service for the fireworks event.

Moved by J. Macasaet-Bondy, seconded by K. Acton,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$500. for costs associated with fencing the bike corral at Charles Clark Square and for the purchase of promotional materials for the event.

Carried.

K. Dohring voting nay.

4.5 2022 Operating Budget Discussion

K. Acton provides the following remarks relating to a cycling initiative:

- Advises that he met with Lori Newton, Bike Kitchen and adds that he sits on the Windsor Essex Community Housing Board.
- Notes that he is in the process of finalizing sessions that will take place over the summer for the residents of Windsor Essex Community housing to come into the Bike Kitchen to utilize the services and to promote active transportation.
- The Windsor Regional Society of Architects has committed approximately \$500. to purchase a bicycle and is requesting that the WBC consider donating \$500 as well.
- He adds that those who participate in the summer sessions will be eligible to win a bicycle.

K. Dohring indicates that he has donated many bikes over the years to the Bike Kitchen and adds that \$500 is too much for a bicycle. He states that he can donate five bicycles if required. He is in favour of donating funds to the Bike Kitchen but he defers to this organization to choose the bicycle and the value of the bicycles. There are more economical ways to fund decent bicycles for residents of Windsor Essex Community housing.

The Chair will consult with Lori Newton regarding this matter.

In response to a question asked by J. Macasaet-Bondy regarding the cycling app and what are the WBC's responsibilities for continued funding, the Chair responds that the ownership has not been determined and suggests that perhaps the city may assume the ownership or Hackforge.

J. Hagan responds he is unsure which department will have ownership of the app.

Moved by J. Macasaet-Bondy, seconded by K. Acton,
That the 2022 Operating Budget discussion **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

Moved by E. van Wageningen, seconded by T. Ireland,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$500 for the partnership of the Windsor Bicycling Committee and the Windsor Regional Society of Architects to sponsor and show a film about cycling by the Windsor International Film Festival.
Carried.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Chair.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:09 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR