



CITY OF WINDSOR MINUTES 06/26/2024

Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the
Transit Windsor Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Time: Immediately following the 4:30 o'clock p.m. Environment, Transportation
& Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting

Members Present:

Councillors

Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante (Chairperson)
Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie
Ward 8 - Councillor Gary Kaschak
Ward 9 - Councillor Kieran McKenzie

PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Mark Winterton, Commissioner, Infrastructure Services & City Engineer
Jelena Payne, Commissioner, Economic Development
Stephan Habrun, Director, Operations & Planning
Mark Spizzirri, Manager, Performance Measurement & Business Case Development
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson calls the meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors to order at 4:40 o'clock p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ETPS STANDING COMMITTEE SITTING AS THE TRANSIT WINDSOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3.1. Adoption of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors minutes of its meeting held May 29, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Gary Kaschak
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

THAT the minutes of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors meeting held May 29, 2024 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 179/2024

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None presented.

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9. TRANSIT BOARD ITEMS

9.1. Response to CR183/2024-Petition from Residents on the Corner of Derek Street and Radcliff Avenue in Opposition to Implementation of Bus Route - City Wide

Mark Sementilli, area resident

Mark Sementilli, area resident appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors regarding the administrative report dated, March 22, 2024, entitled "Response to CR183/2024-Petition from Residents on the Corner of Derek Street and Radcliff Avenue in Opposition to Implementation of Bus Route - City Wide" and provides an overview of the concerns that the residents have regarding the implementation of the new bus route, including; safety, environmental, and quality of life impacts.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino requests that Mr. Sementilli expand on the safety issues presented. Mr. Sementilli indicates that Radcliff Avenue is only 20 feet wide. The design guidelines for 2-way traffic with a parking lane, should be at least 34 feet wide. Clover Avenue or Banwell are better routes. Currently, vehicles need to veer into oncoming traffic to go around parked cars. Buses will need to do the same. Mr. Sementilli adds that the turn radius is too small as per the guidelines and there are bus stops placed where there are line of sight issues.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether it might possibly slow traffic down on that street. Mr. Sementilli responds that Radcliff is a bypass for Banwell and Lesperance. There are no stop signs or traffic calming measures on Radcliff currently. Vehicles speed down that street all the time to avoid bottlenecking on main roads.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie requests that the delegate expand upon the privacy concerns. Mr. Sementilli provides details related to the townhomes on the south end of Radcliff that have side-facing decks and back yards facing Radcliff. Mr. Sementilli indicates that the bus stop is 15 feet away from someone's living space. Mr. Sementilli adds that the constant bus stopping and noise in such close proximity will be disruptive and negatively affect quality of life in the area.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie comments that mass transit reduces emissions. Mr. Sementilli responds that bringing the bus down a road where nobody plans to use it doesn't reduce emissions, and If you take that same bus and move it to Banwell, where there is likely going to be more use, there is no environmental impact to Radcliff.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie responds that evidence suggests that mass transit is a net environmental benefit. Mr. Sementilli responds that is true if they are using it, but nothing suggests that people in his neighbourhood will be using it.

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Councillor Kieran McKenzie requests that administration speak to having a bus on Radcliff being a safe option for that street. Stephan Habrun, Director Operations and Planning, Transit Windsor appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors regarding the administrative report dated, March 22, 2024, entitled "Response to CR183/2024-Petition from Residents on the Corner of Derek Street and Radcliff Avenue in Opposition to Implementation of Bus Route - City Wide" and responds that transit has conducted dry runs on this route already and have identified that it meets all of the guidelines and standards as in other areas of the city. Mr. Habrun adds that Transit operates on roads that are narrower than Radcliff and have not identified any issues during testing.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie requests that administration speak to the choice of route on Radcliff specifically. Tyson Cragg, Executive Director Transit Windsor appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors regarding the administrative report dated, March 22, 2024, entitled "Response to CR183/2024-Petition from Residents on the Corner of Derek Street and Radcliff Avenue in Opposition to Implementation of Bus Route - City Wide" and indicates that this area of homes south of McNorton and east of Radcliff was identified as a gap in service. There is already a service plan for Banwell that will come at a later date, but Radcliff was identified as a connection to expand the transit service as far east as possible to the city limits.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether the impact of choosing a different option as it relates to levels of service outweighs the benefit. Administration indicates that there are connectivity issues with north/south corridors connecting to Riverside Drive. Operating in Tecumseh requires an operating agreement with the municipality. Moving the route to Lesperance increases the annual cost of this route to nearly \$250,000 and would require an additional bus with a required capital cost of \$1.2 million. It drastically increases the number of operating hours which requires more capital resources.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether there is a standard regulation in regards to the bus stop being located in front of the park and if there is a specified distance. Administration responds that if there is a designated crosswalk, there are distances that need to be in place, but there are none on Radcliff. Administration can look at stop placement and adjust as needed.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks Administration if there was public consultation completed during the planning process. Administration indicates that during the public engagements in 2019, there were 2 rounds. There were 20 open houses throughout the city, every city resident received notice with their tax mail out regarding information about the master plan. There were telephone surveys, pop up open houses, emails, newsletters, and website advertising.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether the site lines and road width are adequate to implement the route on Radcliff. Administration responds yes.

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Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether there will be parking loss as a result of the bus route. Mr. Habrun indicates that the total parking loss along Radcliff between McNorton and Little River will be about 4 spots. The stop spacing is very generous along the route.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks Administration about the distance residents have to walk from their home to a bus stop. Mr. Habrun indicates that the transit industry guideline is to have a stop within 400 meters walk-distance from a residence. Increasing the service area closer to the city limits achieves the goal of better service delivery.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether snowplows typically tend to bus routes more promptly. Administration indicates that bus routes are priority 1 streets.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether there is a potential for regional transit into the town of Tecumseh. Administration indicates that it has been discussed recently and will be part of further discussion between municipalities.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks Administration if there is currently a bus route on Banwell. Mr. Cragg indicates that there is a short route on Banwell between Tecumseh Rd and McHugh, but there is a new route proposed in January that will see a service change including a route straight down Banwell.

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks Administration to provide more details about the Banwell route. Administration provides details of the routes.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires as to why Banwell would not be the priority instead of using Radcliff. Administration indicates that by running the route on Banwell it removes a significant portion of homes from the service standard of 400 meters and duplicates service that currently exists. The other issue is connectivity as Banwell does not directly connect to Riverside Drive. Currently service runs down Cora Greenwood to Riverside Drive so they would continue to run in that corridor to connect to Riverside.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **TWB 2**

THAT the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the report of the Manager, Transit Planning dated March 22, 2024 entitled "Response to CR183/2024-Petition from Residents on the Corner of Derek Street and Radcliff Avenue in Opposition to Implementation of Bus Route - City Wide."

Carried.

Report Number: S 40/2024
Clerk's File: ACO/14715

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9.2. Town of Amherstburg - Transit Service Agreement Renewal - City Wide

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether Transit has the capacity to handle the expansion of service to Amherstburg and what the impact might be from a service delivery capability standpoint if we are improving or increasing service levels. Mr. Cragg indicates that it will have no impact on the service levels in the City of Windsor. There is full cost recovery for the program through the agreement with the Town of Amherstburg including on the capital side. The bus assigned to that route is exclusive to that route. The contract agreement with the town of Amherstburg is fully covering the cost of capital and operating.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about the fleet capacity and service delivery capacity and how running buses out to Amherstburg will affect the overall ability to continue the path to offer service to this area. Mr. Cragg indicates that they are not adding a bus to the service, they are simply running one bus on a route to Amherstburg and back to Windsor, as a result, there is no capital increase for the route.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **TWB 3**

THAT the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION** the report of the Executive Director, Transit Windsor dated May 29, 2024 entitled "Town of Amherstburg - Transit Service Agreement Renewal - City Wide"; and,

THAT Transit Windsor **BE AUTHORIZED** to update and renew the existing Agreement for another five-year term (September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2029) with the Town of Amherstburg to provide a transit route that connects with services provided by Transit Windsor; and,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the Agreement with the Town of Amherstburg, satisfactory in form to the City Solicitor, in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in technical content to the City Engineer and the Executive Director of Transit Windsor.
Carried.

Report Number: S 70/2024
Clerk's File: MT2024

11. NEW BUSINESS

None presented.

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12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors is adjourned at 5:16 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Sitting as the Transit Windsor Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, July 31, 2024
Carried.

Ward 2 – Councillor Costante
(Chairperson)

Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council
Services