CITY OF WINDSOR MINUTES 05/24/2023

Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Time: 4:30 o'clock p.m.

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 Keiran McKenzie

ALSO PARTICIPATING ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Chris Nepszy, Commissioner of Infrastructure Services
Steve Vlachodimos, City Clerk
Shawna Boakes, Executive Director Operations/ Deputy City Engineer
Anne Marie Albidone, Manager Environmental Services
Craig Robertson, Supervisor, Licensing / Deputy Licensing Commissioner
Fahd Mikhael, Manager Design
Jeff Hagan, Transportation Planning Senior Engineer
Mark Spizzirri, Manager Performance Management and Business Case Development
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services

ALSO PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Following the reading of the Land Acknowledgement, the Chairperson calls the meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee to order at 4:30 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

3.1. Adoption of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee minutes held March 29, 2023

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

That the minutes of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting held March 29, 2023 (excluding Transit Matters) **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 109/2023

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None requested.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

See item 7.1 and 8.1.

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.1. Report No. 156 of the Windsor Licensing Commission - Taxicab meter rate and tariffs

Walter Bezzina, Vets Cab

Walter Bezzina, Vets Cab appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee regarding "Report No. 156 of the Windsor Licensing Commission – Taxicab meter rates and tariffs" and expresses his support for the committee's recommendation. Mr. Bezzina requests clarification and confirmation of the distance incremental of 25 cents, for every 142 metres or any part thereof.

Jay Abdoulrahman, Canadian Checker Cab

Jay Abdoulraham, Canadian Checker Cab appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Committee regarding "Report No. 156 of the Windsor Licensing Commission – Taxicab meter rates and tariffs" and is available for questions

Councillor Kieran McKenzie, inquires about the comparator table and the rates for Vets Cab. Mr. Bezzina indicates that he doesn't know what the costs of his competitors are.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie requests clarification from administration related to the incremental billing system. Mr. Robertson indicates that the way Mr. Bezzina indicated it would be correct.

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 943**
That the report No. 156 of the Windsor Licensing Commission indicating:

THAT the existing taxicab meter rate and tariffs BE INCREASED based on the proposal submitted by Vets Cab and Unifor Local 195 to the following:

Drop Rate - $4.25; and

Distance Increment - $0.25 cents 142 meters; and any portion thereof; and

Waiting Time (passenger conveyance) $30.00/hour; and

Waiting Time (services for board of education) - $2.50; and

Cross Border Fees – meter rate plus $12.00 CAD or $9.00 USD plus tolls between Windsor and Detroit; and further,

THAT Appendix "A" of Schedule 5 to Public Vehicle Licensing by-law No. 137-2007 (as amended by By-law No. 150-2018) BE AMENDED accordingly if there are changes to the City's current taxicab meter rate and tariffs.
BE APPROVED.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 107/2023
Clerk's File: MB2023

7.2. Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held March 7, 2023

Councillor Kieran McKenzie clarifies the information related to the producer responsibility and the challenges associated with implementation of that process. The Councillor indicates that there are negotiations happening, with municipalities and the producers which include some challenges through the delivery of those services.

Moved by: Councillor Gary Kaschak
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 944**
That the Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Regular Board meeting held March 7, 2023 **BE RECEIVED.**
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 107/2023
Clerk's File: MB2023

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.1. Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside - City Wide

Nick Rosic, Ward 3 Resident

Nick Rosic, Ward 3 resident appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside – City Wide" and indicates the condition of the alley in his neighbourhood is concerning and commends Councillor Agostino for his efforts with the clean up. Mr. Rosic adds that there are rodent concerns, feral cats, racoons, and safety concerns related to the garbage being ripped open on a regular basis. Mr. Rosic indicates that a possible solution would be to

move the garbage collection to the front and perhaps provide a one-time subsidy for hard sided containers to the residents who don't have them.

Nicholas Amlin, Ward 3 Resident

Nicholas Amlin, Ward 3 resident appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside – City Wide" and indicates that his block has been hard hit by the issue of garbage in the alley which has affected his families quality of life. Mr. Amlin adds that people are not storing bins with lids on them in the alley and people are tearing through bins. When the bins do not have lids on them and are not presented correctly the waste management collectors don't take them. Mr. Amlin concludes by indicating there are safety concerns in the alley, related to needles and people using the alley uninvited, and suggests that having garbage/recycle collection at the front would be a large deterrent for bin theft and would encourage neighbours to be more thoughtful of their garbage collection and storage practices.

Councillor Mark McKenzie, inquires about how the alleys look. Mr. Amlin indicates that he is in the alley a great deal cleaning up his area and adjacent areas of garbage that is dumped. He also expresses concern about needles, and illicit drug use in the alley on a regular basis.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether the delegates fear for their safety or for their families safety. Mr. Rosic cites issues with racoons, feral cats, rats, and that they can't enjoy their patio. Mr. Amlin, indicates his family tries to enjoy their backyard and have people peeking over the fence.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about maintenance and safety in the alley and if alley maintenance would be improved would it have a positive impact on safety. Mr. Amlin doesn't think so, indicating that people are camping behind his house in the alley because it was very clean.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires about the status of the alley maintenance standards report. Chris Nepszy, Commissioner Infrastructure Services appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside – City Wide" and indicates that the level of service standards would be a separate issue from garbage collection. The garbage collection issues was brought forward at this time as the contract is coming due. Administration determined that the report related to alley maintenance standards would best fit to tie into the forthcoming Asset Management plan as it will address level of service with a sustainable plan and include funding gaps, which will provide a response to the original request and is anticipated to be brought forward to Council in July of 2024.

Councillor Mark McKenzie expresses concern that the request for the report came three years ago. The Councillor adds that both issues are connected and makes the decision harder as some of the information has not been provided yet, and whether there is a way to expedite the report. Mr. Nepszy doesn't believe it can be expedited and it won't be provided in time for the garbage

collection contract to be completed. Mr. Nepszy provides information related to roads/paved alley networks.

Councillor Mark McKenzie has concerns related to removing alley garbage collection as the level of maintenance for alleys will fall to the bottom in terms of priority. Mr. Nepszy indicates that garbage trucks in the alley also cause wear and tear on the alley, they apply pressure to alleys and more maintenance is required, if the trucks were removed the level of maintenance required for alleys may also be reduced.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether the alleys that would be affected by the change have been identified. Anne Marie Albidone, Manager Environmental Services appears before the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside – City Wide" and indicates that the alleys in BIA's would not be affected as well as a few other alleys with roads that are too narrow for trucks to easily pass through as well as one-way traffic streets Ms. Albidone adds that the tender could include a request for specialized vehicles to collect on one-way streets.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether it would be more efficient with alley pickup if they are collecting on both sides. Ms. Albidone indicates that alley trucks are smaller, with a smaller payload. Ms. Albidone adds that it may be more efficient, if you can use the same trucks on both sides at once on the curbside.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether administration thinks there will be a cost savings to curbside collection. Ms. Albidone advises the committee that an increase to garbage collection costs will occur throughout the region. The amount of potential savings with a move to curb side is unknown at this time.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires about by-law enforcement and whether typically there are many complaints from residents regarding garbage bins on front porches and whether this is enforced on a regular basis. Administration indicates that they receive their direction from Council, related to priorities on enforcement.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether public consultation has taken place regarding this proposed change. Mr. Nepszy indicated that it has not, although if a change is made it will be well communicated publicly.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that he doesn't feel he has all the information that he needs to make a decision related to the change to garbage collection. The Councillor adds that clear direction around what standards are in place for alleys would make the decision to the change easier and inquires as to the anticipated timeline of that report. Mr. Nepszy indicates they would have to get the RFT ready for late summer or early fall.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether the intention of administration is to remove services from alleys to make a case to divest the space to the private sector. Mr. Nepszy responds no, and indicates this report is regarding the garbage tender and not getting rid of alleys.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about rodents and animals whether that is a major issue in the downtown. Ms. Albidone indicates there is a lot of urban wildlife in the area and people should follow the by-law in order to alleviate animal and rodent concerns. Ms. Albidone adds that the rodent control program is still being offered and information related to deterring animals is available on-line.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about regional garbage collection. Ms. Albidone indicates that the County is discussing a County regional collection program and they may tender together but award separately. Ms. Albidone reiterates the importance of issuing the tender early as there is a two year delay on purchasing collection trucks.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about collection every 2 weeks. Ms. Albidone indicates that many things will be considered when issuing the tender including organics collection.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about potential cost savings. Ms. Albidone indicates that recycling collection will remain at bi-weekly until at least 2026, after 2026 the producers can set different rules and change frequency of collection. Ms. Albidone indicates it may be some time in terms of organics, also a split garbage truck could be considered with garbage in one stream and organics in the other or various other streams, administration is analyzing various options to determine what would be most cost effective.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires as to the collection days. Ms. Albidone indicates that days that collection occurs can be changed as long as the City maintains the 4 days a week collection cycle. Administration would require direction on this by October of the previous year to ensure it's in the new collection calendar.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires when the transfer station for organics will be determined. Ms. Albidone indicates that is up to the EWSWA Board and they are reviewing options that will be considered.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there are reports from waste collection drivers downtown. Ms. Albidone indicates that she has had many conversations with contractors who have raised safety concerns because of the maintenance and overgrowth in alleys as well as debris and the condition of the alleys, including potholes which is resulting in more truck maintenance in some cases.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there may be an opportunity to provide a pilot project in the Victoria area and other neighbourhoods directly affected by some of these concerns, and that this would make a significant change to quality of life for those residents. Ms. Albidone indicates that she can inquire although the pilot area would have to be agreed to by the contractor and couldn't be a large area otherwise there will be additional charges.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about the RFT. Ms. Albidone provides information related to timelines.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the amount of garbage collection per area and whether it is different for inner city compared to the suburbs. Ms. Albidone indicates that there are approximately the same number of trucks on every collection day and exact amounts would be hard to determine.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about environmental benefits moving to curbside collection, and wouldn't there be more congestion on main streets, more emissions related to delayed traffic. Mr. Nepszy indicates that if collection was on the street it would be larger trucks but less runs as opposed to smaller trucks in the alley with more runs. Ms. Albidone provides details related to current collection timelines on arterial roads.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the load difference between the alley and the road truck. Ms. Albidone indicates that the alley collection truck would be getting about 8 tonnes. The street collection vehicle would be getting about 12 tonnes.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the alley standards policy and whether a committee has been struck. Mr. Nepszy indicates that the committee has not yet been struck. Mr. Nepszy provides information related to the Asset Management Plan and service levels with paved alleys being the focus.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about expediting the alley maintenance report. Mr. Nepszy can't see that happening by the Fall.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

That the report of the Manager, Environmental Services dated May 5, 2023 entitled "Move Residential Alley Garbage Collection to Curbside – City Wide" **BE REFERRED** back to Administration to allow for the Administrative report regarding Minimum Alley Maintenance Standards to be brought forward to the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee simultaneously, as soon as possible; and,

That information related to a potential test pilot program that would move residential garbage alley collection to curbside, in Ward 3 **BE INCLUDED** in the report.
Carried.
Councillor Renaldo Agostino voting nay.

Report Number: C 69/2023
Clerk's File: SW2023

8.2. Policy and Funding Program Review for Updating Narrow Streets - City Wide - CQ 8-2022.

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 945**
That the report of the Commissioner, Infrastructure Services dated May 4, 2023 entitled "Policy Funding Program Review for Updating Narrow City Streets" **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

Report Number: C 66/2023
Clerk's File: SW2023 & ACOQ2023

8.3. Traffic Noise along the E.C. Row Corridor Close to Sensitive Land Uses without Sound Mitigation Measures – City Wide - CQ17-2022

Councillor Kieran McKenzie refers to the stretch of road on E.C. Row between Walker and Howard Avenue and asks Administration why there is no sound barrier as every other stretch of road on E.C. Row that is in proximity to sensitive land use has a sound barrier. Chris Nepszy states depending on the type and density of the tree, and the elevation of the road compared to the homes, the effectiveness may or may not be there.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie asks Administration if it is possible to conduct an analysis on a type of tree (within the City's inventory) that would impact the noise issues within the corridor. Chris Nepszy responds that if they were asked to investigate the placement of trees (type, cost and feasibility), Administration would work with Forestry on this matter.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 94**
That the report of the Commissioner, Infrastructure Services dated May 4, 2023 entitled "Traffic Noise along the E.C. Row Corridor Close to Sensitive Land Uses without Sound Mitigation Measures – City Wide – CQ 17-2022" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

That Administration **BE REQUESTED** to work with the Parks Department and City Forester to investigate opportunities to add trees along E.C. Row Expressway on the North and South sides between Walker Road and Howard Avenue.
Carried.

8.4. Response to CQ27-2021 - All-Way Stop Warrant - City Wide

Councillor Kieran McKenzie remarks that there are other reports of interest coming in the near future and he wants to see those reports before making a determination whether or not the warrant process is changed. Ms. Boakes, Executive Director Operations, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Response to CQ 27-2021 – All-Way Stop Warrant-City Wide" and indicates that if a stop sign is removed on a road that is over designed, there is the potential of speeds increasing. Ms. Boakes adds that the relationship of a stop sign throughout all of the legislated guidelines indicates it is not a speed control device. Ms. Boakes indicates that the next step is the traffic calming, so if speeds are altered, traffic calming provides the tools to lower the speeds. She adds some of the recommended changes in the warrant process are beneficial as it will allow them to look at it differently when requests are received.

Councillor Gary Kaschak indicates that four-way stops are not being overused especially in the dense wards. He states if there were more four-way stops in the 40 km speed limits areas, it would be effective. He suggests deferring this matter pending the receipt of the Vision Zero report and adds he would like to see stop sign location changes and moves. Ms. Boakes responds that at this time there is no mechanism in place to do a stop sign reversal or a stop sign removal. Administration has attempted a number of these over the last two to three years, and received pushback from the public which is a reason why some legitimate potential all way stop locations cannot be installed.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino remarks this is a step in the right direction. Ms. Boakes responds in terms of the all-way stop component, this is the ultimate step. The Traffic Calming Policy that will come forward as part of the next revision will be the next step to address the traffic calming issues.

Councillor Fabio Costante indicates that the intent behind this Council Question was to lower the threshold to allow the opportunity for more four way stops. After reading the report, the conclusion was that it will be more difficult to acquire more four way stops after this new Policy is implemented. Ms. Boakes responds that some of the changes that have been made are to meet the new recommendations in the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) which are more lenient now.

Councillor Fabio Costante refers to the manuals and guidelines that Engineering refers to, and inquires whether the manuals are binding and can they deviate and use their discretion or is the City bound by what is in those manuals. Ms. Boakes indicates that the manuals are the OTM, developed by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario and the Manual Uniform of Traffic Control Devices for Canada. In order for the City to deviate and make solid recommendations on changes to this process, time would be required to understand why the changes are being made.

Councillor Fabio Costante states it was mentioned in the report that four way stops may lead to more rear end collisions as side collisions lead to more fatalities or more serious injuries. He asks if there is any evidence on side collisions on two way stops versus four way stops. Jeff Hagan, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Response to CQ 27-2021 – All-Way Stop Warrant-City Wide" and indicates that generally all way stops are considered a counter measure for angled collisions, however unwarranted all way stops can create concerns around pedestrian collisions and unwarranted stops where the driver realizes they are unlikely to encounter conflicting traffic can lead to worse compliance rates.

Councillor Fabio Costante indicates that the evidence conclusively states that two-way stops will lead to higher side collisions on motor vehicles which leads to higher fatalities or serious injuries but it could lead to more accidents with pedestrians if four way stops are implemented. Mr. Hagan indicates that yes, unwarranted all way stops lead to higher pedestrian collisions.

Councillor Fabio Costante advises what precipitated the Council Question was a series of intersections around school zones in his neighbourhood where there have been collisions as it is difficult to see oncoming traffic due to street parking which has led to many side collisions. Ms. Boakes indicates that there are things that can be done, if parking on the side of the road is an issue, they can pull parking back. Ms. Boakes adds that in a school zone if there are increased pedestrian collisions, by adding an unwarranted stop, the question is should parking be removed or do they increase the potential for collisions. If speeding is the concern, go back to Traffic Calming Policies and Traffic Calming Implementations. These are the tools to look at and implement more heavily.

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

That Council APPROVE the updated All-way Stop Policy as listed in the Traffic All Way Stop Warrant Check List and the Corporation of the City of Windsor All-Way Stop Policy**.**

Clerk's Note: Councillor Renaldo Agostino requests that this motion **BE WITHDRAWN**.

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

That the report of the Senior Manager, Traffic Operations & Parking dated May 5, 2023 entitled "Response to CQ27-2021 – All-way Stop Warrant – City Wide" **BE DEFERRED** to the next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee to allow for Administration **TO PROVIDE** a concise, detailed summary of changes to the All-way Stop Warrant Program and policy.
Carried.

Report Number: C 70/2023
Clerk's File: SW2023 & ACOQ2023

8.5. Dandurand Avenue Pedestrian Generator Sidewalk (from Northwood Street to existing sidewalk (approximately 210m north))- Ward 10

Councillor Jim Morrison appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Dandurand Avenue Pedestrian Generator Sidewalk (from Northwood Street to existing sidewalk (approximately 210mnorht))-Ward 10" and indicates that Dandurand Avenue generates a lot of traffic and he mentions several schools within the area. Councillor Jim Morrison also indicates that the sidewalk on Dandurand continues halfway down the street and then stops and that the continuation of the sidewalk would be beneficial for students and other pedestrians in the area.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 947**

I. THAT Council **APPROVE** the final design and construction of an infill Pedestrian Generator Sidewalk on Dandurand Avenue as proposed in Option 3 of this report, and,

II. THAT the estimated cost of $ 140,000.00 **BE CHARGED** to the Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project (Project no. 7045034); and,

III. THAT Council **PRE-APPROVE** the Award of Tender related to this project, provided that the Tender amount is within the approved budget, pursuant to the Purchasing By-Law 93-2012 and amendments thereto; and,

IV. THAT the CAO and the City Clerk **EXCECUTE** an agreement with the low bidder, with said contract being satisfactory in form to the Commissioner of Legal & Legislative Services, and in financial content to the Commissioner of Corporate Services, CFO/City Treasurer.

Carried.

Report Number: S 58/2023
Clerk's File: SW2023

9. TRANSIT BOARD ITEMS

None presented.

10. ADOPTION OF TRANSIT BOARD MINUTES

None presented.

11. QUESTION PERIOD

None registered.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

There being no further busienss, the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee is adjourned at 6:52 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee will be held June 28, 2023.
Carried.

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Ward 2 – Councillor Costante (Chairperson)	Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services