



**Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday, September 27, 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 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:**

Jelena Payne, Commissioner, Economic Development & Innovation

Shawna Boakes, Executive Director Operations / Deputy City Engineer

Karina Richters, Supervisor Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change

Michelle Moxley-Peltier, Community Energy Plan Administrator

Mark Spizzirri, Manager Performance Management and Business Case Development

Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk

# Minutes

Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee  
Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 2 of 8

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

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. Minutes of the July 26, 2023 Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

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

THAT the minutes of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting held July 26, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 208/2023

## 4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

## 5. COMMUNICATIONS

None Presented.

## 6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

## 7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

### 7.1. Minutes of the July 12, 2023 Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority Board meeting

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 3 of 8

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that at both Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority meetings, the issue of a regional waste collection proposal was discussed and brought forward. The Councillor notes that none of the committee members from the other municipalities who voted against the proposal brought forward any questions/concerns/comments on the issue during the EWSWA meeting.

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 954**

THAT the Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Regular Board Meeting held July 12, 2023 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 233/2023

### 7.2. Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Regular Board Meeting Minutes of its meeting held Wednesday, August 9, 2023

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 955**

THAT the Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Regular Board Meeting held Wednesday, August 9, 2023 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 254/2023

## 8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

### 8.1. Community and Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Monitoring Report – 2021 - City Wide

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether the term “decoupled” is still applicable to where we think greenhouse gasses are going to be. Karina Richters, Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting regarding the administrative report “Community and Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) and Energy Monitoring Report-2021-City Wide” and indicates they are hopeful that the decoupling will continue. She adds that a number of the larger industries in the area have already committed to their own net zero plans for 2030, 2035 or 2050, and if they are continuing to improve their efficiency, we should continue to see that. Ms. Richters indicates that in some industries they are also looking at requiring it of their suppliers as well.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 4 of 8

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that in the report, there may be policies that are implemented that will incentivise behavioural or mode shifts for private sector and municipalities and individuals, and inquires about the Residential retrofit program, and if it's anticipated it would be ready for council approval before the end of the year. Ms. Richters indicates that there will be a report coming shortly, either before the end of the year or shortly into the New Year.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about targets for transit and transportation in relation to GHG reductions related to delivering transit and the decision to not fund a new garage and whether it caps the capacity to be able to reach those targets if we are not fully able to realize the transit master plan in its original iteration. Administration indicates that the more people they can get to use buses, the quicker they will be able to reduce the GHG emissions. Administration is also undertaking the electrification of the transit fleet study currently, another grant that Administration is supporting and working through which may provide further answers in the future.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that active transportation is another opportunity to address the GHG emissions emitted through the transportation sector and the Vision Zero report and an update on the Active Transportation Master Plan (ATMP), will help to identify other opportunities to promote the mode shift. The Councillor inquires regarding the Community Energy Plan and whether the City is leveraging those opportunities to see GHG emissions reduced through active transportation promotion, given the implementation status of the of the ATMP. Ms. Richters indicates that the ATMP is a key plan that helps to drive those emissions for transportation down. People who are cycling or walking are zero emissions. We are seeing the trend toward more of a modal split. The Community Energy Plan had a goal of 10% and the ATMP increased it more in terms of their objective, and if the City is able to reach those targets, a good improvement will be realized. The City is working on their Net Zero transition plan and how they can address some of the gaps they are seeing along the way. Ms. Richters adds they are trying to get from 40% by 2041 to a net zero 2050. Administration is hoping to have a report back to Council by the spring which will address some of the gaps.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about the analysis outlined in the report and whether there was a carbon tax that was implemented, given where our emissions are currently, the liability to the City of Windsor would exceed \$100M. Administration indicates that they have reviewed the GHG emissions as they are and what that means in terms of a Carbon Tax. Ms. Richters adds that if they don't take action, it is not only a GHG emissions issue, it's also an energy cost. It was calculated that in 2030 it would be approximately \$253M in liability per year. In the report it was illustrated that was an under estimation of the cost we may be seeing on the adaptation side. The carbon tax was implemented because we need to see the shift from GHG emissions.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about the renewable energy generation in regards to the addition of solar panels throughout the city and whether there has been a study since their addition. Ms. Richters indicates that some of the installations are still in progress, but the corporate energy team will be reporting back in regards to the efficiency.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the deep retrofit program with respect to the ATMP, for every \$1 we invest in climate mitigation there is a percentage that is returned and inquires whether

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 5 of 8

administration has that amount. Ms. Richters indicates that there is mention that there is a study from the US, from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that for every dollar spent on mitigation, there is \$6 saved on adaptation.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires whether Council will be getting a progress on the ATMP and how the City is achieving objectives in that plan based on the overall goal of mode shift to 25% by 2041. Administration indicates that there is a yearly report from 2022 coming in October to the Standing Committee. Administration adds that at the end of 5 years they will come back with all of the measures listed in the ATMP. The data has started to be collected and the information should be coming forward within the next year.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the ATMP, Transit Service Delivery and the Retrofit Program currently implemented, and whether there are any other mitigation pieces that we can consider or are those the largest pieces. Ms. Richters indicates that those are the three main ones that are highlighted in terms of reducing emissions currently. They do have other plans that are in the works that are looking to manage growth emissions, and there is more that will come forward in other reports. Ms. Richters indicates that residential housing is 18% of our community emissions, if we look at improving our aging housing stock that would support reductions. Transportation is our highest emissions upwards of 40%, trying to look at active transportation, public transit, electrification of vehicles will help to reduce our emissions.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about Sandwich South plans and development and managing that in the context of this. Administration indicates that in terms of Sandwich South, those emissions are not accounted for in this, this is what we are seeing in terms of our electricity and natural gas bills to date. We also calculate these emissions per capita, so we are trying to reduce overall emissions, but also emissions per capita.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about the effect of the regional waste collection and organic waste recycling having a positive net impact of GHG emissions for the region. Administration indicates that the opportunity to collect organic waste and use it for a renewable source like renewable natural gas would almost offset our emissions from waste.

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 956**

THAT the report of the Community Energy Plan Administrator dated July 30, 2023 entitled "Community and Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Monitoring Report - 2021" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Report Number: S 4/2023  
Clerk's File: EI/10822

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 6 of 8

### 8.2. Windsor's Bird Friendly City Designation - City Wide

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

Decision Number: **ETPS 957**

1. THAT the report from the Environment and Sustainability Coordinator dated August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 regarding Windsor's Bird Friendly City Status **BE RECEIVED** for information;
2. THAT City Council **SUPPORT** continuing efforts to be a Bird Friendly City;
3. THAT City Council **APPROVE** the creation of a Bird Friendly Working Team under the Environment and Climate Change Advisory Committee;
4. THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to provide an annual report card on activities related to the Bird Friendly City Status to Nature Canada.

Carried.

Report Number: S 114/2023  
Clerk's File: EI2023

### 8.3. Kildare Avenue (Richmond Street to Ottawa Street), Partington Avenue (Columbia Court to Labelle Street) and Lone Pine Street (Provincial Road to Maple Leaf Crescent) Traffic Calming – Wards 4, 10 & 9

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that since they are being asked to pull funds forward from subsequent budget years to fund these projects, if it is Council's intention to continue to fund traffic calming initiatives in neighbourhoods, they will have to look for more sustainable funding and will have to make some decisions around the budget table whether or not they are going to continue to be able to fund these kinds of projects, is this a reasonable assessment. Shawna Boakes, Executive Director Operations, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting regarding the administrative report "Kildare Avenue (Richmond Street to Ottawa Street), Partington Avenue (Columbia Court to Labelle Street) and Lone Pine Street (Provincial Road to Maple Leaf Crescent) Traffic Calming – Wards 4, 10 & 9" and indicates that they have already pulled \$100,000 from their 2026 budget forward, and this is another \$105,000 that they are pulling forward from 2026. Ms. Boakes indicates that they are working through these budgets and if we intend to continue, we may have to look at something more sustainable.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires, beyond these projects, how many more are in the queue that are currently unfunded. Ms. Boakes indicates that there are approximately 200 requests in the queue that have not been reviewed and there is a temporary hold on surveys for the speed humps in an attempt to focus our staff on other projects to try to get them completed. Ms. Boakes adds that they don't have the funding to install them and conducting the studies would seem

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 7 of 8

disingenuous. There are at least 50 that could be put out for surveys if we had the funding and the staff to do so.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 958**

THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to install speed humps on Kildare Avenue between Richmond Street and Ottawa Street; and,

THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to install speed humps on Partington Avenue between Columbia Court and Labelle Street; and,

THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to install speed humps on Lone Pine Street between Provincial Road and Maple Leaf Crescent; and,

THAT City Council **SUPPORT** an expenditure in the amount of \$105,000 which will be charged to the Traffic Calming Initiatives project, OPS-021-07; and,

THAT the CFO/City Treasurer **BE DIRECTED** to consider the \$105,000 a pre-commitment of funding allocated in principle in 2026 as part of the 2024 10-year capital plan and allow the funds to be made available for immediate use; and,

THAT a budget issue with regards to annual maintenance of \$8,030 **BE CONSIDERED** as part of the 2024 operating budget development process as a priority item based upon approval for the installation of the speed humps noted.

Carried.

Report Number: C 140/2023

Clerk's File: ST/13863

## 9. TRANSIT BOARD ITEMS

None presented.

## 10. ADOPTION OF TRANSIT BOARD MINUTES

None presented.

## 11. QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about transit services in the context of back to school, and request that at the next council meeting or perhaps at the next ETPS meeting, that a verbal response be provided by the Transit Director in terms of what the process is looking like.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Page 8 of 8

Councillor Kieran McKenzie indicates that there are a number of students who are having significant challenges using transit service to get to and from school, and inquires what specifically is causing those challenges and what Transit may be able to do in order to address those challenges.

The Chair indicates that the college has enrolled thousands of international students which has caused significant pressure on transit and housing which is probably part of the problems that they're facing.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie would like to hear from the Director of Transit to determine if that is one of the reasons for creating those pressures, then maybe there would be some actions that we would like to undertake.

Councillor Fabio Costante indicates that moving forward if the members of the Committee would like to have a specific area of Administration present at the meeting, who do not normally attend the meetings, to send the chair a message so that the Clerk's office can facilitate their attendance accordingly.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor Gary Kaschak

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

There being no further business, the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee is adjourned at 5:04 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee will be held October 25, 2023.

Carried.

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Ward 2 – Councillor Costante  
(Chairperson)

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Deputy City Clerk /  
Supervisor of Council Services