



## CITY OF WINDSOR MINUTES 06/25/2025

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

Date: Wednesday, June 25, 2025

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 & Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
David Simpson, Commissioner, Infrastructure Services & City Engineer  
Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Corporate Services  
Brian Lima, Executive Director Operations / Deputy City Engineer  
Matthew Johnson, Executive Director, Economic Development  
Donna Desantis, Senior Manager, Deputy Chief Building Official / Inspections  
Rob Vani, Senior Manager, Deputy Chief Building Official / Inspections  
Brandon Calleja, Senior Manager, Deputy Chief Building Official / Permits  
Ian Day, Senior Manager, Transportation  
Mark Spizzirri, Manager Performance Measurement & Business Case Development  
Sokol Aliko, Manager Energy Initiatives  
Craig Robertson, Manager Licensing and Enforcement & Deputy Licence Commissioner  
Chris Gerardi, Engineer II  
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 2 of 10

---

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson calls the meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee to order at 4:34 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, and Public Safety Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held May 28, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

THAT the minutes of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting held May 28, 2025 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 179/2025

### 4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

#### 8.6. Options for Licensing Hotels and Motels - City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

THAT the report of the Manger of Licensing and Enforcement & Deputy Licence Commissioner dated February 13, 2025 entitled "Options for Licensing Hotels and Motels – City Wide" **BE DEFERRED** to a future meeting of Council to be considered when the Strengthen the Core Update report comes forward.

Carried.

Report Number: S 21/2025 & AI 17/2025

Clerk's File: ACL2025

### 5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 3 of 10

---

### 6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

#### 8.1. 2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide

##### **Mary Sye and Megan Shannon, Enbridge Gas Inc.**

Mary Sye and Megan Shannon from Enbridge Gas Inc. appear before the Environment, Transportation, and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated November 14, 2024, entitled “2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide” and provide a brief overview of Windsor’s sources of greenhouse gas emissions and year-to-year results related to greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

Councillor Gary Kaschak requests confirmation related to Windsor reporting a 12% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2023. Ms. Sye replies that one large project that year contributed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by such a significant number.

Councillor Kieran inquires as to what Enbridge’s long-term plans are surrounding the increasing demand for energy and potential sustainability opportunities. Ms. Sye replies that the removal of the Carbon Tax makes it difficult to determine what the coming years will bring, but the long-term strategy is a more holistic view of available programs with the goal being more deep energy reductions. Awareness of available programs to help reduce energy use and GHG is also something that Enbridge would like to improve, and they would be happy to partner with the City to help raise that awareness.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie comments that high energy demand is a challenge that has been identified in the region, which has affected specific decisions that city council has made and inquires whether Enbridge is anticipating these increased needs long-term. Ms. Sye replies that they are, but because long-term planning has been affected by the Carbon Tax removal, there are no specific future plans to share at this time.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about the impact public transportation has on greenhouse gas emissions in the region, as its impact is cited in the report as one of the top strategic priorities to address. Matthew Johnson, Executive Director, Economic Development and Climate Change, appears before the Environment, Transportation, and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated November 14, 2024, entitled “2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide” and replies that administration has been working on an Electric Vehicle policy with the Greening the Fleet initiatives, which would have a positive effect on the city’s GHG emissions targets. Jelena Payne, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Commissioner, Economic Development appears before the Environment, Transportation, and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated November 14, 2024, entitled “2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide” and adds that a number of hybrid buses have already been purchased in alignment with the Transit Windsor Master Plan, with many on the road already. Hydrogen power and other new technology is also being explored for the Transit Windsor fleet in future.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 4 of 10

---

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether the lack of capacity for charging is preventing electric buses from being considered. Ms. Payne replies that this is correct, and that funding a retrofit of the Transit Windsor garages to accommodate electric buses is not financially viable. A previous Council decision directed administration to take a more balanced approach, utilizing hybrid powered buses, increasing the efficiency of Transit Windsor garages and terminals. Opportunities for additional funding are continuously being explored to help align with GHG and climate change initiatives.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie returns to the “Greening the Fleet” initiative, with his main concern being charging capacity and inquires as to how administration are proceeding with this. Mr. Johnson replies that administration is in the early stages of developing a Council Report regarding this, and states that charging infrastructure is being discussed as one of the key components of the City’s EV policy. The report is being planned for presentation to Council later this fall.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether provincially mandated changes to waste management will have any impact on the city’s GHG targets, and if there is anything Council can consider to address any risks. David Simpson, Commissioner, Infrastructure Services and City Engineer, appears before the Environment, Transportation, and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated November 14, 2024, entitled “2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide” and indicates that GHG emissions from organic waste disposal are significant, but the new organic waste program launching in the fall should help significantly.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires about next steps required to make the energy retrofit grant program available to the community. Mr. Johnson replies that until the feasibility and funding of the retrofit program is finalized, anything the city can do to raise awareness of existing programs that offer similar supports to homeowners, and commercial and industrial partners should be encouraged.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino requests clarification that “the fleet” referred to in the Corporate Emissions section of the report means only Transit Windsor buses and does not include taxis or ridesharing vehicles. Mr. Johnson states this is correct.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there is anything further the city can do in this area, for example, incentivizing rideshares or taxis to move to electric vehicles. Mr. Johnson replies there are no incentives currently in place.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1067**

THAT the report from the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change department dated November 14, 2024 entitled “2023 Community and Corporate GHG Inventory - City Wide” **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 5 of 10

THAT the City of Windsor: 2022/2023 Data and Insights Dashboard provided by Enbridge Gas Inc. **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

THAT Council **AUTHORIZE** administration to report back on the Community and Corporate GHG Inventory Reports to Council biennially (once every two years) consistent with practices in other municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Report Number: S 158/2024

Clerk's File: EI/14519

### 8.5. Truck Route Study – City Wide

**Anna Mori, Technical Manager, Mobility Advisory Ontario, Arcadis Professional Services (Canada) Inc.**

Anna Mori, Technical Manager, Mobility Advisory Ontario, Arcadis Professional Services (Canada) Inc., appears via video conference before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated June 2, 2025, entitled “Truck Route Study – City Wide” and is available for questions.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires as to how keeping trucks to the proposed truck route will be enforced. Mr. Simpson replies that the city by-law will be the main parameter in terms of enforcement.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about the funding for two overpasses proposed to cross the truck route. Mr. Simpson replies that a line item in the 2025 budget for near-term enhancements could be used for this project, subject to Committee and Council's endorsement. Administration is also looking for provisional funding required for a pedestrian crossing if a grant application is not successful.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires as to how the locations for the pedestrian crossings were selected. Mr. Simpson replies that a key application criterion was eliminating conflict and increasing safety between truck routes and active transportation initiatives.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether there are other parameters that can be used for enforcement other than by-law officers – Ministry of Transportation or Windsor Police, for example. Chris Gerardi, Policy Analyst, Transportation Planning, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated June 2, 2025, entitled “Truck Route Study – City Wide” and indicates that consultation with the Ministry of Transportation was done, and they are available to perform enforcement blitzes if requested. The truck route was designed so the MTO could enforce the *Highway Traffic Act* per the city's by-law.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 6 of 10

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires about Wyandotte Street specifically, as in the past Council had considered banning trucks from Wyandotte altogether. He would like to know how the decision was made to keep Wyandotte Street as a truck route, instead of changing it to a local delivery route. Mr. Gerardi replies that there was a lot of discussion regarding this issue. He states that once the Gordie Howe bridge is complete, the western portion of Wyandotte Street near the Ambassador Bridge will be reduced to a lower tier truck route, so this should help alleviate the use of Wyandotte as a cut-through. The current option is to allow trucks on Wyandotte, or divert them to Riverside Drive, which is not viable.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether a report will be coming back to the Committee in the future to evaluate the changes. Mr. Simpson replies that this is expected to be a dynamic process as traffic patterns will continue to change over time. Mr. Simpson feels that revisiting the program every four or five years would be a good time frame to evaluate the changes and make sure the trucks are on the right roads.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires as to specific reasons why trucks are allowed on Wyandotte Street, and why so many trucks choose to use it. Mr. Gerardi replies that many trucks were found to be using Wyandotte as a way to avoid Huron Church road to approach the Ambassador Bridge. The rationale is that once the new approach to the Gordie Howe bridge opens, trucks will be utilizing that instead of the Ambassador Bridge, and the rules allowing trucks in that area of Wyandotte will change at that time.

Councillor Gary Kaschak comments that there was a recommendation in the Walkerville Heritage Conservation District study to eliminate trucks from Wyandotte in that area and inquires whether that report was considered when the truck routes were planned. Mr. Gerardi replies that the Walkerville area was deeply considered. It was decided that trucks proceeding directly down Wyandotte would be preferable to, and safer than, being forced to turn off and then back on to avoid the Walkerville area.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether Business Improvement Areas (BIA's) were in agreement with this. Mr. Gerardi states that the Walkerville BIA was very understanding, especially considering the deliveries required to the Hiram Walker plant. Wyandotte Street is multifaceted and restricting trucks from using it was not a realistic solution.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1071**

- I. That Traffic By-law 9148 **BE AMENDED** as listed and attached in Appendix "A" of this report; and,
- II. That the City Solicitor **BE DIRECTED** to prepare the necessary documents to amend Traffic By-law 9148; and,

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 7 of 10

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- III. Whereas on February 21, 2025, the 2025 Capital Budget was deemed approved via Mayoral Decision MD08-2025 and subsequently as a result of the request outlined in this report City Council **SUPPORTS** an expenditure of \$50,000, therefore the City Treasurer **BE DIRECTED** to fund a new capital project to implement the Newly Designated Truck Route Segments with a transfer of surplus funds from the Environmental Study Reports project (#7086010); and,
- IV. THAT the issues identified in the report, for the existing and future truck route segments, **BE CONSIDERED** for future safety upgrades; and,
- V. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to prioritize the Pedestrian Crossing on McHugh Street and Cypress Avenue to allow for the implementation of the truck route on McHugh Street; and,
- VI. THAT provisional funding of \$84,000 in the Environmental Studies Report Project ID 7086010 **BE TRANSFERED** to the Pedestrian Crossings Project ID 7191010 to fund construction of the proposed Pedestrian Crossing on McHugh Street and Cypress Avenue, should the Active Transportation Grant application be unsuccessful; and,
- VII. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to report back with an updated truck traffic data report 12 months after the Gordie Howe Bridge has opened.
- Carried.

Report Number: S 79/2025  
Clerk's File: SW/14579

## 7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

### 7.1. Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) Regular Board of its meeting held May 6, 2025

Councillor Kieran McKenzie comments on the changes seen since the transition to producer-paid recycling services. He feels that the municipality will take criticism for any issues when it is a Provincial responsibility. He asks how, as a municipality, it can be communicated to the community that these services are evolving for reasons beyond the city's control. He feels the community needs to be made aware that the decisions made around waste collection are now controlled by the province. Mr. Simpson replies that it is ultimately the producer's responsibility to inform the community about changes in the program. He suggests piggybacking on the provider's social media communications or directing any consumer complaints to the correct provincial authority.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie expresses his frustration that the province's enforced change has been put upon the municipalities to communicate to its residents. He feels the program put in place by the province will not meet the community's expectations, and the city will unfairly be held accountable.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 8 of 10

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1066**

THAT the minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) meeting held May 6, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 177/2025

## 8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

### 8.2. Energy Access and Poverty Pillar (EAPP) Report - City Wide

Councillor Kieran McKenzie comments that should the Committee choose to move forward with administration's recommendations, hard choices will have to be made to meet the new requirements. Mr. Johnson replies there is currently an RFP out for a consultant to do a full review of the requirements and secure an action plan for the four core plans and the associated 500 action items.

Councillor Keiran McKenzie asks if increased energy demand has the potential to put a drain on those already experiencing economic hardship. Ms. Payne indicates that the province is seeing the growth in our community, and the city reports these residential, industrial, and commercial numbers to upper levels of government. She hopes that balanced investment for all will be received.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether a future Framework Action Plan report will come back to this Committee. Mr. Johnson confirms this.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie states that he would like this report to go to the Environment and Climate Change Action Committee and asks the Clerk if this would need to be put into the motion. The Deputy City Clerk clarifies the procedure.

Moved by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1068**

THAT the report from the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change department dated November 18, 2024 entitled "Energy Access & Poverty Pillar (EAPP) Report – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

THAT Council **ENDORSE** development of targets and a plan to meet the new Energy Access and Poverty Badge requirements, contingent on the completion of the Framework Action Review and Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) being deemed a high priority. If GCoM is not a high priority, the commitment to the Badge requirements and reporting should be discontinued.

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 9 of 10

Carried.

Report Number: S 167/2024

Clerk's File: EI/14519

### 8.3. Repeal of By-law 6366 – A By-law Respecting the Transporting, Storing, Handling and Use of Explosives in the City of Windsor – City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Gary Kaschak

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1069**

THAT By-law Number 6366 being “A By-law Respecting the Transporting, Storing, Handling and Use of Explosives in the City of Windsor” **BE REPEALED**.

Carried.

Report Number: S 47/2025

Clerk's File: AB2025

### 8.4. Repeal By-law 49-2018 and Pass an Amended By-law - A By-law Respecting the Issuance of Various Permits and the Scheduling of Inspections – City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Seconded by: Councillor Kieran McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1070**

THAT Council **REPEAL** By-law Number 49-2018 being “A By-law Respecting the Issuance of Various Permits and the Scheduling of Inspections”; and,

THAT Council **PASS** “A By-law Respecting the Issuance of Various Permits and the Scheduling of Inspections”; and,

THAT Council **AMEND** By-law Number 80-2025 - “Being A By-law to Appoint a Chief Building Official, Deputy Chief Building Officials and Inspectors to Enforce the *Building Code Act* and Regulations in Windsor” by **DELETING** Schedule B - Code of Conduct for Building Officials.

Carried.

Report Number: S 77/2025

Clerk's File: AB2025

# Minutes

## Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Page 10 of 10

---

### 11. QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Kieran McKenzie congratulates Councillor Fabio Costante on his new position and expresses his appreciation for the work the Councillor has done on behalf of the community in his time as City Councillor.

Councillor Gary Kaschak congratulates Councillor Costante on his new position and on his years of public service.

Councillor Fabio Costante requests an update on the proposed signal to be installed at Tecumseh Road West and Crawford Avenue to alert motorists to trains at the Tecumseh West crossing in advance. Ian Day, Senior Manager, Transportation, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee meeting and indicates that the city is currently in the process of establishing a legal agreement with the railways and is very close to installing this signal.

Councillor Costante takes a few moments before his departure to say appreciative words to his fellow Councillors, the Mayor, and Administration.

### 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee is adjourned at 5:46 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee will be held July 30, 2025.

Carried.

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Ward 2 – Councillor Costante  
(Chairperson)

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Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council  
Services