

Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Time: 4:30 o'clock p.m.

Members Present:

Councillors

Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie

Ward 8 - Councillor Gary Kaschak

Ward 9 - Councillor Kieran McKenzie (Chairperson)

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, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Commissioner, Economic Development

David Simpson, Commissioner, Infrastructure Services & City Engineer

Stacey McGuire, Executive Director, Engineering / Deputy City Engineer

James Chacko, Executive Director, Transit Windsor

Greg Atkinson, Deputy City Planner

Kate Tracey, Senior Legal Counsel

Natasha Gabanna, Senior Manager of Asset Planning

Jim Leether, Senior Manager, Environmental Services

Monika Grant, Senior Manager, Contracts Field Services Maintenance

Mark Spizzirri, Manager, Performance Measurement & Business Case Development

Ian Day, Senior Manager, Transportation

Craig Robertson, Manager, Licensing & Enforcement / Deputy License Commissioner

Roberta Harrison, Manager, Maintenance

Laura Diotte, Manager, Planning

Sahar Jamshidi, Manager, Road Safety

Yemi Adeyeye, City Forester, Manager Forestry & Natural Areas

Kathy Quenneville, Schools & Sustainable Mobility Coordinator

Rob Slater, Executive Initiatives Coordinator

Awele Italiano, Road Safety Coordinator

Chris Gerardi, Engineer II

Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Deputy Clerk calls the meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee to order at 4:30 o'clock p.m. and calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Chairperson.

Councillors Mark McKenzie and Gary Kashack nominate Councillor Kieran McKenzie for the position of Chairperson; Councillor Kieran McKenzie accepts the nomination. There being no further nominations the Deputy Clerk calls a vote. All members vote in favour. Councillor Kieran McKenzie assumes the Chair.

The Deputy Clerk calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair. Councillor Mark McKenzie and Gary Kashack nominate Councillor Renaldo Agostino for the position of Vice-Chair. Councillor Renaldo Agostino accepts the nomination. There being no further nominations the Deputy Clerk calls a vote. All members vote in favour
Carried.

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 of its meeting held July 30, 2025

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

THAT the minutes of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting held July 30, 2025 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 243/2025

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

8.2. Traffic Calming Policy Update 2025 - City Wide

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

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THAT the report of the Road Safety Coordinator dated September 2, 2025 entitled "Traffic Calming Policy Update 2025 - City Wide" **BE DEFERRED** to a future Environment, Transportation, & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting to allow for the Provincial Government to issue their forthcoming direction related to Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE).

Carried.

Report Number: S 111/2025

Clerk's File: ST/13863

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None presented.

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.1. Minutes of the Active Transportation Expert Panel of its meeting held June 12, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1078**

THAT the minutes of the Active Transportation Expert Panel meeting held June 12, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 236/2025

Clerk's File: MB2025

7.2. Minutes of the Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee of its meeting held July 17, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1079**

THAT the minutes of the Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee meeting held July 17, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 262/2025

Clerk's File: MB2025

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7.3. Minutes of the Transit Windsor Working Group of its meeting held August 13, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1080**

THAT the minutes of the Transit Windsor Working Group meeting held August 13, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 286/2025

Clerk's File: MB2025

7.4. Minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) Regular Board of its meeting held July 9, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1081**

THAT the minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) meeting held July 9, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Report Number: SCM 289/2025

Clerk's File: MB2025

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.1. Diaper Disposal Program Alternatives – City Wide

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks Administration to elaborate on the city-led collection option mentioned in the report, specifically on some of the hurdles that may be experienced if that option is chosen. Jim Leether, Senior Manager, Environmental Services, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 2, 2025, entitled "Diaper Disposal Program Alternatives – City Wide" and indicates that the main hurdle would be ensuring that those using the service were only disposing of the specified items, and not adding other household waste to the bags. This could be mitigated by using clear bags, but there are further issues with this option, including privacy, or bags needing to be inspected on pickup.

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Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether allowing bags to be placed at the curb without a bin would cause issues during summer months, with rats or vermin. Mr. Leether replies that vermin are generally drawn to food sources, but the option to allow bags to be placed in bins could be investigated.

Councillor Mark McKenzie requests clarification regarding who would be performing the pick-up services for option 3 or option 4 in the report. Mr. Leether replies that option 3 would be City employees, and option 4 would be an add-on to the contract currently in place with Miller Waste Systems, with their employees doing the work.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires about the costs associated with option 4. Mr. Leether responds that this is a best estimate based on minimum and maximum hours per week, but until the program was up and running, the final cost is unknown at this time. Mr. Leether adds that other municipalities using this model have found usage dropping over time as residents became more adjusted to the bi-weekly regular garbage pick-up.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks if there are any statistics on the percentage of households that might participate in this program. Mr. Leether replies that the research method used involved looking at birth rates in the city and estimating usage based on those numbers. It does not take into account adults who may be using incontinence products. In addition, the collection would not apply to households with more than six units, so an estimated percentage of potential participants would be difficult to determine.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether either of the pick-up options would be on a bi-weekly basis and Mr. Leether replies yes, the diaper pick-up would occur in the weeks of no regular garbage pick-up.

Councillor Gary Kaschak indicates that other municipalities allow diaper and pet waste to be collected with the organic collection program and asks if this option will be considered or be available in future. David Simpson, Commissioner, Infrastructure Services and City Engineer, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 2, 2025, entitled “Diaper Disposal Program Alternatives – City Wide” and indicates that those municipalities allowing diapers and pet waste into organic bins do filter those out of the organic waste stream and end up shipping them off to a landfill regardless, at an additional cost.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether any other municipalities have implemented option 2, which allows residents to bring diaper waste to the public waste depot at no cost. Mr. Leether replies that several municipalities offer a public depot drop-off option, some free, some paid.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there are concerns that diaper waste will be dumped in city garbage receptacles. Mr. Leether responds that illegal dumping in light of the new collection schedule is a concern, regardless of which type of garbage it may be, and Environmental Services is prepared to address that.

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Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether there are any best practices residents can use to help contain or eliminate odors, as that seems to be an area of concern. Mr. Leether recommends specialized products such as odor-locking diaper pails or deodorized garbage bags, and also recommends storing garbage containers out of direct sunlight.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie brings up the privacy issue of requiring residents to use clear or translucent plastic bags to dispose of incontinence products, should that option be chosen. He asks how other municipalities have handled this issue. Mr. Leether replies that this is a very common issue seen in most municipalities that employ this option, and there is no specific way of addressing this, but they are attempting to do so in a respectful manner.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether there is any risk of the cost to the city increasing over time should the city opt to have Miller Waste Systems handle the pick-ups. Mr. Leether replies that the numbers presented in the report should not be affected by more than the regular costs seen in other waste management streams.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether the city currently has the capacity to handle the extra work should the city-led pick-up option be chosen. Mr. Leether replies that another worker would need to be hired, but the city currently has the administrative personnel and collection equipment to handle the pick-ups. Mr. Simpson adds that annual contributions to the fleet reserve were also factored into the estimated cost presented in the report.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1082**

- i. THAT the report of the Senior Manager, Environmental Services dated September 2, 2025 entitled “Diaper Disposal Program Alternatives – City Wide” **be RECEIVED** for information; and,
- ii. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to implement Option 2 “Free Diaper Disposal at Public Depot-Off Depot” as outlined in the administrative report; and,
- iii. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to implement a pilot project for Option 4 “Contracted Bi-Weekly Diaper Curbside Collection” for the remainder of 2025 and 2026 as outlined in the administrative report; and,
- iv. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to report back at the completion of the pilot project to provide outcomes and recommendations moving forward; and,
- v. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to provide additional information regarding a potential funding source for implementing Option 2 “Free Diaper Disposal at Public Depot-Off Depot” and a pilot project for Option 4 “Contracted Bi-Weekly Diaper Curbside Collection” when this report proceeds to Council for their consideration.

Carried.

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Report Number: S 110/2025

Clerk's File: EI/14640

8.3. Response to CR11/2025, CQ 1-2025 and CQ 2-2025 - Traffic Impact Analysis of Greenfield and Infill Developments – City Wide

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether there is a threshold where Traffic Impact studies are mandatory for new developments. Chris Gerardi, Engineer II, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 2, 2025, entitled "Response to CR11/2025, CQ 1-2025 and CQ 2-2025 - Traffic Impact Analysis of Greenfield and Infill Developments – City Wide" to reply that certain thresholds do trigger the need for a Traffic Impact Analysis, especially on larger-scale infill developments. Mr. Gerardi also states it is very dependent on, and specific to, each proposal.

Moved by: Councillor Gary Kaschak

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1083**

- I. THAT report of the Engineer II dated September 2, 2025 entitled "Response to CR11/2025, CQ 1-2025 and CQ 2-2025 - Traffic Impact Analysis of Greenfield and Infill Developments – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Report Number: S 112/2025

Clerk's File: ST2025

8.4. Response to CQ 45-2024 – Traffic Flow Status – City Wide

Councillor Mark McKenzie requests confirmation that funding has been allocated for all the projects listed in the report except for the Transit Master Plan. Mr. Simpson indicates that the majority of the funding is being used up on the Wyandotte Street East and Tecumseh Road East Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) expansions.

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks if adding a recommendation that funds be pre-allocated would help administration move forward with these projects. Mr. Simpson replies yes, and that completion of these projects would be a step forward in the overall Transportation Master Plan.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires about traffic light timing, specifically if timings are automatically reset after a power-outage / four-way flashing red, or if that must be re-programmed manually. Ian Day, Senior Manager, Transportation, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 2, 2025, entitled "Response to CQ 45-2024 – Traffic Flow Status-City Wide" and indicates that the four-way flashing reds indicate an interruption in the timing sequence that must be reset by Traffic Department technicians on-site – this is the preferred and safest option. Mr. Day states that the biggest traffic

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flow problems in Windsor are currently on the arterial roadways that cannot be expanded, so administration is looking for improvements in those areas, where possible. Congestion Management Plans help to constantly monitor and update flow changes much more quickly, versus a larger Transportation Management Plan.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Gary Kaschak

Decision Number: **ETPS 1084**

- I. THAT the report of the Senior Manager, Transportation dated September 2, 2025 entitled "Response to CQ 45-2024 – Traffic Flow Status – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** by Council for information; and,
- II. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to implement the following topics as outlined in Table 1 – Congestion Management and Traffic Flow Costs detailed in the administrative report:
 - a. Corridor Studies
 - b. Congestion Management Plan (CMP)
 - c. Wyandotte St. East ATMS Expansion
 - d. Tecumseh Road East ATMS Expansion
- III. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to allocate the funding that is currently available in the 2026 budget in account OPS-008-20 Traffic Signal Upgrades and Replacements (7209000) to support this work so that the work can commence in 2025.

Carried.

Report Number: S 113/2025

Clerk's File: ST2025

8.5. Bicycle Parking Policy Implementation and Feasibility Update – City Wide

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about the cost of adding a security gate to the bike parking area at Garage 2 downtown. Kathy Quenneville, Coordinator, Schools and Sustainable Mobility, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 4, 2025, entitled "Bicycle Parking Policy Implementation and Feasibility Update – City Wide" and confirms from the report that the cost would be \$10,000 for the gate and secure electronic access. She confirms that there are currently security cameras in the bike room.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino asks if there is funding available should council recommend installation of the gate. Mr. Day indicates that there should be sufficient funding through the Parking Garage Maintenance and Capital Project updates to do so.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino also asks if Ward Funds could be used on this project and Mr. Day confirms that would be welcome.

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Councillor Kieran McKenzie asks if any of the approximately \$453,000 in uncommitted funding available for use in the Citywide Bikeway Development Initiatives project could be directed towards some of the initiatives described in Table 2 of the report, if Council so chooses. Mr. Simpson indicates that the report offers Council a suite of options and the funds could be applied as Council decides. However, he cautions that the uncommitted funding could be used in any areas of the primary bike network where there may be discontinuity, and if any current projects run over, those funds may be required. He states it is feasible for a portion of the funds to be used to complete the listed projects but recommends some funds should be left in reserve as a buffer.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie inquires whether an application has been made for the Canada Public Transit Fund grant and asks if any funds received from that could be put towards these initiatives. Natasha Gabbana, Senior Manager, Asset Planning, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 4, 2025, entitled "Bicycle Parking Policy Implementation and Feasibility Update – City Wide" and indicates that the application was made - the grant provider has asked for additional information on the City's plans, and some funds may be available through the grant should it be approved.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie asks if Administration could have the items on the list in Table 2 prioritized. Mr. Day indicates that the report could come back to the committee with a prioritized list for projects to be done in the next two to three years.

Moved by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **ETPS 1085**

- I. THAT report of the Coordinator, Schools and Sustainable Mobility dated September 4, 2025 entitled "Bicycle Parking Policy Implementation and Feasibility Update – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,
- II. That administration **BE DIRECTED** to provide a prioritized list of recommended projects that could be completed including timelines, and that the information **BE BROUGHT FORWARD** to the next Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee for their consideration; and,
- III. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** move forward iwth the installation of a security gate at the parking garage 2, conditional on Funding including the potential use of Ward funds, so that it may be offered for use by the general public free of charge for 2026; and,
- IV. THAT the items outlined in the planning section of the administrative report **BE REFERRED** to the planning department for consideration at a future Development and Heritage Standing Committee Meeting.

Carried.

Report Number: S 114/2025
Clerk's File: ST2025

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8.6. Proposed Alley Maintenance Standards and Policy Enhancements – City Wide

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires as to why administration is proposing that the funding for alley paving be treated differently from road paving when both are City-owned infrastructure. Mr. Simpson explains that the risk is the determining factor; from an asset management perspective, available funding will be used to repair and maintain higher-risk assets such as EC Row Expressway and major arterial roads.

Councillor Mark McKenzie expresses concern on behalf of residents who are being asked to pay an additional levy to have their alleys repaired, despite the fact that they are city-owned and have not been properly maintained by the city for many years. Mr. Simpson understands the frustration and acknowledges that alley maintenance has been chronically underfunded for decades, but only so much can be done with current available funding.

Councillor Mark McKenzie asks what the average approximate Local Improvement Program cost to homeowners to have their alleys repaired might be. Mr. Simpson replies that administration does not have those numbers available.

Councillor Mark McKenzie suggests adding this information to the report when it goes to Council.

Councillor Mark McKenzie suggests that grass alley closings city-wide be sped up, and fees to residents waived for doing so. He asks how many grass alley closings have been completed in the last five years. Greg Atkinson, Deputy City Planner, Development, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 5, 2025, entitled “Proposed Alley Maintenance Standards and Policy Enhancements – City Wide” to state that the city has averaged 64 alley closing applications per year between 2022 and 2024, but added that this number only indicates applications, not completed closures, the process for which can take over one year. Mr. Atkinson states that waiving the application fees for grass alley closures would slow down the process, given that the process runs at a financial loss.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires if consideration has been given to hiring a consultant to determine which alleys could be closed, and to make the process more efficient. Jelena Payne, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner, Economic Development, appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 5, 2025, entitled “Proposed Alley Maintenance Standards and Policy Enhancements – City Wide” to reply that outsourcing has been considered and agrees that it may be a more expedient way to complete the process. However, a funding source would be needed.

Councillor Gary Kaschak inquires whether the removal of garbage pickup from alleys has yielded any decrease in alley operating costs. Mr. Simpson replies that he does not have specific figures at this time, but the decrease in wear-and-tear on city alleys was part of the reason why garbage

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pickup was moved to streets. He states that estimated cost savings could be added to the report going to Council.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks if forestry costs will remain consistent moving forward. Yemi Adeyeye, City Forester and Manager of Forestry and Natural Areas appears before the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee regarding the administrative report dated September 5, 2025, entitled "Proposed Alley Maintenance Standards and Policy Enhancements – City Wide" to confirm that costs are expected to remain consistent, barring any weather events that cause widespread tree damage.

Councillor Gary Kaschak asks if the recommendation to create a by-law relieving the city of responsibility for maintenance of orphan alleys is something that administration would be going forward with, or if the Committee would have to approve the recommendation first. Mr. Simpson replies that creating a by-law was added as a recommendation for Committee's support and feels that the by-law would be essential to the initiatives in the report.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino indicates that many of the alleys in his ward suffer from safety concerns. He asks if electronically gating alleys has been considered, or if other municipalities have implemented alley gating. Mr. Simpson replies that he does not know of any.

Councillor Agostino suggests looking further into this option.

Councillor Kieran McKenzie asks about the Active Transportation Master Plan and using alley networks as part of active transportation routes. Mr. Simpson replies that a comprehensive review was undertaken regarding the primary and secondary active transportation networks, and they did not cross paths with alleys having potential for that use.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **ETPS 1086**

- I. THAT the report of the Executive Initiatives Coordinator dated September 5, 2025 entitled, "Proposed Alley Maintenance Standards and Policy Enhancements – City Wide" **BE RECEIVED**; and,
 - II. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to provide additional information regarding financial implications for retaining a consultant to undertake an analysis of potential alley closures City wide; the estimated average cost to homeowners for the LIP process City wide; the process and costing of installing alley gating; and potential cost savings related to BIA Alley closings as it pertains to by-law enforcement, forestry, police; and that the information **BE BROUGHT** forward to a future Council Meeting for Council's consideration; and further,
 - III. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to prepare a draft by-law.
- Carried.

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Clerk's File: SW2025

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11. QUESTION PERIOD

None registered.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee is adjourned at 6:06 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee will be held October 29, 2025.
Carried.

Ward 9 – Councillor Kieran McKenzie
(Chairperson)

Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council
Services