
Members absent: C. Zehr

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

R. Deutschmann declared a non-pecuniary interest under item 4c) due to he and his spouse being shareholders of corporations that have in interest in a property at 10 Duke Street West, Kitchener.

PRESENTATIONS

a) E-11-012, 2011 Roundabout Education Campaign Launch

Received for Information.

Chair J. Wideman thanked staff; Bob Henderson, Bryan Stortz, Linda Zavarella, Dennis Watson at CTV, Steve Spott, Head Coach/General Manager of the Kitchener Rangers and all the players for their hard work on this campaign.

*J. Brewer and J. Haalboom entered the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Bob Henderson, Manager, Transportation Engineering provided a presentation on the 2011 Roundabout Education Campaign. He highlighted that the campaign focus was on signaling, yielding, yielding to pedestrians and no overtaking. He noted who the target audience was and what is included in this year’s campaign. B. Henderson also thanked Regional staff, Young Driver’s of Canada, Volunteers, 2011 Roundabout Education Working Group, the Kitchener Rangers and CTV Southwestern Ontario. The first of four commercials was shown. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes.

*B. Halloran entered the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Committee members directed staff to contact the major malls in the Region to display the 2011 Roundabout Campaign; this will give the public an opportunity to ask staff questions regarding maneuvering roundabouts and will provide another avenue to educate the public.

Committee members inquired about signaling left when entering a roundabout and what the universal standard was. Staff noted that the Transportation Association of Canada is currently looking at roundabouts and the rules of the roads across Canada to come up with common rules and noted that currently signaling when entering a roundabout is not a universal standard.
Committee members asked staff if Driver Training Schools are teaching new drivers how to maneuver roundabouts and suggested that staff involve the Ministry of Transportation to make it mandatory to test in this area.

Staff noted that they will bring an updated report to Committee regarding collisions in roundabouts.

DELEGATIONS

a) E-11-008, Ottawa Street Transportation Study from Elmsdale Drive to Imperial Drive – Recommended Design Alternative

Wayne Cheater, Senior Project Manager provided a brief presentation to Committee members. He highlighted the recommended design alternative; issues raised by the public and showed video clips of an emergency vehicle maneuvering a roundabout and pedestrians crossing a 3 lane roundabout. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes.

i) Ron Wright, Kitchener did not appear as a delegation.

ii) Evan Rosamond, Kitchener appeared before Committee members and provided a presentation regarding current problems, cycling routes in the area, improvements in the plan, problems with the plan, possible corrections to the plan and suggested new multi-use trail. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes.

Committee members asked staff if there will be a change in the S/E Expressway ramp to help reduce the speed. Staff indicated that not a lot of collisions occur in that particular area but that there will be a slight change in the ramp and also noted that the traffic will be divided equally between two on ramps.

Committee members discussed in great detail multi-use trails and staff noted that the new Active Transportation Advisory Committee is being created to encourage higher rates of walking and cycling and to integrate active transportation.

MOVED by J. Mitchell
SECONDED by T. Galloway

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following actions with respect to the Class Environmental Assessment for the Ottawa Street Transportation Study:

a) Approve the implementation of a roundabout at Ottawa Street and Alpine Road and a roundabout at Ottawa Street and Homer Watson Boulevard and related works in the City of Kitchener, all as presented in Report E-11-008

b) Direct staff to file the Notice of Completion for this Class Environmental Assessment by means of advertisement in the local newspaper and mailings to the adjacent property owners, tenants and agencies and place the Screening for Environmental Assessment files on the public record for a period of 30 days.

CARRIED

* J. Mitchell left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.
REPORTS – TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION

a) Transportation and Environmental Services - Overview of Major Issues and Priorities (Roads and Transit)

Thomas Schmidt, Commissioner Transportation and Environmental Services provided a brief presentation on Rapid Transit, Transportation (Roads and Design and Construction), Region of Waterloo International Airport and Grand River Transit. He also talked about ongoing priorities which included customer service focus, day to day operations, program review implementation and minor reorganization. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes.

R. Deutschmann asked staff to provide a written report regarding the work that is planned in North Dumfries over the next 5 years.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

b) Installation of Regional Watermain Integrated Urban System to St. Agatha and Associated Road Work, St Agatha Township of Wilmot, Information Package in Advance of Public Information Centre

Received for Information.

Committee members suggested that it might be helpful in the information package to indicate to the residents that part of the funding is coming from the deposit so that the residents know that their money is being used for the capital project.

RAPID TRANSIT

c) E-11-010, Rapid Transit Project Overview

Received for Information.

Nancy Button, Director, Rapid Transit Initiative provided an overview on the rapid transit project. She highlighted the Regional Growth Management Study, Growth, Costs of Business-as-Usual with and without rapid transit, what rapid transit means for the townships, the suburbs and people who live in the central transit corridor, next steps and public consultation. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes.

Some Committee members expressed the need to provide equal benefits to both the North and the South side.

Committee members discussed the next steps and the scheduling. Some Committee members expressed concerns with the scheduling being too aggressive but it was noted that this issue has been an ongoing matter and don’t want to see the issue drag on, that continued engagement of the public is important.

Committee members inquired about project costs and staff noted that information will be part of the February 15, 2011 report that will be coming to Planning and Works Committee.

K. Seiling brought forward a motion with respect to adopting the schedule in principle.
MOVED by K. Seiling
SECONDED by S. Strickland

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo adopt the Rapid Transit project schedule outlined in Report E-11-010 subject to change as Regional Council may deem necessary.

CARRIED

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

d) E-11-011/CR-FM-11-001, GRT Strasburg Road Facility Expansion Project Update

Some Committee members noted concern with the 1.9 million increased budget.

MOVED by S. Strickland
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve proceeding with the Construction Tender for the expansion and renovation of the Grand River Transit Strasburg Road Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility as described in Report E-11-011/CR-FM-11-001, dated January 25, 2011,

AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo grant pre-budget approval for the Strasburg Road Facility Expansion project and include an increase to the project budget of $1.9 million to be funded from development charges and debentures.

CARRIED

REPORTS – PLANNING, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY PLANNING

e) P-11-005, Monthly Report of Development Activity for December 2010

MOVED by R. Kelterborn
SECONDED by B. Halloran


CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

f) P-11-007, Active Transportation Advisory Committee

Rob Horne, Commissioner Planning, Housing and Community Services introduced the report and highlighted the importance of pedestrians and cyclist working together.

Councillor G. Lorentz volunteered to sit on the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

MOVED by J. Brewer
SECONDED by C. Millar
THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo disband the Regional Cycling Advisory Committee and establish the Active Transportation Advisory Committee and approve the following with regard to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee, as described in Report No. P-11-007, dated January 25, 2011:

a) Approve the Terms of Reference for the Active Transportation Advisory Committee, as attached to Report No. P-11-007, dated January 25, 2011, and;
b) Appoint Geoff Lorentz as the Council representative for the Active Transportation Advisory Committee for the current term of Council.

CARRIED

g) P-11-008, GTA West Corridor – Update Report

MOVED by T. Galloway
SECONDED by R. Kelterborn

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo recommend that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation examine corridor protection opportunities north of Highway 401, connecting Waterloo Region to the Greater Toronto Area, to support potential growth beyond the 2031 timeframe as outlined in Report No. P-11-008, dated January 25, 2011.

CARRIED

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

a) Memo re: Weber Street, College Street to Guelph Street Environmental Assessment Study – Public Input Meeting

Received for information.

Committee members agreed to hold a Public Input Meeting regarding the Weber Street, College Street to Guelph Street Environmental Assessment Study on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7:00 pm. in Regional Council Chambers.

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Council Enquiries and Requests for Information Tracking List was received for information.

NEXT MEETING – February 15, 2011

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOVED by C. Millar
SECONDED by J. Brewer

THAT a closed meeting of the Administration & Finance and Community Services Committees be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 immediately following Planning & Works Committee in the Waterloo County Room in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, for the purposes of considering the following subject matters:

a) personal matters about identifiable individuals - financial matters

#920339
b) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments
   c) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments
   d) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments
   e) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments

   CARRIED

COMMITTEE CHAIR, J. Wideman

COMMITTEE CLERK, E. Flewwelling
2011 Roundabout Education Campaign

Practice makes perfect!

Region of Waterloo

Kitchener Rangers

CTV
This year the Region will focus its education campaign on:

- Signalling
- Yielding
- Yielding to pedestrians
- No overtaking
Target audience?

- The younger demographic
  - Analysis of collision data indicates the 16-40 age group represent the majority of collisions in roundabouts.
2011 Roundabout Education Campaign

What is included in this year's campaign?

• Series of 4 instructional television commercials
• Kitchener Auditorium jumbotron
• New pamphlets / brochure
• Radio Contest
• Bus-wraps
2011 Roundabout Education Campaign

What is included in this years campaign?

- Student run in-school programs
- Newsletters
- Region website update
- Social Media
A Big Thank You:

- **The Kitchener Rangers**
  - Michelle Fortin, Public Relations Director
  - Steve Spott, Head Coach / General Manager
  - All the players
- **CTV, Southwestern Ontario**
  - Lynda Lynch and Michael Lockston, Creative Producers
  - Stephen Welch, Account Manager
  - Dennis Watson (Vice President / General Manager)
  - Cameron Crassweller, General Sales Manager
  - Photographers (Brian Dunseith, Kevin Doerr)
2011 Roundabout Education Campaign

A Big Thank You:

• **Region staff**
  – Jennifer Bertleson, Cheryl Marcy, Mark Liddell, Ash Rauf, Steve Sieunarine
  – Linda Zavarella, Bryan Stortz
  – Eric Gillespie and Peter Zinck, GRT
  – Colleen Cooper, Public Health
  – Bruce Cushing

• **Young Drivers of Canada**
  – Faith Morphy, Ron Ball

• **Volunteers**
  – Cherie and Brynn Mongeon, Katrina and Emmett Liddell

• **2011 Roundabout Education Working Group**
  – Various Region and municipal staff
  – Waterloo Regional Police
  – Councillor Jim Wideman
2011 Roundabout Education Campaign

World Premier!
Ottawa Street South
Transportation Study
Between Elmsdale Drive and Imperial Drive
Recommended Design Alternative

Planning & Works Committee,
January 25, 2011
Recommended Design Alternative

Recommended Design - Concept 3

Legend
- Existing property line
- Proposed property line
Issues Raised By the Public

- Driver Behaviour in Roundabouts
- Traffic Operation in Roundabouts
- Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety
- Don't close Existing Hwy 7/8 On-ramp at Homer Watson Blvd.
Biking on this part of Ottawa Street is an ugly and somewhat dangerous experience. But if you want to ride from central Kitchener toward New Dundee, there isn't any better way.
Current Problems

- Too much traffic
- Too much noise
- No bike lanes
- Dangerous intersection (Homer Watson & Ottawa)
- Dangerous exit from Ottawa to S-E ramp
- No alternative way to cross the Parkway
Cycling routes in the area
Improvements in the plan

- Roundabouts may reduce traffic volumes
- Roundabout at Homer Watson should be safer than current intersection
- Sidewalks replaced with multi-use trails
Problems with the plan

- Multi-use trails – one-way or two?
- Too many trail crossings – slow and risky
- Trails not designed for bikes
  - Not enough room to stop at all the crossings
  - Some corners are too sharp
- There is no way to use the straight sections of the trails and also the roundabouts
- The Ottawa to S-E ramp is still dangerous as it now requires cyclists to change lanes to the left
Possible corrections to the plan

- Remove the S-E ramp
- Keep the S-E ramp but
  - Connect it to only Homer Watson
  - Put the trail between the S-E ramp and Ottawa St.
- Either of the above reduces trail crossings by 2
- Add a new trail that is completely off Ottawa Street
Suggested new multi-use trail
Transportation and Environmental Services
Transportation and Transit
Overview of Major Issues and Priorities

Presentation to Planning and Works Committee:
January 25, 2011

Thomas Schmidt: Commissioner
Transportation

Rapid Transit
Transportation (Roads & Design and Construction)
Airport
Grand River Transit
Ongoing Priorities

Customer Service Focus
Day to Day Operations
Program Review
Implementation
Minor Reorganization
Rapid Transit

Completion of EA
Procurement Process
Construction
Grand River Transit

Service Expansions

Strasburg Road Expansion

Efficiency and Effectiveness

Technology Improvements
Transportation

Major Projects

Franklin Blvd
Weber St. Underpass
Hespeler Rd. Underpass
Fairway Rd. Bridge

$911M capital program
Transportation

Infrastructure Deficit

Asset Management
Region of Waterloo International Airport

Maintain Current Carriers
Attract new Carriers
Develop Lease Lands
Questions
Rapid Transit
Project Overview
Regional Growth Management Strategy
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

Building vibrant urban places
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

Improving transportation choices
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

Enhancing the natural environment
Protecting the countryside

Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

Fostering a strong economy
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

Building strong partnerships
Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS)

ANCHORED ON RAPID TRANSIT

Moving People
Shaping Our Community
• Nearly 200,000 people and 80,000 jobs added by 2031 - like adding another Kitchener
Growth

• Want to intensify, not grow out – control urban sprawl
Growth

• Like the decision to build the expressway in the 1960s, the Region faces tough decisions regarding rapid transit
Costs of Business-as-Usual

No rapid transit

• Road expansion costs of $1.4 to $1.5 billion
• More lanes, more congestion in mature areas
Westmount Road – 4 lanes
Westmount Road – 6 lanes
Costs of Business-as-Usual

No rapid transit
• Road expansion costs of $1.4 to $1.5 billion
• More lanes, more congestion in mature areas

With rapid transit
• Road expansion costs reduced by $400 to $500 million
• Provincial & Federal funding up to $565 million
“I live in the townships. What's in rapid transit for me?”
• Less urban sprawl – maintenance of rural lifestyle
• Protection of some of the best farmland in Canada
• Less traffic
• Protection of water source areas
• Protection of sensitive environmental landscapes
“I live in the suburbs. What's in rapid transit for me?”
• Intensification in the core – maintenance of suburban lifestyle
• Less congestion on local and arterial roads
• Fewer disruptive road widenings through mature neighbourhoods
• Better bus service to major destinations, integrated with rapid transit
• Attractive destinations in the core for daytime, evening and weekend activities
“I live in the central transit corridor. What's in rapid transit for me?”
• Fast, convenient transit:
  • within walking distance
  • coming every 7.5 minutes
  • for work, school, shopping, entertainment
  • connecting to GO, VIA & major destinations

• Less traffic congestion
• Better health
• Attractive, liveable, vibrant urban spaces
• A prosperous region
Next Steps

• February 15: P&W: implementation options
• February/March: public consultation
• April: P&W: preliminary preferred option
• April/May: public consultation
• June: Council approval
Public Consultation

- Public Consultation Centres
- Public Input Meetings
- Speaking engagements
- Newsletters
- Website updates, social media & live webcast
- TV & newspaper advertisements
- Emailed notices
Rapid Transit
Project Overview

Questions?