



**Roads and Transportation Subcommittee Summary –  
Thursday, September 19, 2019 (In-person, and by teleconference)**

<p><b>Subcommittee: Roads and Transportation</b></p> <p>Date: September 20, 2019          Prepared by: Kellie Madden-Knox, Rob Di Profio &amp; Ryan Wong          Email: <a href="mailto:Kellie.Madden-Knox@york.ca">Kellie.Madden-Knox@york.ca</a>          Email: <a href="mailto:Robert.DiProfio@york.ca">Robert.DiProfio@york.ca</a>          Email: <a href="mailto:Ryan.wong@york.ca">Ryan.wong@york.ca</a></p>	<p><b>For further information contact:</b></p> <p>Name: Brian Titherington, York Region          Phone: 1-877-464-6975 ext. 75901          Email: <a href="mailto:Brian.titherington@york.ca">Brian.titherington@york.ca</a></p>
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RPWCO Subcommittee Members Present: ( <sup>IP</sup> In-person / <sup>TC</sup> Teleconference)

<b>Brian Titherington (Chair)</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region	<b>Ramesh Jagannathan</b> <sup>IP</sup>	Durham Region
<b>Joe Avsec</b> <sup>TC</sup>	Peel Region	<b>Quinn Michell</b> <sup>IP</sup>	District of Muskoka
<b>Mike Barnett</b> <sup>TC</sup>	City of Toronto	<b>Mark Misko</b> <sup>IP</sup>	District of Muskoka
<b>Greg Loane</b> <sup>TC</sup>	City of Toronto	<b>Kayla Dixon</b> <sup>IP</sup>	City of Thunder Bay
<b>Christian Meile</b> <sup>IP</sup>	County of Simcoe	<b>Kellie Madden-Knox</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region
<b>Steve van De Keere</b> <sup>IP</sup>	Region of Waterloo	<b>Robert Di Profio</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region
<b>Steve Anderson</b> <sup>IP</sup>	City of Guelph	<b>Ryan Wong</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region

Guests:

<b>Piragal Thiru</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region	<b>John Kazilis</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region
<b>Lauren Crawford</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region	<b>Ahmad Subhani</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region
<b>Simon Lau</b> <sup>IP</sup>	York Region		

Regrets:

<b>Gary Kocialek</b>	Peel Region	<b>David Shelsted</b>	City of Greater Sudbury
<b>Edward Soldo</b>	City of Hamilton	<b>Luc Gagne</b>	City of Ottawa
<b>Josette M. Eugeni</b>	City of Windsor	<b>Nick Zervos</b>	Halton Region
<b>Shawna Boakes</b>	City of Windsor	<b>Paul Acquaah</b>	York Region
<b>Rob Rivers</b>	Halton Region	<b>Steven Kemp</b>	Durham Region
<b>Nicola Crawhall</b>	Consultant – Westbrook Public Affairs		

## Summary:

On Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019, RPWCO's Roads and Transportation Subcommittee convened through an 'in-person' meeting in Port Severn (District of Muskoka). Representatives from nine municipalities attended either in person or by teleconference, including staff from York Region who attended as guests (i.e. to provide update on an ongoing initiative to better understand relationships between municipalities and rail companies, and to provide two presentations on applications of transportation data.)

With respect to administrative updates, a brief discussion focused on a proposal to reduce the frequency of Subcommittee meetings from every quarter to three times per year. Further, the Subcommittee discussed the government relations update submitted by Nicola Crawhall (Westbrook Public Affairs).

Key remaining items discussed included updates on Automated Speed Enforcement; school bus stop arm cameras; and the Province's latest [consultation with respect to integrating e-scooters](#) on roads as part of a pilot project.

More information with respect to each agenda item is detailed below.

The next Roads and Transportation Subcommittee teleconference/meeting will be scheduled once RPWCO provides the planned dates for their next (2020) series of strategic committee meetings as well as resolution with respect to the number of future meetings.

## Administrative Update

- For some time now, RPWCO's meetings have been occurring four times per year, with the respective Subcommittees meeting generally two to three weeks prior. Given the challenges for meeting attendance and to develop meaningful content, it has been suggested that the subcommittees only meet three times per year.
  - No concerns from the Subcommittee

## Government Relations Update

- The Subcommittee briefly discussed the government relations update submitted by Nicola Crawhall (Westbrook Public Affairs), including items concerning the following:
  - RPWCO's Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Ontario Government's Provincial Flooding Advisor (Doug McNeil):
    - RPWCO highlighted 5 areas of concern:
      - Funding
      - Insurance issues
      - Need for lake level modelling
      - Municipalities struggling with determining appropriate level of service
      - Poor quality construction and servicing in new private developments
  - RPWCO meeting with Assistant Deputy Ministers:
    - Timing, and implications, of the Green Infrastructure stream

- Recent comments submitted by RPWCO:
  - More Homes More Choices Act (Bill 108) regulations
    - Concern over impact on amount, timing of DC collection under new rules
  - Proposed new Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health
    - Lack of specifics, targets, timing of commitments
    - Weak commitments re: climate change adaptation
    - Positive step – commitments to take action on plastics
    - Emphasis needed on addressing wastewater bypasses and overflows (instead of improving monitoring and reporting)
- Climate Change Assessment Framework:
  - RPWCO climate change subcommittee is proceeding with its climate change infrastructure and systems assessment framework
- Provincial cuts to health services:
  - Cuts to municipal sector will kick in next year
  - Transition funds to be made available, but vague on details
  - Pressure on municipalities' overall tax levy is increasing as they try to help offset funding cuts

## **RPWCO Update**

- Brian Titherington updated the group regarding highlights from RPWCO's June 14th meeting:
  - Updates provided by each Subcommittee
    - Climate change
    - Engineering & Construction
    - Roads and Transportation
    - Solid Waste
    - Urban Forestry
    - Water and Wastewater
  - Climate Change Subcommittee's proposal for an infrastructure climate assessment framework RFP
  - Collaborative work with RPWCO and ORSTT on Bill 108 (More Homes More Choices Act)
    - Extent to which backlogs of LPAT decisions were being cleared,
    - Extent to which development charge collections were affected by changes in timing
    - Extent to which community benefit charges were realizing desired outcomes (e.g. compared to density bonusing)
  - The evolving landscape of plastic waste and recycling
    - Changing nature of the municipal role in recycling
    - The role of government procurement in promoting the circular economy

## Rail Update

- Regarding the ongoing Rail legal review, Piragal Thiru (York Region) provided an update regarding progress on a review being jointly conducted with York University with respect to railway legislation in Ontario, including a review of the legal and historical relationship between rail authorities and road authorities in Ontario.
  - The review will try to look at the friction between municipalities and rail companies from a different perspective
  - July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting with York U found 50 cases, nationally, that have gone to appeal courts
  - Phase 1 will be for the study team to review challenges and outdated current procedures
  - End goal is to determine a strategy to help change and improve the relationship between municipalities and rail companies
  - First draft report is expected in Nov. 2019, to allow reporting to RPWCO meeting likely in Jan 2020.

## Other Items

- Automated Speed Enforcement
  - Joe Avsec provided an update on the ASE initiative which is being led by the Ontario Traffic Council:
    - Vendor was secured in summer 2019 – Toronto will be coming online first
    - Roll out will probably be staggered across municipalities – Q1 or Q2 2020
    - Estimated 12 municipalities will come online in 2020
      - If municipal councils want to get on-board, they should get involved as soon as possible. Numerous agreements need to be executed and reports sent to council
      - This is something that individual regions likely cannot economically pursue on their own
    - Concerns expressed by Subcommittee members re:
      - Councils may likely ask “who decides the tolerance for speed infraction?” and “how will tolerance levels be determined?”
      - Third-party vendors shouldn’t operate/oversee the system as there would be financial incentive to generate more violations than may be justified
      - It will be important that all participating municipalities use the same tolerance levels and parameters
      - There is concern that violation and speed thresholds may be skewed to ‘tailor’ the number of violations that can be processed – which can ultimately result in higher thresholds and undermine the intent for ASE
    - Processing centre to be based in Toronto; although consideration is being made re: a joint processing centre
- ROSCO
  - Joe Avsec advised on ongoing initiatives regarding:
    - PXO practices
    - Crossrides at intersections
    - Vision Zero

- Telecommunications Legislative Review and Impacts to Municipal ROW Control
  - Becoming an increasingly prominent issue, especially due to implementation of 5G networks
  - No significant updates; to be provided as necessary

*Next Steps or Action Required:*

- *Any members requiring additional information can contact [John.LaChapelle@york.ca](mailto:John.LaChapelle@york.ca) (York Region Roads and Traffic Operations) or [Janis.Ingram@york.ca](mailto:Janis.Ingram@york.ca) (York Region Legal Services).*

- School Bus Stop Arm Cameras

- It remains unclear what the municipal role will be
- Ottawa has gone ahead with this and it's been supported by the Police
  - Brian will touch base with his Ottawa contact
- Questions emerged from among the Subcommittee members, such as:
  - Who is ultimately responsible for school bus safety and enforcement? (MTO, police, road authority?)
  - What exactly would be the role of municipalities?
  - At some point, would it make sense to consult with the Ontario Traffic Council to see what insight they can offer?

*Next Steps or Action Required:*

- *Brian Titherington to reach out to his contact in Ottawa to obtain a status update regarding their implementation which will help the Subcommittee better understand the issue.*

- Smart Commute

- Metrolinx discontinued its funding for the program in June
  - However, the end of the Smart Commute program also represents an opportunity to explore new or alternative carpooling platform options; and such options don't necessarily need to be designed around commuters exclusively.
- York Region is maintaining the program model, but with reduced funding
- Peel Region has implemented their "[Change My Ride](#)" program, in partnership with [RideShark](#)

*Next Steps or Action Required:*

- *Any Subcommittee members who are interested in obtaining more information re: Peel's "Change My Ride" program or its partner, RideShark, can initially contact Joe Avsec – who can then provide actual contact information for the appropriate staff at Peel Region.*

- E-Scooter Update

- Just before the Labour Day weekend, the Province released its [consultation with respect to integrating e-scooters](#) on roads as part of a pilot project
- The Province has provided insufficient notice to allow a proper, fulsome review of the proposal
  - Fortunately, AMO was able to provide some high-level comments, for example:
    - Speed limit for e-scooters should be no higher than 24 km/h

- Each municipality should have the opportunity to opt-in/out
- In 2018, Waterloo Region was chosen as a pilot site, with LIME as its partner.
  - Pilot involves a test area of private land and trails, with geo-fenced limitations
  - They experienced disadvantages such as e-scooters being left around and not returned. Staff were tasked to collect and charge and redeploy each night
- Although the Province wants to see e-scooters integrated with use on public roads, it is unclear where exactly they would be permitted (e.g. boulevard, sidewalk, curb, roadway?)
- This issue to be discussed further at subsequent Subcommittee meetings, as more information becomes available

## Schedule

- Dates for subsequent Roads and Transportation Subcommittee were provided. These include:

Winter January 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference – York Region
Spring April 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference – York Region
Summer May 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference – York Region
Fall (Date TBD)	In-Person Meeting – Location TBD