

**Roads and Transportation Subcommittee Summary –
Wednesday, May 15, 2019 (by teleconference)**

Subcommittee: Roads and Transportation

Date: May 15, 2019
Prepared by: Kellie Madden-Knox, Rob Di Profio & Ryan Wong
Email: Kellie.Madden-Knox@york.ca
Email: Robert.DiProfio@york.ca
Email: Ryan.wong@york.ca

For further information contact:

Name: Brian Titherington, York Region
Phone: 1-877-464-6975 ext. 75901
Email: Brian.titherington@york.ca

RPWCO Subcommittee Members Present:

Brian Titherington (Chair)	York Region	Nicola Crawhall	Consultant – Westbrook Public Affairs
Joe Avsec	Peel Region	Paul Acquaah	York Region
Steven Kemp	Durham Region	Kellie Madden-Knox	York Region
Shawna Boakes	City of Windsor	Robert Di Profio	York Region
Steve Anderson	City of Guelph		

Guests:

Piragal Thiru	York Region	John Kazilis	York Region

Regrets:

Gary Kocialek	Peel Region	David Shelsted	City of Greater Sudbury
Ramesh Jagannathan	Durham Region	Mark Misko	District of Muskoka
Josette M. Eugeni	City of Windsor	Steve van De Keere	Region of Waterloo
Rob Rivers	Halton Region	Luc Gagne	City of Ottawa
Quinn Michell	District of Muskoka	Nick Zervos	Halton Region
Edward Soldo	City of Hamilton	Kayla Dixon	City of Thunder Bay
Christian Meile	County of Simcoe	Ryan Wong	York Region

Summary:

The RPWCO Roads and Transportation Subcommittee convened on Wednesday, May 15th, 2019 via teleconference, with representatives from five municipalities participating. In addition, Nicola Crawhall (Westbrook Public Affairs) participated in the meeting to provide a general Government Relations update.

With respect to administrative updates, a brief discussion focused on the proposed Fall 2019 'in-person' meeting which is tentatively planned to take place in the District of Muskoka. Following which, the Subcommittee was provided with an overview of the April 2019 RPWCO meeting.

Regarding the ongoing Rail legal review, Piragal Thiru (York Region) was present and provided a general update regarding initial progress on its review of railway legislation in Ontario, including a review of the legal and historical relationship between rail authorities and road authorities in Ontario.

The last items discussed included updates on Automated Speed Enforcement; ROSCO meeting minutes; telecommunications legislative review and related impacts to municipal ROW control; school bus stop arm cameras; processes for dealing with requests for unwarranted traffic signals; and full-motion video advertising displays. A new topic was discussed relating to the status of SmartCommute, as a result of discontinued funding.

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

The next Roads and Transportation Subcommittee meeting is being tentatively planned as an 'in-person' session and will be scheduled to occur in September 2019 (with the District of Muskoka as the proposed host).

Administrative Update

- Subcommittee members were asked to keep September 19th, 2019, open in their calendars to accommodate the Fall 'in-person' meeting which is tentatively planned to take place in the District of Muskoka, likely from 10:00am to 2:00pm.
 - Details are being planned. York Region staff will be meeting internally in June and will also consult with staff from the District of Muskoka, to develop ideas for the agenda re: content, speaker(s), venue, etc.

Next Steps or Action Required:

- *Members were asked to submit any ideas regarding content or speakers.*

Government Relations Update

- Nicola provided the group with a general government relations update on a number of items including the following, much of which was discussed at RPWCO's April 26th meeting:
 - 2019 Provincial Budget:
 - Gas tax – one-time top-up funding
 - Bill 107 (Getting Ontario Moving Act, 2019)
 - Province's plans for assuming ownership of rapid transit projects
 - TTC subway upload
 - Involves numerous amendments to multiple pieces of enabling legislation, such as:
 - Metrolinx Act
 - Highway Traffic Act
 - Bill 108 (More Homes, More Choices Act, 2019)
 - Involves numerous amendments to multiple pieces of enabling legislation, such as:
 - Development Charges Act (Section 26.2)
 - Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act
 - Planning Act
 - Conservation Authorities Act
 - Environmental Assessment Act
 - On RPWCO's behalf, Nicola will be submitting comments to the Province regarding proposed amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act

Next Steps or Action Required:

- *Nicola welcomes any comments regarding the proposed amendments to the EA Act from the Subcommittee members or their municipalities by May 20th, 2019.*
 - *York Region will circulate RPWCO's comments to the Subcommittee members once they are provided by Nicola.*
- *Nicola will provide Subcommittee members with a separate "Government Relations" update (to be circulated by York Region).*

RPWCO Update

- Brian Titherington updated the group regarding highlights from RPWCO's April 26th meeting:
 - Gas tax funding
 - Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF)
 - Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF)
 - Provincial proposed amendments to the EA Act
 - Telecommunications legislative review and related impacts to municipal ROW control (including FCM's confidential response letter which was circulated to Subcommittee members in April 2019)

Rail Update

- Piragal Thiru advised that York Region met with York University on May 14th 2019 to advance the legal review project.
 - York University is researching cases where challenges have been encountered – e.g. with respect to outdated legislation and difficult negotiations with private rail companies.
 - An objective is to develop a list of situations where road/rail projects in the Province have been challenged or disputed through the Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA).
 - Such situations have a strong potential for threatening the success of future road/rail projects due to previous history of conflict/disagreement between rail companies and road authorities.
 - This compilation should be completed by early Summer 2019
 - The strategy is to develop an engagement plan which will bring together stakeholders from the rail companies and from road authorities
 - Completion of the engagement plan is currently TBD.
 - Piragal asked the Subcommittee members to share any examples of road/rail conflict issues experienced with the rail companies

Next Steps or Action Required:

- *Subcommittee members are invited to share with Piragal Thiru any examples of road/rail conflict issues experienced with the rail companies, at their earliest convenience.*

Other Items

- Automated Speed Enforcement
 - Joe Avsec provided an update on the ASE initiative which is being led by the Ontario Traffic Council:
 - The City of Toronto recently had a vendor meeting re: proposals
 - Project is expected to be awarded sometime later this summer
 - On-street equipment is expected to be installed/ready by this fall or early winter
 - Some technical aspects remain to be resolved (e.g. threshold speed)
 - Various working groups have been involved in planning the initial roll-out phase (e.g. seven or eight municipalities)
 - Steve Kemp advised on the uptake of ASE projects in Ontario municipalities:
 - City of Toronto plans to roll-out 50 mobile camera-equipped sites and have taken the lead on the project
 - City of Waterloo may implement approximately 30 fixed locations with one camera rotating among the locations
 - Other participating municipalities will generally implement one or two mobile sites
 - The following municipalities are planning to participate in the initial rollout of ASE:
 - City of Toronto
 - City of Burlington
 - Region of Peel
 - Region of Durham
 - City of Ottawa

- Region of Waterloo
 - Town of Ajax
 - City of London
 - City of Brampton
 - City of Hamilton
 - Oxford County
 - Township of Uxbridge
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- It was discussed that it would be a good idea for Subcommittee members to inform their respective councils that other municipalities are in the process of considering or implementing ASE in advance of 2020.
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- ROSCO
 - Joe Avsec advised on ongoing initiatives regarding:
 - Collision reporting
 - Roundabout practices
 - PXO practices
 - Crossrides at intersections
 - Vision Zero
 - Upcoming conference of the Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals (CARSP)
 - Next meeting of ROSCO is Friday, May 24, 2019
 - Telecommunications Legislative Review and Impacts to Municipal ROW Control
 - Updates to be provided as necessary

Next Steps or Action Required:

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

- School Bus Stop Arm Cameras
 - Piragal Thiru advised that this issue is being explored by York Region Legal staff, and that a report may be going to Regional Council at some point.
 - 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 encouraged Subcommittee members to share any related news or insight that might help the Subcommittee advance its understanding of the issue.*

- Traffic Signal Warrants
 - Joe Avsec advised that Peel Region staff conducted a review of previous warrants and analyses which demonstrate that practices have generally been guided by sound engineering judgment.
 - Existing warrant guidelines seem to prevail
- Full-Motion Video Advertising Displays
 - Joe Avsec and Steve Kemp advised that in their respective Regions, such signs seem to be quite popular – i.e. politically, as well as with residents and the business community.
 - No further action
- Smart Commute
 - Brian Titherington introduced this new topic as a result of the Province’s recent announcement regarding the suspension of Metrolinx funding for Smart Commute.
 - Brian asked the group (i) if any member municipalities plan to establish their own ‘in-house’ alternative program as a replacement for Smart Commute, and (ii) if not, what options are being considered, if any?
 - Joe Avsec advised that Peel Region plans to retain a consultant to recommend options going forward. (This is being led by Judy Yack, Transportation Demand Management Analyst at Peel Region.)

Schedule

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

Fall September 19, 2019	Annual In-person Meeting Location – Muskoka
Winter January 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference - York Region
Spring April 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference - York Region
Summer May 2020 (Date TBD)	Teleconference - York Region

