

REGIONAL NIAGARA BICYCLING COMMITTEE

6:00 P.M. - SMOKIN' BUDDHA – PORT COLBORNE, ONTARIO

THURSDAY, September 17, 2009 - MEETING NOTES

ATTENDANCE

Brian Baty	Regional Councillor (Chair)
Phil Bergen	Niagara Region Public Works
Dianne Coppola	Integrated Community Planning
Wade Smith	Public-at-Large
Paul Pattison	Public-at-Large
Ken Forgeron	Integrated Community Planning
Scott Elliott	Niagara Regional Police Services
Frank Pravitz	Ministry of Transportation
Mark Hansen	Public-at-Large
Bob Romanuk	Niagara Falls Trails & Bikeways Committee
Tom Whitelaw	Public-at-Large
Petar Vujic	Niagara Region Public Works
Eric Flora	Niagara Region Public Works
Mary Lou Ambrose-Little	Guest- Town of Lincoln
Bill Fenwick	Guest - City of Welland
Penny Pitt	Administrative Assistant

Regrets – Peter Davies

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as amended with the change of the Presentation by Petar Vujic being second on the agenda. This meeting is a joint meeting and summer social for the RNBC.

2. PRESENTATIONS – COLLISION STATISTICS REPORT

Petar Vujic provided the committee with an overview of bicycle collision statistics for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. Copies of the following reports were distributed amongst the committee either by hard copy at the meeting or by email afterwards.

- Accident Analysis Report
- Location Collisions by Classification of Accident (by municipality and region)
- Location Collisions by hour, month, impact type and location, environmental conditions, road surface, driver action and age.

Scott Elliott was also provided with a General Accident Report that included the encoding of all accidents on Regional roads in 2008 for further review.

In 2009, both Regional and local roads can be assessed for bicycling collisions.

3. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES OF AUGUST 6, 2009

The meeting notes of August 6, 2009 were approved with the additional wording under the Engineering Task Force item – 406 Widening: Status. The last line to state “There was only one bump up requested for the previous Planning and EA Study component.”

4. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS AND BUSINESS ARISING

Action Item #38 – RNBC Budget

Chair Baty commented to the committee of how they had matured since the RNBC inception in 1995. He stated that a turning point had been reached where very significant financial needs were forthcoming. There have been informal discussions with Mike Trojan, CAO and he is aware of our concerns and directions. It is felt that perhaps political action may be needed to obtain the required budget and possibly reviewing the budget departmentally as well as issued based.

Ken Forgeron and Dianne Coppola will draft a report to the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee regarding the RNBC Terms of Reference and Priority Actions reports to help inform the upcoming budget discussion and implementation. A major project in 2010 will involve the implementation of the Signage and Wayfinding Program. **ACTION ITEM #38 – RNBC BUDGET**

Action Item #39 – Bicycle Accident Statistics

This item was reported under “Presentation by Petar Vujic”.

Action Item #55 – Parting Gift and Card for Dianne Coppola

On behalf of the committee, Chair Baty thanked Dianne Coppola for her commitment to the RNBC and all her hard work in facilitating the development of both the new draft Terms of Reference and Proposed_Priority Actions. He presented her with a Pen Centre Gift Card.

Action Item #56 - PWA 63-2009 funding of paved shoulders – E & W line – NOTL & relating correspondence

Eric Flora will provide a report in October.

Discussion on all other Action Items was deferred to the October 26th meeting.

Due to time and logistical issues the Items for Consideration and the Task Force Reports were deferred to the October 26th meeting.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Niagara to GTA Study: Phase 1– MTO Response to RNBC

An email dated September 3, 2009 from Teresa Pattugalan, NGTA Project Administrator was distributed to the committee. The following is an excerpt from her correspondence:

“Your comments will be considered during the development and assessment of transportation alternatives, and have been incorporated as appropriate, in the Transportation Problems and Opportunities Report; currently available on the project website.

It should also be noted that many planning and preliminary design studies currently being initiated by MTO include a review of localized pedestrian / cycling conditions including designs for enhanced pedestrian / cycling connections along and across provincial transportation facilities.”

- 406/Welland Canal Pedestrian/Cycling Structure – Eric Flora

Correspondence from Regional Chairman Peter Partington to Honourable Jim Bradley, Minister of Transportation regarding the Highway 406 Expansion, Construction of Pedestrian Bridge over the Welland Recreational Canal was distributed to the committee. The following is an excerpt from the correspondence:

“Recently, we learned from MTO staff that they were willing to include a pedestrian bridge as part of the tendering process for the 406 expansion project. This combined tendering proposal is welcomed and could provide a significant opportunity for cost savings. Following from this, is your Ministry able to assume all or part of the cost of constructing this pedestrian bridge? While this pedestrian bridge is not part of the Highway 406 expansion; its construction would send a strong message to the public regarding your Ministry’s support for environmentally sustainable active transportation modes and provide a valuable piece of community development infrastructure.”

- Report to ICPPWC on Revised Terms of Reference and Proposed Priority Actions

This was reported under Action Item #38 – RNBC Budget.

6. INFORMATION FOR DISTRIBUTION

The following items were distributed to the committee:

- Email from Teresa Pattugalan Re: Niagara to GTA Corridor and RNBC comments
- Correspondence from Regional Chairman to Minister of Transportation on construction of pedestrian/cycling bridge over the Welland Recreational Canal
- Standard article entitled “Road Warriors”
- Standard article entitled “Sharrows drive home message”
- Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation brochure entitled “Bike Lanes – Good For Business and for Taxpayers
- Standard Article entitled “Cycle Tourism Weathers Bad Times”

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

PLEASE NOTE:

Monday, October 26, 2009
Regional Niagara Headquarters
Committee Room 4
7:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Brian Baty
Chair

Penny Pitt
Administrative Assistant
Clerk's Department