

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF OTTAWA-CARLETON

CHAMPLAIN ROOM

2 OCTOBER 1996

1:30 P.M.

PRESENT

Chair: R. Cantin

Members: P. Clark, A. Cullen, L. Davis, D. Holmes, H. Kreling, J. Legendre
M. Meilleur, D. Pratt

REGRETS

D. Beamish

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That Transportation Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of 18 September 1996.

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION

1. RESTORE THE CORE - STATUS OF WELLINGTON STREET
RECONSTRUCTION

Dave Marett of the Environment and Transportation Department indicated there were four major projects underway in the downtown core: the rehabilitation of Wellington Street; the rehabilitation of the Cummings Bridge; the Rideau Area Improvement Project; and, the rehabilitation of the Mackenzie King Bridge. In relation to these projects, there is also work ongoing on the Plaza Bridge, where staff are looking at this structure with respect to its integrity and whether it can be rehabilitated or will have to be replaced. This bridge has a major impact on traffic, as approximately 40,000 vehicles and 900 buses use it daily.

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- Note:
1. Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation.
 2. Reports requiring Council consideration will be presented to Council on 23 October 1996 in Transportation Committee Report 37.

In addition, another project that may affect traffic flow is in the area of Laurier Avenue and the National Capital Commission will be doing some work on Confederation Boulevard and the Portage Bridge area and on Elgin Street between Queen Street and Laurier Avenue.

In a survey conducted by the Ottawa Tourism and Convention Authority, staff indicated that the results determined that the reconstruction of Wellington Street had no affect on 64% of those polled, although it did lessen the enjoyment of the roadway in general as a result. He stated that portion of Wellington Street should be fully open for traffic by the winter.

Councillor Meilleur suggested staff meet with Business Improvement Area (BIA's) representatives to address any concerns they may have because she did not believe this responsibility should fall to the local municipality. She noted, for example, how the Rideau Street BIA has expressed concern about traffic flow as it relates to the Rideau Area Improvements, particularly around Besserer and Nicholas. Staff confirmed the local BIA's are usually represented on the Public Advisory Committee's for such projects and are kept advised accordingly.

That the Transportation Committee receive this verbal update for information.

RECEIVED

INQUIRIES

Safety Concern at Belcourt Boulevard and Jeanne d'Arc Boulevard

Councillor Cantin indicated this intersection is close to a public school with approximately 400 children who have to cross a major roadway with no protection. Until the warranted traffic control signals can be installed, he questioned whether it would be possible to erect three-way stop control at this intersection to address the safety concerns. Staff confirmed this intersection has been reviewed and does meet the warrants for signals. Councillor Cantin left the Chair and Councillor Legendre presided for the remainder of this discussion.

Councillor Cantin questioned the cost of installing signals and whether they could be put in under the Safety Improvement Program as there is a safety issue involved. Staff indicated half signals (facing the major flow of traffic) at a cost of \$60,000 would be considered for this intersection, but did not know whether there were funds available for this under that program.

Moved by R. Cantin

That Transportation Committee recommend Council approve the installation of three-way stop signs at Belcourt Boulevard and Jeanne d'Arc Boulevard, until such time as traffic control signals can be accommodated.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

CO-ORDINATOR

CHAIR