

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Council Chambers, Tusket, NS 6:30 p.m.

Present: Warden Danny Muise, Councillors: Calvin d'Entremont, Gordon Boudreau, Glenn Diggdon, Kathy Bourque, Ted Saulnier, Guy Surette; Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Scott Surette, and Executive Assistant/Recorder Chantalle Newell.

Absent: Councillor Richard Donaldson

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Warden Danny Muise.

2. Approval of Agenda/Conflict of Interest Declaration

a. Agenda

On a motion by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright the agenda is approved as circulated.

Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

b. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Warden Danny Muise asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.
None declared.

3. Presentation – Natalie d'Entremont – AT Plan

Natalie d'Entremont, Director of Recreation Services is presenting the Active Transportation plan. The Municipality hired WSP to revise the existing 2016 Active Transportation Plan. Natalie indicated that they held workshops, open houses, and online surveys. She mentioned the open house that was held at Plymouth was well attended, with a letter of support for some of the infrastructure from that group of people. There were over 200 people engaged for the public engagement piece involving the survey given out.

Natalie is presenting changes for council to consider. For the 0-5 year plan, they are recommending signage be installed on trails, developing marketing materials to promote active transportation opportunities in Argyle, investigate the opportunity to have an all-day posted speed limit sign of 50 km/h in the Plymouth School District, Investigate the opportunity of reducing the posted speed limit along Argyle Sound Road and along Trunk 3 from Argyle Head Road to Argyle Sound Road, invest in new paddling infrastructure and promoting it, work with NSPW on the 103 Highway Argyle Interchange Project (Glenwood, Drumlin exit), conduct a pilot project to provide a complete sidewalk connection between Chemin de l'église and Eglise paroissale catholique Saint-Pierre, create a functional plan for an AT connection along Route 334 between Plymouth School and Newell Road, create a plan for an AT connection along Route 308

district, and that the community has raised over \$30,000 by fundraising for the family. Councillor Bourque mentioned one more fundraiser at the Hipson Bridge on Saturday.

Councillor Guy Surette reported on his attendance at the Yarmouth Area Industrial Commission Meeting, and the Mariners Centre Expansion Steering Committee. He mentioned that after talking to Don Houston, he called about potholes on the Chemin de Bouleaux, they were fixed and within 2 days they were holes again. Councillor Surette brought up an in-camera item to be discussed at a later time.

Councillor Gordon Boudreau reported on similar meetings attended, such as the Nakile meeting, the Department of Transportation meeting, and a Personnel meeting for Nakile. He also reported on his attendance for two potential wind farm projects. He indicated he is working with our Deputy CAO and residents to look at getting funding for new bleachers for the ball field in Wedgeport.

Councillor Calvin d'Entremont reported for YASTA. He mentioned that yesterday was the last passing for the CAT, and there were around 40,000 passengers for the first year back after three years, which he considers to be a success. He reported on cruise ships that arrived in Shelburne, that brought some tourists to our area.

Councillor Glenn Diggdon said a Thank you to Jill and Todd Brannen going around on behalf of Love Atlantic with churches, giving out thank you cards to people in the community.

Councillor Ted Saulnier reported it was quiet in his district at the moment, but there is a lot of buzz about the windmills in community with the different presentations.

7. Warden's Report

Warden Muise reviewed his report attached to the agenda.

8. Staff Report

Deputy CAO Surette reviewed the staff report as attached to the agenda.

9. For Decision/Discussion

a. Active Transportation Plan

It is moved by Councillor Ted Saulnier and seconded by Councillor Kathy Bourque to approve Active Transportation plan as presented.

Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

b. Cyber Security

It is moved by Councillor Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright to hire Grant Thornton to conduct a Cyber Security Audit for the Municipality of the District of Argyle.

Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

c. Organizational Chart and Forward Steps

remaining \$1100 amongst the groups in Argyle.
Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

10. Correspondence and for Information

- a. NSFM Monday Memo

11. Financial Requests – District Community Grant Requests

- a. Laurel Hills Cemetery

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Councillor Calvin d'Entremont to provide a District Community Grant in the amount of \$500 to the Laurel Hills Cemetery.
Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

12. Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motions by Councillors

13. Question Period

14. In Camera

It is moved by Councillor Kathy Bourque and seconded by Deputy Warden Nicole Albright to go in-camera at 8:35 p.m.

After discussion regarding contract negotiations ended, council came to consensus to move back to the regular meeting to adjourn.

15. Adjournment

It is moved by Councillor Gordon Boudreau and seconded by Councillor Ted Saulnier to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 9:48 p.m.
Motion Carried. (8 in favour, 0 against)

Respectfully Submitted,

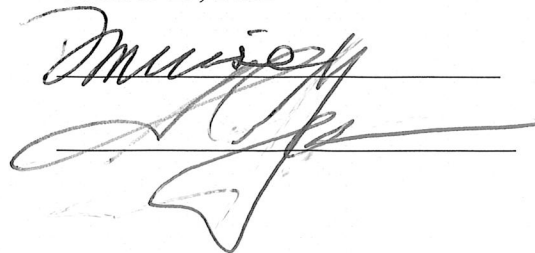
Chantalle Newell, Executive Assistant/Recorder

Date Approved:

October 25, 2022

Chairman/Warden

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer

Handwritten signature of Alain Muise in black ink, written over two horizontal lines.



ARGYLE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
PLAN AMENDMENTS



August 2022



1

What is Active Transportation?

Active transportation ("AT") refers to all forms of human powered transportation.

Most commonly, it refers to walking and cycling, but also rollerblading, skateboarding, running, wheelchair use, skating, canoeing, kayaking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and more.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

2

Active Transportation Facilities



1 SIDEWALK

A sidewalk is a bi-directional facility for pedestrian use that runs parallel to adjacent roadways. Under the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act, only children are permitted to cycle on sidewalks, therefore, the sidewalk is a space dedicated to those who travel by foot and/ or utilize an assistive mobility device, such as a wheelchair, walker or cane.



2 MULTI-USE PATHWAY

A multi-use pathway is a bi-directional shared facility that accommodates the movement of various active transportation users, including cyclists. A multi-use pathway may have a marked centerline to help facilitate active transportation flow.



3 PAVED SHOULDER

A paved shoulder is an asphalted area located on the outer edge(s) of the roadway and is separated from motorists by a white line. They can function as a space for cyclists and pedestrians to travel in when other active transportation facilities are absent.

Photo Source: Small Town and Rural Design Guide Website



4 PAINTED BIKE LANE

A painted bike lane is an unprotected dedicated space for cyclists that runs parallel to vehicular travel lanes within a roadway and is delineated by a painted line. Bicycle pavement markings and signage are installed to indicate that the space is dedicated to cyclists.



5



Amendments to the Active Transportation Plan

6

Short term



Where cyclists are welcomed

RECOMMENDATION:

(Based on Existing) Incentivize Argyle businesses to get certified by Bicycle Nova Scotia as a Bike Friendly Business (BFB)

COST ESTIMATE (2016):

BFB window decal
Free when certified

KEY STEPS:

1. Canvas local business owners for initial members/champions of the program
2. Offer to cost share for a bike rack, including installation
3. Advertise BFB businesses in future AT media



9

Short term

RECOMMENDATION:

(Existing) Develop marketing materials to promote active transportation opportunities in MoDA

COST ESTIMATE (2016):

Design of brochure (by consultant)
\$2,000 - 3,500 or staff time
Printing of brochure (10,000 copies)
\$1,000 - 1,500

KEY STEPS*:

1. Work with Bicycle Nova Scotia to expand their cycling brochure series to Southwest Nova Scotia (Shelburne to Yarmouth or Yarmouth County Rail Trail) or develop a separate brochure aimed at various AT opportunities within Argyle
2. Design an AT brochure
3. Print brochures and place them in Visitor Information Centres and major points of entry to the municipality and province.
4. Provide downloadable digital copy of brochure on the municipal website



10

Short term

RECOMMENDATION:

(Existing) Invest in new paddling infrastructure

COST ESTIMATE (2016):

Provide/upgrade a launch point
Cost will vary depending on existing conditions and infrastructure needs

KEY STEPS*:

1. Engage the paddling community to gather additional information on the top five locations that should be prioritized to receive infrastructure upgrades
2. Create an inventory of paddling boat launches with notes on their respective infrastructure
3. Assess the infrastructure needs of the top five boat launch locations
4. Provide/upgrade infrastructure at the top five boat launch locations over the next five years (10 years if major infrastructure components, such as a concrete ramp, is required)



13

Short term

RECOMMENDATION:

(Existing) Promote paddling routes

COST ESTIMATE (2016):

Create a website
\$5,000 (or less with a stock website or one created by volunteers)

Create a brochure
\$4,000 - 6,000 (by consultant)

KEY STEPS:

1. Begin marketing and promoting paddling opportunities on the shore and along the Tusket River via a website and/or brochure
2. Ensure existing launch points are well maintained and safe for visitors to use
3. Search for opportunities to add more launch points in appropriate locations and install signage along the road to help visitors find these areas



14

Short term

RECOMMENDATION:

Create a functional plan for an active transportation connection along Route 334 between Plymouth School and Newell Road

COST ESTIMATE:

Develop functional plan (by consultant)
\$45,000 - \$55,000

KEY STEPS:

1. Hire a consultant to complete a functional plan that includes:
 - a. the development and evaluation of concept design options that explore the implementation of a multi-use pathway or an asphalt sidewalk with bike lanes
 - b. public and stakeholder (e.g. NSPW) engagement
 - c. the preparation of 30% design drawings and a 'Class D' cost estimate
 - d. a functional plan report with a construction phasing plan



Short term

RECOMMENDATION:

Create a plan for an active transportation connection along Route 308 between École Secondaire de Par-en-Bas to the Argyle Township Court House & Gaol

COST ESTIMATE:

Develop functional plan (by consultant)
\$55,000 - \$65,000

KEY STEPS:

1. Hire a consultant to complete a functional plan that includes:
 - a. the development and evaluation of concept design options that explore the implementation of a multi-use pathway or an asphalt sidewalk with bike lanes
 - b. public and stakeholder (e.g. NSPW) engagement
 - c. the preparation of 30% design drawings and a 'Class D' cost estimate
 - d. a functional plan report with a construction phasing plan



Long term



RECOMMENDATION:

Prepare a detailed design for the active transportation (AT) connection along Route 334 between Plymouth School and Newell Road as presented within the functional plan

COST ESTIMATE:

Develop detailed design (by consultant)
\$35,000 - 40,000

KEY STEPS:

1. Secure funds to design the active transportation connection
2. Initiate discussion with NSPW to confirm design specifications and establish buy-in
3. Hire a consultant to develop a detailed design of the AT connection that includes:
 - a. topographical survey
 - b. stakeholder consultation
 - c. 100% design drawings and Class A cost estimate

21

Long term



RECOMMENDATION:

Prepare a detailed design for the active transportation (AT) connection along Route 308 between École Secondaire de Par-en-Bas to the Argyle Township Court House & Gaol

COST ESTIMATE:

Develop detailed design (by consultant)
\$50,000 - 60,000

KEY STEPS:

1. Secure funds to design the active transportation connection
2. Initiate discussion with NSPW to confirm design specifications and establish buy-in
3. Hire a consultant to develop a detailed design of the AT connection, and possibly overpass design, that includes:
 - a. topographical survey
 - b. stakeholder consultation
 - c. 100% design drawings and Class A cost estimate

22

Ongoing Active Transportation Projects



25

Funding Opportunities

GRANTING AUTHORITY	PROGRAM	SUMMARY
Government of Canada – Infrastructure Canada	Active Transportation Fund	This fund supports projects that build new and expanded networks of pathways, bike lanes, trails and pedestrian bridges, in addition to supporting active transportation planning and stakeholder engagement activities.
Government of Canada – Infrastructure Canada	Investing in Canada Plan: Public Transit Stream	This fund supports the building, expansion and upgrading of urban and rural transit networks, including the creation of multi-use pathways in communities across the country.
Government of Nova Scotia – Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage	Trail Expansion Grant Program	This fund supports community groups, municipalities, and 'not-for-profit' organizations to develop new trails, expand recreational trails, and do capital upgrades to existing trails.
Government of Nova Scotia – Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage	Trail Maintenance Program	This fund supports community trail groups who are involved in regular and on-going maintenance on their trails.

26

Questions?

