

## Active Transportation Advisory Group (ATAG)

September 27, 2022 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Hybrid

City Hall Committee Room E and Microsoft Teams

### In Attendance

#### Community Representatives:

	Name	Representing
✓	Adam Bue	Cycling
✘	Graham Corsar	Business Community
✓v	Renata Cosic	Post-secondary
✓v	Lisa Franks	People of all abilities
✓	Derek Friesen	Walking
✓v	Jeananne Klein	People of all ages (senior)
✓v	Jasmine Liska	Resident
✓	Tyler Rittinger	Elementary or high school
✓	Berenice Romero	Public Transit user
✓	Kloey Shanay Bells	People of all ages (youth)
✓	Stephanie (Steph) Siemens	Resident
✓v	Curtis Standing	Indigenous Community

#### Organization Representatives:

	Name	Representing
✓v	Verna Gallen	Walking Saskatoon
✘	Cora Janzen	Saskatchewan Health Authority
✘	Kelly Klassen	Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI)
✓	Alan Otterbein	Meewasin Valley Authority
✓v	Darby Sutherland	Discover Saskatoon
✓	Merlin Toth	Saskatoon Cycles

#### City of Saskatoon:

	Name	Representing
✓	Nathalie Baudais	Active Transportation Program Manager (interim)
✓	Councillor Dubois	
✘	David LeBoutillier	Engineering Manager
✓	Amanda Lindgren	Public Engagement Consultant (chair)
✓v	Jay Magus	Director of Transportation
✓v	Sharon Cybulski	Assistant to the Director of Transportation (recorder)

✓ = in-person attendance; ✓v = virtual attendance; ✘ = regrets

## 1. Welcome

Amanda Lindgren welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged that we are on Treaty 6 territory and traditional homelands of the Métis. Meeting started at 3:06 p.m.

The focus of today's meeting was on the Active Transportation Plan.

The meeting was a hybrid meeting with in-person attendance and virtual attendance through Microsoft Teams.

## 2. Re-Introductions and Icebreaker

Roundtable re-introductions were done along with an ice breaker on a favourite summer activity/memory.

Reminder about some of the things the group identified at the June meeting to help everyone feel comfortable participating in the group and to keep in mind as the group works together.

Informal vote will be done to approve terms of reference and meeting minutes.

## 3. Review Terms of Reference and Mandate

Reminder about the mandate and mission of the ATAG.

### Mandate

To provide advice and feedback to the Transportation Department on the following:

- proposed active transportation policies, standards, support programs, education and awareness initiatives, and infrastructure projects,
- active transportation matters that arise which are not identified within the Active Transportation Plan, and
- the perspectives of active transportation users, residents, partners and stakeholders in Saskatoon, including feedback related to their respective organization where applicable.

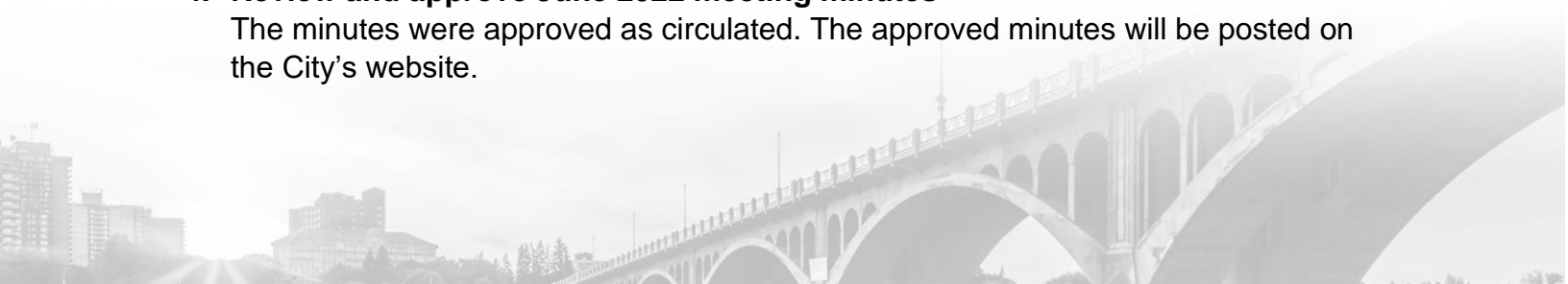
### Mission

The mission of the ATAG is to foster connections between community groups, organizations, residents, and the City of Saskatoon to support the successful implementation of the Active Transportation Plan in Saskatoon.

The terms of reference were approved as circulated.

## 4. Review and approve June 2022 meeting minutes

The minutes were approved as circulated. The approved minutes will be posted on the City's website.



## 5. Active Transportation Plan and Update

Nathalie provided an update on the Active Transportation Plan (AT Plan).

The AT Plan was approved by City Council in 2016 and includes the following themes:

- Connectivity
- Safety and security
- Convenience
- Land use and growth
- Maintenance and accessibility
- Education and awareness

Multiple programs support the AT Plan.

### Operational Program

- Policy Projects
  - Active Transportation Detour Policy (Pedestrian and Cyclist Accommodation in Work Zones and Detours – Council Policy C07-032)
  - Development Design Standards (also referred to as Chapter 8)
    - New developments have to abide by these standards.
    - Includes details on where pedestrian ramps should be placed, cycling infrastructure details.
    - Link to the document will be added to the Teams file.
- Planning Projects
  - Bridge shared use pathway audit – pedestrian and cycle
    - Considered Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
    - Developing an implementation strategy for the over 500 recommendations. In the meantime, implementing what can be done in the short term within existing operational budgets.
  - Data collection
    - 2019 Benchmark Program
    - Just starting to collect active transportation data.
    - Installed permanent counters in 2021 at Preston Avenue and 108<sup>th</sup> Street, Broadway Bridge and University Bridge.
    - Developing a temporary active transportation count program that would rotate at different locations similar to vehicle count program. Counts taken this year will help us finalize the appropriate parameters for counts (days, hours, etc.).

### Questions:

Clarification on the Active Transportation Detour Policy. The policy requires contractors to provide an equal facility for pedestrians and cyclists if work will take

longer than 24 hours. The policy was approved last year so this is the first year that contractors had to comply. The City's Detour Group will work with contractors to determine alternate routes.

Suggestion was made to provide advance notice on alternate routes prior to the detour.

Inquiry about pedestrian recall walk buttons. Pedestrian recall buttons remain in the downtown between 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; they have to be pushed outside of those hours. Most locations have reverted to former operations but have been adjusted in areas where complaints have been assessed. There is no City Council policy on the pedestrian recall buttons.

Inquiry if the AT data collection benchmarking program will be used for design and for prioritizing work and funding requests. It was noted there isn't enough data to do that at this time. The data collection program won't necessarily follow the locations completed during benchmarking study by the benchmarking could inform the data collection program. The information collected by Pedal Poll (Vélo Canada Bikes) could supplement the City's information.

#### Education and Awareness Program

- Learn to Ride Safe Program for grade 3 students.
- Active transportation awareness campaign includes social media posts, utility billing inserts and *Street Smarts* social media posts. The message and strategy are changed every year.
  - Contract package for the next two years is being issued. ATAG will be asked about possible messages / themes for the campaign.
  - Information will be brought to a future ATAG meeting, possibly in November.
- BYXE weeks took place in February and May in partnership with Saskatoon Cycles.
- Active Transportation Wayfinding Guide Pilot project will be implemented in 2023. Active transportation wayfinding signs will be installed along the corridor (22<sup>nd</sup> Street multi-use pathway to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Street bikeway to the Riversdale BID near St. Paul's Hospital). The pilot will be evaluated before seeking funding to implement City-wide.

#### Questions:

Inquiry if follow-up is done on children who take the Learn to Ride Program to verify data retention. There is no follow-up program for later years. The City does not track the students that participate in the program so follow-up is not possible. The City has received requests for youth training. Although there is no youth training program, there are plans for a Street Team which could assist with ongoing education.

Kloey offered to share information about a program that she is involved in that offers cycling lessons so that the information can be shared with people who request training for youths.

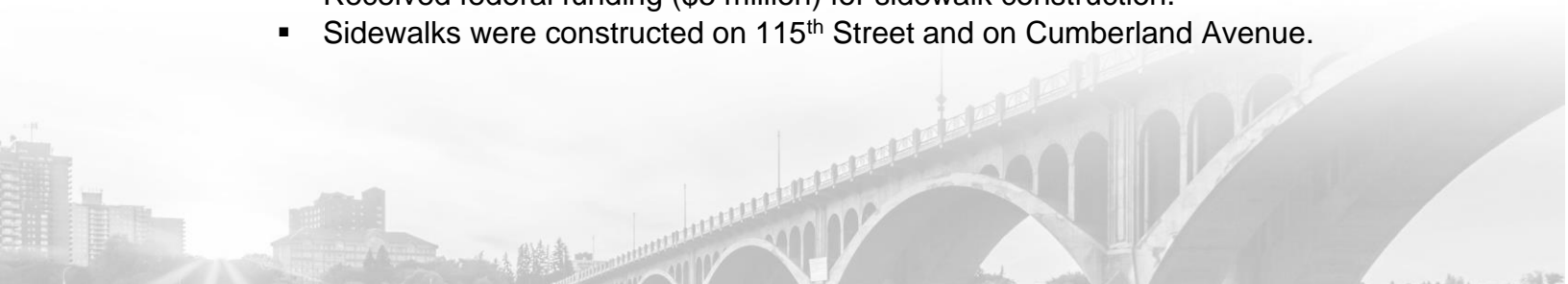
There was a suggestion to offer an equivalent program for teenagers about driving in the city and stopping at crosswalks. It was noted that it is up to SGI to provide driver education.

### Accessibility Program

- Pedestrian curb ramp construction
  - Asset Preservation Program – curb ramps will be installed at the same time as other construction is taking place.
  - Infill Program – received \$1 million in funding for 2022-2023 to complete approximately 160 ramps.
    - Many were completed this year in coordination with the Asset Preservation program.
    - Focussed on priority 1 (requests) and priority 2 (transit service) locations.
- Accessible Pedestrian Signals
  - Audible pedestrian signals at 10 locations in 2022 including Idylwyld Drive and 36<sup>th</sup> Street and 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Warman Road.
    - Remaining locations will be done this fall in consultation with the low vision community.
    - Ten locations will be done in 2023.
  - Touchless pedestrian signal
    - First installation will be at a new pedestrian actuated signal at Reindeer Road and Redberry Road by Lawson Heights School.
    - Activated by waving your hand or by downloading the app to have it activate it for you.
    - Received federal funding to install at approximately 20 additional locations (to be determined in consultation with low vision community).

### Walking Program

- Sidewalk Implementation Plan was done in 2019.
  - 10 kilometres of sidewalk at various locations are planned for implementation between 2020 to 2030
- Sidewalk Planning Studies
  - Feasibility study completed for approximately 60 kilometres. Feasibility at each location varied; some locations don't have adequate right-of-way, others have significant tree conflicts.
- Sidewalk Construction
  - Received federal funding (\$5 million) for sidewalk construction.
  - Sidewalks were constructed on 115<sup>th</sup> Street and on Cumberland Avenue.



- Contractor has been retained for the locations planned in 2022, construction work will take place in 2023. Another contract will be issued in 2023 and a third in 2024.

### Cycling Program

- Cycling Infrastructure Expansion Plans (2020-2025 and 2025-2030)
- Cycling Planning Studies
  - Connecting Downtown – directed to postpone engagement until after Downtown Event Centre/Arena and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) planning is farther along. Unknown when engagement will take place.
  - Neighbourhood Bikeways Projects – all approved in principle by City Council
    - Dudley Street
    - 31<sup>st</sup> Street West
    - 14<sup>th</sup> Street East
    - Victoria Avenue
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue – tied to Connecting Downtown (under development – not yet approved)
  - Connecting Avenue C
    - Second round of online engagement will take place in the fall (early November). Please sign-up for notifications on the City's Engage page (<https://www.saskatoon.ca/engage/connecting-avenue-c>).
  - Cycling Infrastructure Construction
    - 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Blairmore Bikeway
      - Permanent traffic calming installed as well as pedestrian and cyclist activated crossing devices at Avenue H and Avenue P.
    - 14<sup>th</sup> Street East
      - Permanent closure between Temperance and Lansdowne will be done when the water and sewer project is completed at that location.
      - Pedestrian recall is in place at the intersection of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Cumberland Avenue until the permanent curb extension is completed.
      - Curb extensions completed in 2021 at Wiggins.
      - Asset Preservation will be repairing the cracked multi-use pathway, east of Cumberland Avenue in 2023.
    - West Central Multi-Use Corridor
      - Idylwyld Drive to Avenue F has been completed.
      - Next section that will be completed is 20<sup>th</sup> Street to Avenue Q
      - Future sections to be completed are Avenue F to 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue Q to Avenue W.

### Questions:

Inquiry about what type of bike lanes will be developed for the neighbourhood bikeway projects. Detailed information about the bikeway projects is on the City's website (<https://www.saskatoon.ca/engage/neighbourhood-bikeways-project>)

Clarification on what is meant by AAA. AAA refers to All Ages and Abilities facility where operating speed of traffic is 30 km/h and less than 1500 vehicles a day (light traffic). Traffic calming measures are put in place, so the traffic speed is reduced to 30 km/h.

Inquiry about where the AAA principles came from. The principles are from best practices and guidance of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NATCO).

Inquiry about Victoria Avenue neighbourhood bikeway and if there are plans to mitigate the drainage issues that were experienced on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. A gutter will be in place with cyclists having the space outside the gutter.

Inquiry if consideration was given to having the bike lane in the median for Victoria Avenue neighbourhood bikeway design. Concern expressed about conflicts for drivers turning and pull in parked cars. Detailed design has not been completed yet.

Inquiry if there are any plans to have a bikeway project closer to Clarence Avenue. 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway Avenue are not bike-friendly. There are plans for other locations. AT Plan identified some corridors but need to determine what would be best for north-south and east-west connections for that area. Pedestrian activated device is proposed for 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Lansdowne Avenue but is currently unfunded.

#### Other Projects

- E-scooter Pilot
  - Engagement closes on September 29.
  - Pilot is for vendors who rent shared devices not personally owned devices.
- Pedestrian Activated Devices
  - 16 in 2022 and 10 in 2023

#### Potential Projects (pending federal approval from Active Transportation Fund)

- Construction Projects
  - Dudley Street
- Planning Projects
  - College Drive from Preston Avenue to McOrmond Drive Feasibility Study
  - Millar Avenue from 43<sup>rd</sup> Street to Marquis Drive Multi-Use Pathway
  - Victoria Avenue All Ages and Abilities Facility from Taylor Street to Ruth Street
  - Street Team – team would provide road user education about cycling facilities, etc.



### Questions:

Inquiry about source of funding and timelines. Federal funding for construction projects is \$1 million and \$50,000 for each planning project. The planning projects have to be started in 2023 and completed by 2026. The City had to contribute a portion of the funds for the construction projects. Details about the federal funding request were provided in a [report](#) that went to City Council in March.

### What is Next?

- AT Plan Refresh
  - Scope development in 2023 with funding request for 2024-2025 budget to refresh the AT Plan. The refresh would happen if funding is approved.

It was noted lots of things have been completed in the AT Plan. Important to refresh the plan as there have been lots of changes since 2016.

## **6. Next Steps and Closing**

The committee will have five meetings a year with meetings alternating between afternoon and evening meeting times.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 23, 2022 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

- ATAG member bios  
Short bios of ATAG members will be posted on the City's website.

**Action:** Amanda will send information about for bios to members.

## **7. Adjournment**

Meeting closed with everyone providing closing thoughts on meeting. Amanda and Nathalie thanked everyone for their participation. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

