Minutes of the TENTH meeting of the Development Services Committee for 2010, being a special meeting held at G.L. Roberts Collegiate and Vocational Institute, 399 Chaleur Avenue, on Monday, June 21, 2010 at 7:06 p.m.

Present:  Councillor Parkes, Chair  
Councillor Lutczyk, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Henry, Member  
Councillor Nicholson, Member  

Also Present:  M. Pringle, Committee Co-ordinator  
K. Bressan, Council Meeting Co-ordinator  
T. Hodgins, Commissioner, Development Services  
P. Ralph, Director, Planning Services  
C. Kelly, Director, Works and Transportation  
T. Goodeve, Manager, Policy  
D. Karim, Transportation Planner/Engineer  
B. Rosnak, Manager, Parks Development and Technical Support  

Absent:  Councillor Pidwerbecki, Member  

The Chair outlined the format and purpose of the public meeting.

DS-10-155 Options for Rerouting the 403 and 403B Park Bus Off Stone Street  (Ward 1)

This matter was previously discussed at City Council meeting held on May 17, 2010 when Council authorized staff to advertise and schedule a public meeting of the Development Services Committee to receive public input regarding options for rerouting the 403 and 403B Park Bus route off Stone Street.

The Manager, Policy presented an overview of the concerns presented by the ‘Stone Street Banish the Bus Committee’ and reviewed the four alternative options for rerouting the 403 and 403B Park Bus off Stone Street, highlighting the various advantageous and disadvantageous of each alternative.

The Committee questioned the Manager, Policy.

Michael Beardsley, resident of Lakeside Street addressed the Committee stating the current route on Stone Street is not adequate as it does not provide service to seniors that live at the far end of the street, and expressed opposition to rerouting the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive and for any bus re-routed east of Cedar Street.

Earl Hibbard, resident of Cedar Street addressed the Committee stating the bus previously ran along Evangeline Drive without a problem, and supported use of the bus loop constructed by the City when the South Oshawa Community Centre was built. Earl Hibbert stated residents were not consulted when the 403/403B Park bus was rerouted along Stone Street, noting the buses create noise and pollution and serves very few people.
Brian Smith, resident Evangeline Drive addressed the Committee in support of maintaining the status quo, stating bus routes should be located on main arterial roads. Brian Smith suggested parking be removed from the south side of Stone Street, a 40 km/hour speed limit be posted, a four-way stop be implemented at Lakeview Avenue and Evangeline Drive and ‘no parking’ be enforced at the end of Stone Street.

John Sutaroski addressed the Committee stating the issue is about need and the residents on Stone Street do not see the demand for the service, stating the 403/403B Park bus regularly runs empty along Stone Street. John Sutaroski stated he does not support any option that requires the additional expenditure of public funds, noting the current route appears to be a waste of money and endangers public safety.

Erik Dirken, resident Stone Street addressed the Committee stating there are conflicting uses on Stone Street with users of the waterfront trail and bus traffic and expressed support for using the bus loop that was constructed on Cedar Street when the South Oshawa Community Centre was built, and opposing the 403/403B Park bus being rerouted along Evangeline Drive.

Deb Cvancic, resident of Stone Street addressed the Committee in opposition to the 403/403B Park bus being rerouted along Evangeline Drive and expressing support for using the bus loop constructed on Cedar Street when the South Oshawa Community Centre was built.

The Committee requested the Commissioner, Development Services provide background information related to the bus loop constructed when the South Oshawa Community Centre was built. The Commissioner advised that the loop was intended for use by both Durham Regional Transit and the Durham District School Board; however, since construction Durham Regional Transit has upgraded its buses to a 62” foot bus (compared to the 45” foot bus previously used), and when the Durham District School Board was approached to provide an additional 20 feet of property to accommodate the larger buses, they said no. The Commissioner advised that the Durham District School Board will not allow Durham Region Transit buses onto the property and the property is leased by the school board.

Steve Morelli, resident of Evangeline Drive addressed the Committee and submitted a petition, stating that 85 percent of those affected by the rerouting of the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive are opposed.

Lee Badman, resident of Laurentian Avenue addressed the Committee stating if 85 percent of the residents on Evangeline Drive are opposed to the 403/403B Park bus being rerouted to their street, then if 85 percent of the residents on Stone Street oppose the current bus route, then they should be supported as well.

Dianne Edwards, resident of Evangeline Drive addressed the Committee in opposition to rerouting the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive
expressing concern for safety, noting they purchased their home knowing there was no bus traffic.

Roger Ramkissoon, resident of Phillip Murray Avenue addressed the Committee stating that he uses the bus every morning to travel to the GO Train station and that there are about 20 people on the bus at that time, noting he supports maintaining the current bus route.

Ken Kirton, resident Evangeline Drive, addressed the Committee stating he chose to purchase a home on Evangeline Drive because there was no bus traffic, noting he opposes re-routing the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive for safety reasons.

Sandra Sutaroski addressed the Committee stating it is frustrating for residents of Stone Street when they watch empty buses driving down their overcrowded street, noting that it is impossible to enforce parking as there are so many waterfront trail users. Sandra Sataroski questioned the cost of running empty buses and questioned who could speak to Durham Region Transit about reverting to the smaller bus size for this route.

Sylvia Rhodes, resident of Stone Street addressed the Committee on behalf of the ‘Stone Street Banish the Bus Committee’, stating that 50 residents have been waiting since November 2004 for a response to their request to have the 403/403B Park bus route rerouted off Stone Street due to noise, pollution and lack of ridership. Sylvia Rhodes stated a 15-day ridership survey confirmed the bus is mostly empty, with one passenger using every seventh bus, and stated a bus route on Conant Street was cancelled due to lack of ridership, yet it carried more passengers. Sylvia Rhodes expressed support for the separation of recreational activities and bus traffic, stating the bus route along Stone Street is environmentally and fiscally irresponsible and expressed opposition to any alternative that would include a bus loop at the end of Stone Street.

Carol Frances, resident of Oxford Street addressed the Committee in opposition to all alternatives outlined in Report DS-10-155, stating that any of the proposed alternatives would affect the neighbourhood, and noting the waterfront trail should be separated from vehicular traffic.

William Hearn, resident of Evangeline Drive addressed the Committee stating he purchased his home because there was no bus traffic, and stating residents do not require the 403/403B Park bus service in this area, noting passengers can walk up to Philip Murray Avenue to catch a bus, and suggested further options be investigated to assist seniors in the area.
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Paul Kidson, resident of Stone Street addressed the Committee stating Stone Street has been forced to deal with incompatible uses; the waterfront trail and bus traffic and requested ridership data be provided. Paul Kidson stated if the data supported the need for the 403/403B Park bus along Stone Street, then a smaller bus should be used.

Michael Beardsley addressed the Committee recommending an alternative route that was previously used.

Councillor Nicholson submitted a petition he received from area residents opposing the 403/403B Park bus being rerouted along Evangeline Drive.

This matter is discussed later in the meeting (see Page 6).

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DS-10-152 Carole Crosier - Comments Regarding the Rerouting of the 403 and 403B Park Bus Route Off Stone Street (Ward 1)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence DS-10-152 dated June 4, 2010 from Carole Crosier suggesting the bus be rerouted west along Phillip Murray Avenue, south on Oxford Street to Lakeview Avenue and then onward in a westerly direction.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk, "That Correspondence DS-10-152 dated June 4, 2010 from Carole Crosier suggesting that the bus be rerouted west along Phillip Murray Avenue, south on Oxford Street to Lakeview Avenue and then onward in a westerly direction, be referred to Report DS-10-155." CARRIED

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DS-10-153 Carol Francis - Comments Regarding the Rerouting of the 403 and 403B Park Bus Route Off Stone Street (Ward 1)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence DS-10-153 dated June 4, 2010 from Carol Francis advising that she supports Option 4 as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends a transit loop at Stone Street and expressed opposition to Options 2 and 3 as presented.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk, "That Correspondence DS-10-153 dated June 4, 2010 from Carol Francis advising that she supports Option 4 as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends a transit loop at Stone Street and expressed opposition to Options 2 and 3 as presented, be referred to Report DS-10-155." CARRIED
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DS-10-154  Debbie Roche - Comments Regarding the Rerouting of the 403 and 403B Park Bus Route Off Stone Street (Ward 1)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence DS-10-154 dated June 3, 2010 from Debbie Roche advising that she uses the Park 403 bus to get to and from the GO Train station everyday and suggesting that when the bus turns on to Lakeview Avenue that it continue on Lakeview Avenue straight to Cedar Street, turn on Cedar Street and continue as normal.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk,
“That Correspondence DS-10-154 dated June 3, 2010 from Debbie Roche advising that she uses the Park 403 bus to get to and from the GO Train station everyday and suggesting that when the bus turns on to Lakeview Avenue that it continue on Lakeview Avenue straight to Cedar Street, turn on Cedar Street and continue as normal, be referred to Report DS-10-155.”  CARRIED

DS-10-157  Bill Summers – Comments in Opposition to the Rerouting of the 403 and 403B Park Bus Along Evangeline Drive (Ward 1)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence DS-10-157 dated June 9, 2010 from Bill Summers expressing opposition to the proposed rerouting of the 403/403B Park Road bus along Evangeline Drive, stating that the current route adequately serves the needs of the community.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk,
“That Correspondence DS-10-157 dated June 9, 2010 from Bill Summers expressing opposition to the proposed rerouting of the 403/403B Park Road bus along Evangeline Drive, stating that the current route adequately serves the needs of the community, be referred to Report DS-10-155.”  CARRIED

DS-10-178  Tim Dwyre - Comments Regarding the Rerouting of the 403 and 403B Park Bus Route Off Stone Street (Ward 1)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence DS-10-178 dated June 11, 2010 from Tim Dwyre in support of Options 1A or 1B as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends maintaining the status quo and advising that several members of his family utilize the bus service regularly to get to work.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk,
“That Correspondence DS-10-178 dated June 11, 2010 from Tim Dwyre in support of Options 1A or 1B as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends maintaining the status quo and advising that several members of his family utilize the bus service regularly to get to work, be referred to Report DS-10-155.”  CARRIED
The Committee reviewed Item DS-10-182, being a petition received from area residents in opposition to Options 2 or 3 as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends rerouting the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk, “That Item DS-10-182, being a petition received from area residents in opposition to Options 2 or 3 as outlined in Report DS-10-155, which recommends rerouting the 403/403B Park bus along Evangeline Drive, be referred to Report DS-10-155.” CARRIED

This matter is discussed earlier in the meeting (see Page 1).

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk, “That the Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That the Legal Services Department be directed to review the various agreements between the City of Oshawa, the Durham District School Board, the Regional Municipality of Durham, and Durham Region Transit to resolve the issues which presently interfere with an operational bus loop at the South Oshawa Community Centre.” CARRIED AS AMENDED BY LATER VOTES

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, “That the main motion be amended to add Part 2 ‘and, That Options 1 to 5 as outlined in Report DS-10-155 are all unacceptable and that Oshawa Council supports a route change that includes a full service turning loop at the South Oshawa Community Centre and G.L. Roberts Collegiate and Vocational Institute site’.” CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Henry, “That the main motion be amended to add Part 3 ‘and, That the public comments received at the June 21, 2010 Development Services Committee meeting be collected and presented to the next Regional Transit Executive Committee Meeting.” CARRIED

The vote on the main motion CARRIED AS AMENDED.

Moved by Councillor Lutczyk, “That the meeting adjourn.” CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.