



**City of Greater Sudbury's
Sustainable Mobility
Advisory Panel
2010-2014**

Mandate

To assist staff and Council in implementing a vision for a holistic approach to a multi-model transportation system where citizens can walk, cycle and/or use public transit efficiently and safely to get to their destinations.

July 29, 2013

Sustainable Mobility Advisory Panel Committee Member
Tom Davies Square
200 Brady Street
Sudbury, Ontario

RE: Request for SMAP Review of Infrastructure Renewal Projects

Dear Councillor Kilgour,

The SMAP's mandate is to assist staff and Council in implementing a vision for a holistic approach to a multi-model transportation system where citizens can walk, cycle and/or use public transit efficiently and safely to get to their destinations.

Three pillars were identified to successfully achieve this objective: Policy, Education and Infrastructure. SMAP appointed citizens believe that to meet its mandate, the group needs to be provided with the opportunity to comment on planned renewal projects taking place and shaping our community prior to them happening. Via the submission of this letter, the infrastructure committee is requesting that the committee's chair be provided with drawings and details of planned construction for infrastructure renewal projects being undertaken within the Community.

There are multiple reasons for this request, which fully align with and are supported by many objectives set out for the panel. To name a few:

- *to assist in implementing the recommendations made within the sustainable Mobility Plan and the Bicycle Master Plan.*
- *Share the responsibility of the public.*
- *To promote walking and cycling as an important part of a healthy community; (via built infrastructure)*
- *To advocate recommendations for walking/cycling infrastructure. (and to understand project specific limitations or constraints)*
- *To advocate for Greater Sudbury's policies affecting pedestrians, cyclists and transit users; and to develop recommendations to encourage sustainable mobility; (via built infrastructure)*

A review by SMAP members could hold many benefits to the City of Greater Sudbury (CGS). It would allow a group of citizens to better understand the challenges and constraints faced by CGS staff in regards to active transportation for individual projects. A second voice, nominated to represent citizens of our community, would be generated to offer residents an independent opinion, which we trust, would for the most part align with CGS decisions conformant with the Official Plan and other City directing documents. Such an approach would also allow CGS staff to share the



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responsibility of decisions made with informed citizens in the field of active transportation. Lastly, positive innovative ideas could emerge from the process.

To assist in establishing a process for the review of the information, we offer the following suggestions for your consideration:

- That the information be provided prior to construction advertisement or tendering
- That the CGS allow a minimum of two weeks for the SMAP to review and provide official comments prior to tendering the work.
- That, where deemed necessary, the CGS allow for a brief meeting with SMAP reviewers to discuss the SMAP's comments.
- That specific project information remains confidential to panel members.

This process would allow the SMAP and the CGS to have a public file on record to ensure citizens are well represented in regards to implementing active transportation. Our group will be flexible to the approach recommended and understand the day-to-day responsibilities of CGS employees. Our intent is in no way to encumber the progress of CGS projects, but to make this a positive and constructive discussion process, which would provide an independent opinion at little to no cost to the CGS. We strongly believe that such a process would be beneficial to both the SMAP and CGS staff, with the ultimate objective of making sustainable transportation an integral and recognised part of our City.

We look forward to a favourable response by the CGS.

Sincerely,

SMAP Appointed Citizens

CC: All Councillors
SMAP City Appointed Staff