

From: Chris Ariens
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:59 AM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Cc: 'James Schofield' ; 'Jackie Lodder'
Subject: Feedback regarding Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk and Accountability Committee Meeting Agenda Item 4.5

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Hi, City Clerks. I wish to share my feedback with Council with respect to the Advisory Committee Review (CI-17-20).

As a member and vice-chair of the city's Cycling Advisory Committee, I remain concerned that the committee has been unable to recruit new members due to the ongoing review for the past 3 years. While the mandated terms are a maximum of 2 terms of 3 years for an individual citizen, 2020 represents my 8th year as a member of the committee. Work of the committee has been sporadic over 2019, largely as a result of lack of quorum, and 2020 as a result of the pandemic. City staff are in the process of finalizing the updated Cycling Master Plan, which the Cycling Advisory Committee provided considerable input towards, and which represents a solid leap forward in planning for Burlington's future. I am proud of the work this Committee has done over the years, both in terms of advancing the conversation in the community around cycling and providing advice to Council on cycling related issues. The role of citizen volunteers in doing this work is a tremendous asset for Burlington, one which I would like to see continued in the future.

This committee is in need of new volunteers to continue its important work for citizens. It is critical that recruitment of new members begin as soon as possible if this committee is to fulfil its mandate. I urge Council to request Staff to enable and empower citizen committees to recruit new members and allow current members whose terms have been fulfilled to plan for their succession. We have been in limbo for the past 2 years due to the ongoing review, with no certainty about whether the committee will be operating or in what form it will be operating, over that time. This has had a major drain on the morale of our volunteer members during this time.

I request that Council provide the following direction to Staff:

- 1) That staff be directed to enable the Cycling Advisory Committee, as well as other citizens' advisory committees which have a need to recruit new members in order to function, to do so on an immediate basis.
- 2) That staff be directed to begin the review of the transportation-related advisory committee structure and report to Council early in 2021 to enable the transportation-related committees to deliver workplans in the coming year.

Thank you,
Chris Ariens, Ward 5 resident and Cycling Advisory Committee Co-Vice Chair.