

MINUTES
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday April 25, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Judy Brownoff (Chair), Brian Collier, Pat Danforth, Erin Prescott, Darrell Wick, Philippe Janicki (non-voting liaison)

Staff: Troy McKay, Manager, Transportation & Development Services; Police Sgt. Alan Gurzinski; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Eric Doherty, Norman Gidney, Susan Kerr, Alex Nagelbach, Jade Yehia (non-voting liaison)

Minutes

MOVED by B. Collier and Seconded by D. Wick: “That the Minutes of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held March 28, 2019, be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

VISION ZERO

The Manager of Transportation and Development Services spoke about the principles of Vision Zero road safety and he played an introductory video on the topic. A Police perspective was also provided by the Police Sergeant. The following was noted:

- The principles are that no loss of life is acceptable; traffic fatalities and serious injuries are preventable; we all make mistakes; we are all physically vulnerable when involved in motor vehicle collisions; and, eliminating fatalities and serious injuries is a shared responsibility between road users and those who design/maintain roadways.
- Data on deaths were given; Saanich averages three deaths per year on its roads.
- The Active Transportation Plan targets are to double the proportion of trips made by active transportation, and to work toward zero traffic-related fatalities or serious injuries on Saanich roads.
- Statistics were given from Saanich Police regarding violation tickets given, driving suspensions, fatal and injury crashes and crashes police attended with damage over \$1,000. It was noted that this year changes by the government has resulted in the police no longer completing government accident reports unless crashes involve damage valued at over \$10,000, or if there are injuries/fatalities.
- The top three contributing factors in fatal crashes are speed, impaired drivers and distracted drivers.
- Police are actively looking for impaired and distracted drivers at all times of the day, and focus on playgrounds, schools, highways, municipal roads.
- Speed reader boards are clicking data all the time, even if they appear to be off. These stats are posted on the Police website.
- With cannabis it is tougher to test for impairment. Some members of the Police team are receiving drug recognition expert training.

The discussion continued and the following was noted:

- Two of the three fatal crashes in Saanich this past year were due to medical issues; diabetes and seizures are a big issue.
- The aging population also have their own issues; depth perception issues create lots of parking lot crashes. All Police can do is tow the vehicle and ask Drivers Services to re-test drivers.
- ICBC Stats show that the top three crash intersections are located in Saanich.
- Saanich is already doing a lot of preventative work via building good infrastructure and using Bylaws to help with boulevard visibility. Safety awareness campaigns are done in partnership with the Capital Regional District (CRD), Police and Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) and the Active and Safe Routes to schools and Bike to Work programs are successful initiatives.
- BikeMaps is a tool that is used by staff, and it was recently updated as they are receiving reporting from the public.
- Programming signals can help with accessibility in terms of countdown times.
- Proper education is needed for children riding bicycles. The program “iRide School” by Cycling BC teaches school children from grade 4+ the rules of the roads; the Police once had yearly bicycle rodeos however resources for this are depleted.
- Suggestion that the committee wait to make a motion regarding Vision Zero until after Engineering has reported on the Active Transportation Plan.
- The province is supposed to release their own Active Transportation Plan in June this year.

In reply to a question about the woonerf (shared street) pilot, the Manager of Transportation and Development asked for suggestions on a good area for a trial woonerf street as well as criteria for the pilot. The Chair noted that it will be important to have before and after stats for any streets chosen for the pilot. Information on woonerf streets will be provided to committee members.

CYCLING FESTIVAL UPDATE

This year’s Cycling Festival will be held on Sunday, May 5th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. As in the past, there will be Celebration Stations where children can collect stamps to go towards the opportunity to win prizes. The Police are not able to attend this year, however the Kids Ride will be led by representatives from the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE). The theme for the kids decorating contest is Cinco de Mayo.

REGIONAL TRAIL CLOSURE SIGNAGE

This item was raised at the last meeting with CRD representatives in attendance. Committee members feel that CRD could improve circumstances for trail users by having proper detour routes with the assistance of Saanich Engineering.

Motion: MOVED by D. Wick and Seconded by B. Collier, “That the Chair of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee write to Capital Regional District Parks to request that when there is a regional trail closure within Saanich:

- 1) **CRD Parks contact Saanich Engineering to determine appropriate detour(s) suitable for all ages and abilities;**

- 2) CRD post maps showing the detour route;
- 3) The detour route itself include way-finding detour signs, especially when detour routes take trail users onto a road; and,
- 4) CRD post relevant information on the CRD Parks website where it will be visible.”

CARRIED

COMMUNICATION OF PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING UPGRADES AND PRIORITIZATION

It was noted that the public is interested in knowing how Saanich prioritizes pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure such as crosswalks for various areas. Staff noted that:

- There are maps on the Saanich website that show prioritizations in 3-5 year time frames.
- There is a projects booklet published in March that is also on the Saanich website.
- For larger projects, staff place reader boards on the roads where work is being done.
- The GIS map shows Capital Works projects as well.
- Saanich also uses Twitter and Face Book to show the community work being done.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2019.

Councillor Brownoff, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary