

MINUTES
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
January 15, 2015 at Noon

Present: Councillor Vic Derman (Chair), Dan Casey, David DeShane, Judy Gaylord, James Grayson, Ray Straatsma and Darrell Wick.

Staff: Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering; Gary Darrah, Parks Planning and Design Manager; Police Sgt. Alan Gurzinski; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Corey Newcomb, Rebecca Mersereau

New member Dan Casey, a City Planner for Boulevard Transportation, was welcomed by committee members and staff; roundtable introductions were made.

Minutes

MOVED by J. Grayson and Seconded by D. DeShane: "That the Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee meeting held November 27, 2014, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair stated that the BiPed report on cycling priorities was forwarded to Council who supported the initiative. He noted that it will be a challenge to ensure the actions within planning documents are consistently carried out. Other items were raised and the following was noted:

- Councillor Brice asked Council to support an item about the right to a healthy environment to forward to Committee of the Whole for public input. This fits in well with the cycling priorities item.
- The CRD Board members are more progressive and green and there is opportunity to move forward in the fight against climate change.
- An article was circulated about Copenhagen cycling networks; it is important to come up with a competitive advantage over other transportation modes, and having a network gives that competitive advantage.
- There are advantages and disadvantages to Traffic Demand Management. Land use and transportation need to be looked at, as well as ideas to encourage cycling and walking. Land use decisions that put people farther away will usually result in better roads for cars as opposed to better trails for cyclists.
- The Shelbourne Valley Action Plan will be coming back to Council; the Chair will check with staff on the status of this item. The implementation of better solutions for cyclists and pedestrians is needed.
- The Director of Engineering stated they may look at expanding the proposed Cycling Master Plan by developing an Active Transportation Master Plan. A long-term vision for cycling would be created to help guide transportation and land-use decisions.
- It is one thing to have a network plan but implementation is important; the existing plan has not evolved for cyclists when it comes to connectivity.

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Consensus was that meetings will continue to be held monthly on the third Thursday at noon.

BICYCLE LIGHTS

Police Sergeant Gurzinski referenced correspondence received regarding the issue of very bright lights installed on bicycles and asked if committee members are aware of any regulations in this regard. Committee members discussed and the following was noted:

- Lights are needed because of a lack of lighting on trails and to be visible for vehicles.
- The very bright lights cost less so it seems like more people purchase them.
- Members are not aware of any laws surrounding lights however there are standards in some places (eg. Germany regulations do not allow for flashing lights). Maybe the Highways ministry could provide regulations.
- Flashing lights make you easier to be seen.
- An educational program for cyclists, or talking to vendors that sell lights asking that they educate consumers on the proper use and installation (pointing the light down to the ground) maybe be useful.
- They now sell helmets with built in lights.
- The bottom line is at this time the use of lights on bicycles cannot be enforced. Consensus was that no action will be taken at this time; committee is aware of the situation and future research may need to be done.

MCKENZIE INTERCHANGE

The Chair provided background information and noted that candidates made the interchange an issue. There is pressure on the province for an interchange but funding is a challenge. The following was noted:

- The Galloping Goose runs through the area but not very well; cyclists have to go on the pedestrian space in some areas.
- Congestion is a cyclist's ally. Both public transit and cycling/pedestrian connections are poor and need improvement.
- Separation from traffic is needed; a flyover should be made for trail users.
- The intersection does create congestion in the Wilkinson/Interurban areas; sometimes improvements just moves congestion.
- There are no sidewalks to the bus stop or cycling lanes; it is provincial property.
- There is a Building Canada Fund and the McKenzie Interchange is a priority; the government has quoted \$80 million for the project.

The Chair noted that he sits on the CRD Transportation Select Committee and will bring information from there to this committee. He also will inquire about a possible stakeholder committee aimed to ensure that there is local input to what the province does. Additionally he will raise infrastructure issues at the CRD level.

SAANICH CYCLING FESTIVAL

The Cycling Festival is not a direct function of the advisory committee; it is an annual event that involves riding on closed lanes down McKenzie Avenue to University of Victoria where there is a festival and a smaller rider for children. Last year's festival conflicted with other events; the Chair has asked Councillor Brownoff if she would like to help in lieu due to his possible absence and she agreed. A subcommittee will be created for the event and the tentative date discussed was for April 19, 2015.

*** The Director of Engineering left the meeting at 1:37 p.m. ***

ROUNDTABLE

The following was noted:

- On February 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. a presentation by Charles Montgomery called "Happy City" will be held at the Atrium Building. This is one of a series of "Transform" speaker series being hosted by the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition.
- Mount View Colquitz Community Association have advised of a February 21, 2015 workshop on the Douglas and Uptown Corridor improvements; being held at the Garth Homer Centre. Councillor Derman is a keynote speaker for the event.
- Future items for discussion, general safety issues and safety education.
- Douglas corridor may be a future item for discussion. The Chair noted that the issue of a joint study with the City of Victoria may be looked at.
- BC Sustainable Energy presentation entitled "Look, No Carbon. The Future of Transportation", Monday January 19, 2015 at the Church at 932 Balmoral Road.
- CRD Parks continues to be in charge of trails. The manager there is retiring and the identity of the new manager is not known.
- Request for update, Shelbourne Street north of Market/Torquay north to Arbourdale.
- An update will be given regarding Playfair Park at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, February 19, 2015.

Councillor Derman, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary