

MINUTES
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
May 21, 2015 at Noon

Present: Councillor Vic Derman (Chair), David DeShane, Judy Gaylord, James Grayson, Rebecca Mersereau, Ray Straatsma

Staff: Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering; Gary Darrah, Parks Planning and Design Manager; Steve Holroyd, Engineering Planner/Designer; Police Sgt. Alan Gurzinski; Mark Boysen, Sustainability Coordinator; Lee Johnson, Sustainability Energy Planner; Troy McKay, Engineering Technician; Shari Holmes-Saltzman, Senior Planner; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Dan Casey, Corey Newcomb, Darrell Wick

Minutes

MOVED by R. Mersereau and Seconded by D. DeShane: "That the Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee meeting held April 16, 2015, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair stated that the Green Party of Canada is holding a town hall discussion tonight regarding the "Future of Transportation in this Region", held at the North Douglas Church on Jolly Place. It was noted that Cook Street is now open and the Director of Engineering advised that a ribbon cutting day will occur in the future. Staff would like members to provide feedback on the Cook Street design.

The Chair also noted that he attended a "Renewable Cities" conference in Vancouver; the focus was on how to move to 100% renewable energy in cities by 2050 (Vancouver has a policy to do this). Climate change was discussed at this conference and it was noted that a minimum 80% GHG reduction from 1990 levels needs to occur by 2050.

PROPOSED HALL AND ANNEX BIKE PARKING LOCATIONS

The Sustainability Coordinator provided information on proposed bike parking locations for the Municipal Hall grounds and requested feedback in this regard. The following comments were noted:

- The number of staff members that cycle to work has increased over the years.
- Security is needed, especially for bikes that are left overnight.
- There are currently 30 spots on the Hall grounds.
- Proposed locations were given and it was noted they must fit in with the heritage design of the Hall. The Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee and/or the Advisory Design Panel may also need to approve the shelter design.
- Bike shelters should not have any places for birds to rest inside.
- The Carbon Tax Fund might be a funding resource for this project.
- It was suggested that UVic be contacted to see how their lockers work and if they have been a successful addition to their grounds. It was noted that bike lockers are not obvious the way they are designed.

- Staff was last surveyed about ridership four years ago. Committee members were interested in having more current statistics.
- The chain link fencing that surrounds the Police and Fire bicycle areas is very good.
- A covered spot in Middleton Plaza would be a good visible area for bicycle parking. Signage directing how to get up to Middleton Plaza would be required.
- Consideration for bikes with panniers or saddlebags should be made. The staple rack design works best in this regard.
- There is no room inside for bike storage as buildings are at capacity.
- It may be worthwhile to consider taking over parking stalls.

The Sustainability Coordinator was thanked for his presentation.

RESIDENTIAL SPEED LIMITS

The Chair noted that this issue was raised and defeated at the last UBCM Convention. He spoke of the advantages of reducing speed limits on residential streets as per the notes he had submitted for this meeting. The following was noted:

- It would be of benefit if the province changed the default limit.
- Changes to the speed limit would result in the need for new signage and a change in the current Bylaw.
- Staff are waiting to hear from the City of Victoria on their stats, as they have lowered speed limits in some areas.
- Enforcement resources are always a consideration.
- Traffic calming is typically requested when speed limits do not work on residential streets.
- It may be of benefit for residents to use their streets for open play (e.g. street hockey) to encourage drivers to slow down.

The Chair asked members if they support this initiative. Overall, committee members support the idea of a speed limit reduction to either 30 km/h or 40 km/h on residential streets (collector roads and major roads are not included). A history regarding this issue is needed, and negative implications should also be explored in addition to the positive. Lastly, it was noted that neighbourhood support would also be required.

The Chair will submit a report to the Committee for consideration in the fall.

UPTOWN IMPROVEMENT IDEAS

Uptown - walkabout

Committee members discussed the summary of comments from the Uptown walkabout that occurred in April. The Police Department liaison provided a number of comments, as did committee members. The Chair will add the comments to the summary and re-submit this for the June 2015 meeting. Upon Committee approval, these comments will be forwarded to Geoff Nagle of Morguard, who will be invited to respond.

Uptown - access to Whole Foods

The Director of Engineering stated they are waiting to receive revised plans from the applicant. It will be a two-way street on the east side, and along Carey Road down to the entrance. The store will front Ravine Way. There are challenges with the hill, which may result in cyclists travelling too fast; if this becomes a problem it can be made into a one-way street, but two-way is preferred. Different treatment options can be considered to bring awareness to pedestrians and cyclists (eg. paint and signage). The plans could

be brought back for this committee for information (most likely in September) however very little feedback would be received at that point. There will be no direct access to Whole Foods from Blanshard Street. It was noted that the connection to the Galloping Goose needs improving.

*** R. Straatsma left the meeting at 1:34 p.m. ***

INFORMATION – BICYCLE LIGHTS

A brief discussion occurred about lights for bicycles, flashing lights vs non-flashing lights, brightness and angle of light placement, and light design. It was noted that the CRD trails are not lit.

ROUNDTABLE

The following items were discussed:

- Detour for bike routes: wayfinding signs on detour routes are very important; cyclists need to be directed how to get back onto trails.
- A trail priority sign to be installed at Swan Street/Lochside trail; staff will look into this.
- May is High-Risk Driving Month. Police will target drivers who speed, tailgate, fail to yield, etc. The bike squad members will continue to look for distracted drivers and people making illegal turns, etc.
- After Bike to Work Week, in the first two weeks in June, there will be a Bike Helmet Blitz in partnership with ICBC. It is hoped that the CRD will join the partnership, as helmets are needed on the trails as well as on streets. Police will issue tickets to people not wearing helmets, however will rescind tickets if a helmet receipt is produced.
- Future walkabouts:
 - Cook Street (June 18, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. at Thrifty Foods Cook/Quadra).
 - Shelbourne Street 'hot spots' (for September), meeting may be held at the Community Kitchen.
 - Feltham/Shelbourne area in future. Invite Matthew Boyd, Planner, BC Transit.
- Individual comments can be sent to Council regarding the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan which is scheduled to be considered in June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, June 18, 2015. Meet at Thrifty Foods (Cook/Quadra location) at 11:00 a.m.

Councillor Derman, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary