

MINUTES
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday January 18, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Karen Harper (Chair), Brian Collier, Judy Gaylord, James Grayson, Rebecca Mersereau, Alex Nagelbach, Anne Topp, and Darrell Wick

Staff: Catherine Mohoruk, Manager of Strategic Projects; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Barb Sharpe

Minutes

MOVED by R. Mersereau and Seconded by D. Wick: "That the Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee meeting held November 16, 2017, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair introduced herself to committee members and provided a background of her experience as a cyclist and pedestrian and she invited a roundtable of introductions by all members and staff in attendance. Members were advised that the motions from the November 2017 BiPed meeting (regarding Sidewalk Maintenance and the U-Bicycle program) are on the next Council agenda.

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee discussed the proposed 2018 meeting dates as outlined in the January 18, 2018 memorandum from the Senior Committee Clerk. Consensus was to accept the schedule as is, and a request to revisit the schedule in October.

AN APPROACH TO PARKING ON ROADS WITHOUT CURBS

Catherine Mohoruk, Manager of Strategic Projects, Engineering, provided an overview of a draft strategy to manage parking on roads without curbs throughout the municipality, and asked committee to provide feedback. The following highlights were noted:

- Existing legislation and enforcement practices were given. Parking enforcement is conducted on a complaint basis.
- Information was provided on parking infractions in the District in 2016 and 2017; about 85% of total municipal tickets issued are for parking related infractions.
- There are about 250 km of uncurbed roads in the municipality.
- An analysis of existing regulations throughout 16 comparable BC municipalities was included for background information.
- Issues which initiated the development of the parking management strategy were highlighted as follows:
 - There are inconsistent parking practices throughout the municipality which impacts pedestrian mobility and safety.

- Improper parking results in degradation to existing boulevards. In accordance with bylaws, owners are required to maintain the boulevards.
- Traffic speeding on local roads is of concern.
- There is a low compliance with existing Bylaws; education is needed and the Bylaws require updating.
- There are increased on-street parking demands with infill development and secondary suites.
- The draft strategy plan is intended for local, and collector roads. Visual slides of the proposed changes were shown to committee members.
- Objectives of the plan are:
 - To share the roads between various users.
 - Decrease speed by changing the configuration.
 - Improve aesthetics and accommodate parking demands.
 - Increase awareness of regulations surrounding parking.
 - Providing a way so that people are parking in compliance with the bylaw.
 - Increase pedestrian safety and mobility.
 - Maintain traffic flow for vehicle traffic, including emergency service vehicles.
 - Continue with enforcement and maintenance service on a complaint basis.
- Pending endorsement, information could be mailed out and placed on the website.

Committee asked questions and provided comments. The following was noted:

- This approach makes sense on flat/straight roads, but on curvy and hilly roads it may be an issue.
- Shoulder definition is a problem as most people will not be able to discern how wide or long it is, or if it is grassed or not (no demarcation), particularly in the winter. It is important that the surface type of the shoulder not dictate if a violation has occurred.
- Residents that place rocks on their boulevards also need to be educated; this could be included with education material.
- Pedestrians will not want to walk on boulevards; they will walk on the street. Boulevards get wet and muddy, and it also feels like you are trespassing on private property when you walk between a car and a house.
- Complaint-based systems do not work; on weekends there are no bylaw officers.
- Parking on shoulders shouldn't interfere with storm water management features such as ditches, swales and rain gardens.
- There is concern that drivers are being favoured over pedestrians.
- There is concern about promoting on-street parking.
- The strategy feels arbitrary and over reaching and it could be difficult to get the intended message out. There are other issues that are not being enforced (eg. over-height fences in front yards, accessory buildings). Why focus on parking?
- It may be best to market this as creating friendlier streets and sharing street spaces.
- Is there any way to get people to use their driveways? Most driveways are empty, while the streets are full.
- Most people are not aware that an asphalt storm water control lip is not a curb.
- It is recognized that there are not enough staff resources. Why create something if it is not enforceable.
- The Official Community Plan does not have any policies about managing parking.
- Accessibility is a major concern; some people with decreased accessibility will have to travel on the street because boulevards are not safely accessible.

The Manager of Strategic Projects noted that they are not trying to increase parking supply, but reconfiguring parking in a way that could make it legal. She thanked committee members for their feedback.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

The Chair noted that the motions from the Governance Review Citizens Advisory Committee were recently endorsed by Council and there was a recommendation to re-evaluate roles and responsibilities of existing Advisory Committees, to have a term limit of six years, and to have a committee co-chair. These changes would not occur until 2019.

A brief conversation occurred about term limits and re-applying for a committee position after taking a year off. It was noted that this committee's mandate could change with the Active Transportation Plan. The committee will discuss ideas about their Terms of Reference at a future meeting, in the meantime, members to email each other ideas in this regard. Engineering to be asked to elaborate on the page two guidelines of the BiPed Terms of Reference.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, February 15, 2018.

Councillor Harper, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary