

MINUTES
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday February 15, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff: Troy McKay, Acting Manager, Transportation & Development Services; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Barb Sharpe, Anne Topp

Minutes

MOVED by B. Collier and Seconded by A. Nagelbach: "That the Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee meeting held January 18, 2018, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

It was noted that the motions from the November 2017 BiPed meeting were discussed and approved at the last Council meeting. The issue of helmets for the U-Bicycle program was expressed as a concern at the Council meeting, and the sidewalk maintenance issue was already on the work plan to be addressed.

WALKER AND CYCLIST VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN

It was noted that, especially in the winter months, poor visibility is a safety issue for cyclists and pedestrians. Drivers find it difficult to see walkers and cyclists and it may be worthwhile to consider a campaign to be prepared for next winter. A handout regarding a proposed visibility campaign, submitted by D. Wick, was circulated to committee members for a discussion. Topics such as front and rear lights for bikes, wearing fluorescent materials in the day and reflective materials in the dark, and general safety were discussed. The question was raised whether the committee should initiate a campaign in October or November.

The following comments were noted:

- In Portland, the local government worked with Police, who handed out safety 'swag' to cyclists and pedestrians.
- People need to be educated on how to make themselves more visible.
- It may be worthwhile to focus education on areas like UVic and Camosun where there are less experienced cyclists.
- It would be useful if clothing designers would stop using so much black/dark fabric.
- The Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition tried to do a lighting campaign with the CRD and were having difficulty obtaining funding for this. They are focused on working with the CRD on a Traffic Safety Grant at this time.
- ICBC has a different focus and may have an upcoming campaign.
 - **Action:** The Acting Manager of Transportation and Development to research what ICBC has planned regarding pedestrian and cyclist visibility, and report back to committee with information.

COUNTDOWN WALK SIGNALS

Committee discussed traffic signals and the countdown timers associated with them in various areas of the municipality. A handout submitted by D. Wick regarding optimizing traffic lights for cyclists and pedestrians was circulated. It was noted that:

- When walk signals are red, the light stays green for vehicles for much longer.
- Staff were complimented on the improvement at the Lochside/McKenzie area, however the bike light turns red too early.
- Most people are not aware that you may not enter the intersection when the red hand is flashing along with the countdown. The countdown may be about 12-14 seconds, but it only takes a cyclist 2-4 seconds to get through the intersection.
- The Borden/McKenzie crossing is a good arrangement as bikes have a lane and follow the car traffic light.
- Trail crossings and residential streets where there is no sidewalk both are areas where pedestrians must yield to vehicles.
- A request was made for staff to discuss improvements that are needed at the Galloping Goose and Tillicum Road with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
- It was noted that the Motor Vehicle Act legislation is outdated and behind the times.

The Acting Manager of Transportation and Development noted that the requirements for the crossings are outlined in the Motor Vehicle Act, and he described how some of the crossings are programmed. He noted that changes will be made all the way down McKenzie Avenue to the University, and later Quadra Street will be done as well. In response to a question, he stated that they are open to considering a scramble style, where cars are held in all directions while cyclists and pedestrians cross.

- **Action:** The Acting Manager of Transportation and Development will investigate the feasibility of adding a more appropriately timed separate green/yellow/red light for cyclists at the Lochside trail crossing at Quadra.

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

A brief discussion occurred regarding various issues around the municipality. It was noted that the Planning department does not refer development applications to advisory committees for input and if members are interested in a specific project, there is information on the website and they can contact Planning staff directly. Committee members noted that in the past they received information on development applications in order to make comment about access, secure bike parking and facilities and ease of getting in and out of parking lots.

The Acting Manager of Transportation and Development stated that the above mentioned issues regarding accessibility and parking lots are set out in the Zoning Bylaw. The Chair suggested that the committee could review these requirements in the future.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Committee Terms of Reference

The Chair noted that the Terms of Reference are adopted by Council and they cannot overlap with another committee's mandate. Committee members discussed, and the following was noted:

- Committee's mandate could be expanded to include public transportation.
- Concern was expressed about the guidelines on page two, as anything not listed could be considered to be outside the scope of the committee.
- Destination facilities should be included as part of the mandate.
- Instead of calling pedestrian/cyclist movement 'alternate modes', they should be called 'active transportation' so it is not considered a secondary mode.
- It is possible that this discussion is a little premature.

The Chair noted that public transportation is the mandate of another committee. The Acting Manager of Transportation and Development stated that requirements for end of trip facilities are outlined in the Zoning Bylaw.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Councillor Harper, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary