

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall in Council Chambers
Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at 5:03 p.m.**

Present: **In Person:**
Councillor Judy Brownoff (Chair), Philippe Janicki, Robert MacLeod, Owen Petersen,
Darrell Wick

Via Teleconference: Pat Danforth

Staff: Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering; Maggie Baynham, Senior Sustainability
Planner and Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Brian Collier, Susan Kerr, Karen Laberee, Erin Prescott, Jade Yehia

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOVED by P. Janicki and Seconded by D. Wick: "That the Minutes of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held August 27, 2020 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

E-MOBILITY STRATEGY

The Senior Sustainability Planner presented the E-Mobility Strategy and responded to questions:

- The goal of the Climate Plan is to cut emissions in half by 2030 and to net zero by 2050; E-Mobility is a key component of that work.
- On-road transportation results in 53% of greenhouse gas emissions.
- The E-Mobility Strategy supports a rapid transition to EVs and E-bikes in Saanich; it includes 38 actions in five focus areas with targets of 36% of all personal vehicles being EV by 2030 and 100% of personal and commercial vehicles being powered by electric or renewable fuels by 2050.
- The final round of engagement is taking place now with the intent of the finalized strategy being considered at Council in late October.
- The benefits of E-bikes are they are climate friendly, affordable, accessible to a greater range of ages and abilities, and they contribute to a healthy lifestyle.
- E-Mobility barriers include the purchase price, lack of access to public chargers and secured bike parking, and potential conflicts with other road and cycling drivers.
- Local governments can ensure there are adequate EV charging at work and at home.
- On September 14, 2020, Council approved the new Public EV Charging Station Management policy which ensures that charging stations will continue to satisfy the charging needs of EV drivers.
- Saanich currently has 12 level 2 chargers and secured funding for another 20.
- On September 1, 2020, new requirements for EV-ready charging infrastructure in new construction came into effect.

- Although there are Provincial incentives to offset costs of adding EV charging stations, it is expensive to retrofit existing condos.
- Staff will consider the language in the Strategy to ensure it is clear what accessibility means.
- There are many different types of E-bikes that are lighter and would be appropriate for older adults.
- The content of batteries is very valuable, and the market for battery recycling has been rapidly maturing since the introduction of EVs; reusing or repurposing batteries for other uses (e.g. for energy storage/backup power) is also extending the life of batteries before they need to be recycled.
- Climate action targets will not be met without both the E-Mobility Strategy and the Active Transportation Plan being put in place.

SAANICH BICYCLE PARKING/SECURITY GUIDELINES

Councillor Brownoff advised that there may be an opportunity to make revisions to the Saanich Bicycle Parking Guidelines in the short term. The Guidelines were developed in 1996 and are provided to developers as part of their development application indicating the size of Class I and Class II bike parking facilities required. In the longer term, the Uptown Douglas Plan has parking standards for both cars and bikes listed as a priority.

The following revisions to the Guidelines were suggested:

- 1.3 – add that the proposals will be reviewed by the Advisory Design Panel and the Saanich Police Department with a focus on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards.
- 1.4 – Delete – there should be no minimum number of spaces.
- 1.5 – the definition of space is outdated and should include a mix of space allocations to accommodate cargo and tandem bikes.
- 2 – the sentence “long-term bicycle facilities tend to be the most expensive type of facilities” should be deleted as we do not say this around the requirement for underground parking.

D. Wick presented a report entitled “Ideal Bicycle Storage for Multi-Family Dwellings” and highlighted the need to embed desirable bike parking into development which should consider:

- Providing a view of the interior of the room.
- Including CCTV cameras.
- The room being designed to prevent access without authorization.
- The addition of a key fob system that cannot be duplicated and provides entry records.
- Doors which automatically shut.
- Each room serve a maximum of 6-10 residents.
- Be alarmed in case of forced entry.
- Providing security for different bike types.
- Providing an area to wash and service bicycles.
- Room access security is more important than video and individual bike lockup.

Committee members made the following comments:

- It may be difficult to maneuver bikes if the doors are too heavy; an automatic door could be considered.
- There may be vertical bike racks available that have hydraulic arms to lift heavier bikes or e-bikes.
- Access to bike rooms, including ramps versus stairs, should be considered.

Discussion took place with respect to preparing a memo to the Planning Department with the revisions to the Guidelines to help shape new development.

The Director of Engineering advised that there could be challenges with retrofitting existing condos because of costs.

MOVED by D. Wick and Seconded by P. Janicki: “That it be recommended that the Active Transportation Advisory Committee write to the Planning Department with suggestions for revisions to the Saanich Bicycle Parking Guidelines for the short term and provide the “Ideal Bicycle Storage for Multi-Family Dwellings” report for consideration when reviewing the Zoning Bylaw.”

CARRIED

PUBLIC ART – WALL MCKENZIE/GALLOPING GOOSE

Councillor Brownoff commented:

- 32 panels along the grey wall installed along the Galloping Goose as part of the McKenzie Interchange project have been tagged.
- Wraps, murals and anti-graffiti coatings discourage tagging.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) who is the owner of the wall sprays over graffiti.
- The police kept a catalogue of all tagging but it is not clear if it is up to date.

Members of the committee commented:

- There is a need to coat the rock wall as well or it will be tagged.
- Adding shrubbery may assist with discouraging graffiti.

The Director of Engineering stated:

- Some of the pathway is right up to the wall and therefore it would not be possible to plant vegetation.
- MOTI owns the wall and has advised that they will not maintain any vegetation planted.

MOVED by P. Janicki and Seconded by D. Wicks: “That the Active Transportation Advisory Committee recommend that Saanich Council write the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to develop a process to establish a multi-stakeholder committee to create the concept of a “Mural Celebrating our Region”, our past and future, and active transportation as part of the McKenzie Interchange Project.”

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

That the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

Councillor Brownoff, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary