

MINUTES
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Council Chambers
Thursday May 27, 2021, at 4:02 p.m.

Present: Councillor Karen Harper (Chair), Jim Grayson, Dave Marecek, Brian Collier, Robert McLeod, Graham Elder, Trevor Barry, Rachel Corder and Darrell Wick.

Staff: Troy McKay, Manager, Transportation & Development Services; Pam Hartling, Senior Planner, Community Planning; Mike Goldsworthy, Park Planner Designer; Megan MacDonald, Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Susan Kerr, Karen Laberee and Jade Yehia (non-voting liaison).

MINUTES

MOVED by B. Collier and Seconded by T. Barry: "That the Minutes of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held May 27, 2021, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIRS REMARKS

The Chair gave a verbal update on items of interest to the committee, the following was noted:

- Saanich Council recently approved an additional \$2 million funding to accelerate progress on the Active Transportation Plan.
- Council will be participating in a bike tour of Saanich, the committee will plan a similar tour to see the recent advancements in the active transportation network.

BIKE SKILLS PARK AT GEORGE TRIPP STATION

Mike Goldsworthy, Park Planner/Designer presented information on the new youth skills bike park at the George Tripp Station, the following was noted:

- The Youth Development Strategy included the creation of a youth bike skill park. The second round of engagement has concluded. The consultant is now working on the detailed design phase, with construction scheduled to begin in mid-June.
- There may be on street parking restrictions implemented on Willow Street, including monitoring compliance. The survey indicated that most respondents (85%) were satisfied with the suggested parking restrictions on Willow Street.
- There will be a marked crosswalk off the Lochside trail, at the Lochside Drive and Willow Street intersection.
- Saanich applied for a healthy community's initiative grant to implement a bike share program and a grant for a mural on the wall along the hydro property. The mural grant application was unsuccessful, but staff will revise the submission and try again for a lesser amount.

In response to questions and comments from the committee, the following was noted:

- There may be benefits to have parking restrictions in effect Monday to Friday as there are groups that use the parking to bike on the Lochside Trail.
- Most concerns about parking came from residents that lived nearby
- There are concerns about the possibility of issues at the cross walk given the large trucks that enter/exit the Donn Mann Excavating yard down the road. Staff will be working to come up with an appropriate way to ensure safety for all users.
- The hours of operation for the bike park will likely be similar to Lambrick Skate Park. There are suggestions from the community for the bike skills park to be open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

CORDOVA BAY LOCAL AREA PLAN

The Senior Planner, Community Planning presented information on the updates that were made to the Cordova Bay Local Area Plan (LAP) based on committee feedback at the last meeting. The following was noted:

- The missing pedestrian link that was identified on map 6.2 has been corrected.
- Updates to the LAP regarding the connector from Cordova Bay to Elk/Beaver Lake have been made to reflect that the connector will be a multi-use trail rather than a pedestrian connection based on the feedback from the committee.

MOVED by G. Elder and Seconded by T. Barry: “That the Active Transportation Advisory Committee recommends that Council approves the Cordova Bay Local Area Plan.”

CARRIED

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT OF THE INTERURBAN TRAIL

The Manager of Transportation & Development Services gave an update on the regional management of the Interurban Trail. Currently there are no plans by the Saanich or the Capital Regional District (CRD) to change the way that the Interurban Trail is managed. During discussion with committee members the following was noted:

- Staff at Saanich and the CRD work on items from the Strategic Plan that is brought forward by their respective elected officials, changing the way the Interurban Trail is handled is not in the Saanich Strategic Plan or on the CRD work plan.
- There are some concerns about areas of the trail with roots and potholes.
- The management of the trail within Saanich is handled well by staff. There are parts of the trail that are not managed as well, it is important for users to reach out to the proper bodies to have these areas reported so they can be fixed when appropriate.
- The Interurban Trail lacks facilities such as washrooms, benches or picnic tables. These facilities are typically available in parks, while other trails run near parks, the Interurban Trail does not. The recently created washroom strategy does include information on how far it should be between washrooms on trails, so there may be new facilities in the future. Signs to indicate distance to the next rest area would be ideal.
- This trail is not a priority for the next year or two. Members of the committee would like to see the trail managed differently, through central management or coordination.
- It would be ideal to have a joint meeting with Central Saanich and North Saanich to come up with a coordinated approach to management of the trail.

- Transportation related issues will be discussed between Saanich and North Saanich Councils at a future date, there is a potential to add raising the profile of the management of this trail to the agenda.

MOVED by D. Wick and Seconded by B. Collier, “That the Active Transportation Advisory Committee requests that Council adds the regional management of the Interurban Trail to the agenda for the upcoming joint meeting with Central Saanich.”

CARRIED

ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE RESPONSE LETTERS

The letters requesting information on the visibility of vulnerable road users were sent. Responses were received from the CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit (IRSU), ICBC, Saanich Police, and CRD Traffic Safety Commission (TSC). ICBC and Saanich Police will attend the June meeting. The CRD TSC will discuss attending the meeting at their next meeting at their meeting on June 8th.

COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE

During committee discussion the following was noted:

- It is important to provide education to children on how to safely navigate the streets on their bicycles. The committee is interested in providing information or training about how to safely ride on the road to children.
- It may be useful to have the groups who are coming to the meeting in June speak to the programs that are available for training and educating young riders.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Councillor Harper, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary