

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Learning Centre, Annex Building, 780 Vernon Ave.
Wednesday May 24, 2023, at 4:04 p.m.

Present: Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff (Chair), Trevor Barry, Alexandre Beaubien, Rachel Corder, Andrea Glen, Janine Konkell, Georgia Myles, Douglas Pascoe, Colin Stepney

Staff: Troy McKay, Manager of Transportation & Development Services; Megan Squires, Senior Transportation Planner; Jason Hodgins, Development Services Manager; Kirsten Brazier, Senior Committee Clerk.

Guest: Dan Casey, Transportation Consultant, Urban Systems

CHAIRS REMARKS

Councillor Phelps Bondaroff welcomed the committee and staff.

- Introductions took place by way of a roundtable of attendees.
- Councillor Phelps Bondaroff provided a brief outline of committee procedures.

REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Councillor Phelps Bondaroff reviewed the Terms of Reference for the committee.

Committee Discussion

- In the past members of the Police and transit attended meetings. Members would like for these opportunities to continue.
- Working groups are another opportunity for committee members to provide feedback.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

The Manager of Transportation and Development Services provided a historical outline of the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) and stated:

- In 2015, Council asked staff to develop an Active Transportation Plan in Saanich.
- First plan was adopted in 2018. The plan is updated on a 5-year cycle.
- A draft updated plan is now available for public review. This committee is a key audience to solicit feedback from.

D. Casey, Transportation Consultant from Urban Systems presented on the ATP Update.

- The update process is now in Phase Four.
- The ATP Update is being developed in parallel with the Road Safety Action Plan (RSAP).
- The update now includes a vision statement and a series of goals (which include targets).
- Five key goals have been identified (see presentation on file).
- Overarching themes of connection, convenience and culture are noted in Phase Four.
- Key changes and additions include traffic calming, design guidance and the trail network definitions.
- An equity analysis has been undertaken. Policy references have been included in the update. The Speed Limit Establishment Policy is also embedded in the new document.
- Maps have been updated to show projects that been completed since 2018.
- Sidewalk network priority short-term projects are targeted to complete in 2030, with medium term projects targeted to complete in 2040.
- Bicycle network priority projects have completed 73 km of new cycling facilities.

- Trail network priority projects include 14 km of new trails that contribute to active transportation.
- Next steps are to work on community engagements (some in concert with RSAP), include committee meeting, an online survey, social media promotions, open houses, and pop-up events.

Committee Discussion

- The Active Transportation grant fund from the province is looking for projects that align with the BC Active Transportation design guide.
- The Safe Systems guidelines are an all-encompassing approach to improving road safety.
- School and road frontage safety and transit need to be further developed in the document.
- Interconnectedness with other municipalities in the region is taking place over a series of meetings of staff from across the regions that take place six times a year.
- A provincial transit design guide is being developed and will be adopted by Saanich when it is available. Saanich will be a municipality that will trial some of the new design components.
- Parts of the document that speak to the movement towards multimodal transportation should include more transit components.
- Traffic calming is in the early stages of development. Local businesses may be impacted by some traffic calming measures.
- Staff are working on revisions to the Driveway Access Bylaw.
- Staff are balancing projects by considering what traffic calming measures are the best “bang for buck” depending on the area of roadway being updated.
- Noting the kilometers of roadway that are in Saanich would be helpful for context, as well as a breakdown of what percentage of types of roads are in the municipality.
- An analysis of where Saanich is in meeting our targets compared to other municipalities could also be included.
- Terms of length of different projects (e.g., short, medium) is a balance that staff are always working to achieve.
- Staff spoke to the topic of funding and taxation to support active transportation. Staff are continually looking for ways to best manage investments and projects.
- The Quadra McKenzie corridor planning will be brought to the committee in the fall which looks at a long-term vision for roadway construction.
- A comparison of costs of active transportation to recurring road maintenance costs would be a helpful addition to the document.
- Discussion with the school districts on active transportation is ongoing.
- Maps that demonstrate the interconnectedness of bike lanes across regions would be a good addition to the document.
- Draft version 2.0 of this document will be brought back to the group in the fall. Feedback during the next month would be appreciated.

ACTION LIST DISCUSSION

- Councillor will reach out to committee members for a discussion and to get to know member’s priorities for Saanich.
- The previous committee has worked on an action list to identify key items that the committee could work on.

DISCUSSION OF MEETING TIMES

- A discussion of meeting times and dates took place. Councillor Phelps Bondaroff and the Clerk will look at opportunities for revised meeting times.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Councillor Phelps Bondaroff, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Kirsten Brazier, Committee Secretary