

DISTRICT OF SAANICH
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016

Present: **Chair:** Mayor Atwell
 Council: Councillors Brice (6:23 p.m.), Brownoff, Derman, Haynes, Murdock (6:05 p.m.), Plant, Sanders and Wergeland
 Staff: Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer; Carrie MacPhee, Director of Legislative Services (7:00 p.m.); Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering (7:00 p.m.); Suzanne Samborski, Director of Parks and Recreation (7:00 p.m.); Jarret Matanowitsch, Acting Director of Planning (7:00 p.m.); Donna Dupas, Legislative Manager; and Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk (7:00 p.m.)

Mayor Atwell called the regular Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Committee Room No. 2.

In Camera Motion **MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That pursuant to Section 90 (1) (c) of the *Community Charter*, the following meeting be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to labour relations or other employee relations."**

CARRIED

Adjournment On a motion from Councillor Wergeland, the meeting adjourned to In Camera at 6:02 p.m.

The regular Council meeting reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Brownoff and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That Council adopt the minutes of the October 25, 2016 Special Council meeting and the November 14, 2016 Council and Committee of the Whole meetings."

CARRIED

RATIFICATION

2830-40
Prospect Lake
Road

4573 PROSPECT LAKE ROAD – COVENANT AMENDMENT

From the November 14, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting. Ratification of the release of Restrictive Covenant K75432.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That Council authorize the discharge of Restrictive Covenant K75432 on Lot A, Sections 93 and 120, Lake District, Plan 19173 Except Part in Plan 33416 (4573 Prospect Lake Road)."

CARRIED

PUBLIC INPUT ON COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

Public Input on Council Agenda Items

1110-30
Records Management Bylaw

1410-04
Report - Parks

1420-30
Report - ACH

K. Whitworth, Viewmont Avenue:

Records Management Bylaw & Canada 150 Plan

- The Records Management Bylaw is supportable; having documents in an organized and easily accessible manner assists future generations.
- The sesquicentennial celebrations represent all of Canada’s endearing attributes; the Arts, Culture and Heritage (ACH) Advisory Committee has embraced the Canada 150 Plan and are eager to make them the best celebrations Saanich can provide.
- The Legacy Projects are unique and serve a specific purpose; the recommendations in the report of the ACH are supportable.
- Council is encouraged to amend item 5 (b) to “approve in principle the Canada 150 legacy initiative as outlined in the report”.
- Decisions should not be delayed; in less than six weeks 150 celebrations will begin.

BYLAWS

1110-30
Records Management Bylaw

RECORDS MANAGEMENT BYLAW

Three Readings of “Records Management Bylaw, 2016, No. 9404”. To give legal effects to the District’s records management program.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Brice: “That Bylaw No. 9404 be introduced and read.”

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Brice: “That Bylaw No. 9404 be read a second time.”

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Haynes: “That Bylaw No. 9404 be now passed.”

CARRIED

The Director of Legislative Services left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

5170-20
Greater Victoria Public Library Board

GREATER VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD – LIBRARY OPERATING AGREEMENT (LOA) RENEWAL

Request from the Greater Victoria Public Library Board that Council endorse an addendum to the current Library Operating Agreement which will allow its terms and conditions to continue until a new agreement is executed and that a signed copy of the addendum be forwarded to the Office of the Chief Executive Officer.

MOVED by Councillor Murdock and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That Council approve the Addendum to the current Library Operating Agreement which will allow its terms and conditions to continue until a new agreement is executed."

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Finance stated:

- Saanich currently receives a provisional budget as well as an approved final budget; the proposed changes would mean moving to a single annual budget submission.

The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

1410-04
Report – Fire

xref: 1050-20
Fire Dispatch
Service
Agreement

FIRE DISPATCH AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Report of the Fire Chief dated November 8, 2016 recommending that Council authorize the renewal of the Fire Dispatch and Communications Services Agreement with the Township of Esquimalt for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Haynes and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That Council authorize the renewal of the Fire Dispatch and Communications Services Agreement with the Township of Esquimalt for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017."

CARRIED

1410-04
Report –
Engineering

xref: 5170-20
Clean Water and
Wastewater Fund

CLEAN WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND APPLICATIONS

Report of the Director of Engineering dated November 10, 2016 recommending that Council endorse the two applications for funding from Industry Canada's Clean Water and Wastewater Fund for the projects outlined in the report.

MOVED by Councillor Haynes and Seconded by Councillor Brownoff: "That Council endorse the two applications through the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF) program and commit to its share of the project costs for:

1. CIPP lining design and construction project totaling \$3,500,000; with \$595,000 committed from the District's capital budget; and
2. Shelbourne Street underground infrastructure design totaling \$1,500,000; with \$255,000 committed from the District's capital budget."

Councillor Derman stated:

- Federal funding is available and should be pursued.
- Going forward, this type of plan may not be appropriate to manage wastewater; it may be time to revisit how stormwater is managed.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Engineering stated:

- Modelling of watersheds and the review of creeks and waterway systems and how they interact with each other are included in the current Strategic Plan for consideration.

- One of the first steps is to fully model the drainage system in GIS to allow for the ability to use software and programs to look for opportunities such as daylighting, further work on Bowker Creek, or give direction to staff who work with streamkeeper societies.
- Cured-In-Place Pipe (CIPP) is less invasive and may have less impact on mature trees.
- Staff is looking at natural flood areas and rain gardens to manage stormwater.
- Grant applications would be eligible for up to 83% of the project value with 50% from Federal funding and 33% from the Province.

Councillor Derman stated:

- Consideration should be given to natural approaches to manage stormwater; using different methods to manage stormwater is both ecologically and fiscally desirable.

Councillor Haynes stated:

- At the residential level, the decoupling of roofs could be considered to manage stormwater; he appreciates staff for researching different opportunities for funding.

Councillor Murdock stated:

- He is appreciative of staff for advancing the work and is hopeful that the funding is approved.
- The Environment and Natural Areas (ENA) Advisory Committee shares the concerns regarding the way stormwater is managed; stormwater management should be referred to the Strategic Planning process.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- She is appreciative of staff for bringing the item forward.

The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

1410-01
Council
Proceedings

COUNCIL MEETING OUTSIDE SAANICH BOUNDARIES

Report of the Director of Legislative Services dated November 15, 2016 recommending that Council authorize a meeting of Saanich Council be held in the District of Central Saanich on November 29, 2016, or on a rescheduled date specifically for this meeting.

**MOVED by Councillor Brice and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland:
“That Council authorize that a meeting of Saanich Council be held in the District of Central Saanich on November 29, 2016, or a rescheduled date specifically for this meeting.”**

CARRIED

1420-30
Report - ACH

xref: 1410-04
Report - Parks

CANADA 150 PLAN

- a) Recommendation from the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting of October 27, 2016 that the report of the committee's Canada 150 Working Group dated October 27, 2016 from Councillor Sanders be forwarded to Council for approval.

- b) Report from the Directors of Parks and Recreation and Planning dated November 15, 2016 recommending that Council approve the proposed work plan and budget for District of Saanich Canada 150 events and activities, and forward Canada 150 Legacy Initiatives to the Strategic Planning process.

MOVED by Councillor Sanders and Seconded by Councillor Brownoff: "That Council approve the report of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee Canada 150 Working Group dated October 27, 2016, endorsed by the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee."

Councillor Sanders stated:

- The ACH Canada 150 Working Group would reach out to Community Associations, neighbourhoods, non-profits, faith groups, and businesses to get them involved in 150 Celebration events; the groups would be given the opportunity to post their events on the Saanich website.
- The Working Group would engage through social and print media and workshops; events such as building tours, sharing of stories, archive exhibits, speakers, heritage walks would be considered as part of the celebrations.
- Community groups would be asked what should be included in Saanich's Time Capsule; there may be grants, funding opportunities, sponsorships or partnerships available to contribute to the Time Capsule.
- The Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee has identified the activities they wish to engage in throughout the year, which includes a permanent public art piece, a temporary art program and the Time Capsule.

Councillor Brice stated:

- The request is supportable; it is a small amount of money for such a worthwhile celebration.
- The various events would add to the well-being of residents; Councillor Sanders and the ACH should be congratulated on the work that has been done.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- The Working Group is responsible for the Canada 150 events; staff would enhance existing events.
- The legacy events would be organized by the Working Group.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- The staff report outlines the events and activities for the Canada 150 work plan, Legacy Initiatives and impacts to current budget and resources; the recommendation of staff is to refer the Legacy Initiatives to the Strategic Planning process, to be discussed in conjunction with other initiatives that Council may want to accomplish over the next year.
- The \$36,000 cost includes a \$5,000 one-time budget request for the ACH.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- The intent of the staff report was to ensure Council understood the financial and resource implications; the addition funding request of \$36,000 does not include the funding request for the Legacy Initiatives.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- The installation of permanent public art would be funded through the Saanich Public Art fund; extra staff resources would be needed for the Public Art piece.
- Clarification is needed as to where financial and staff resources are coming from; fundraising may be considered for the Time Capsule.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- Although funding is available for the installation of permanent public art through the Saanich Public Art Fund, there would be implications for staff resources.
- The Time Capsule would require new one-time funding and resources are currently accounted for in the CAO's office.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- There may be grants available to fund the Time Capsule.
- The one-time funding request by the ACH would be used to engage the public in celebrations.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- The funding request of \$5,000 for the Legacy Initiatives is separate from the request for \$36,000 for Canada 150 events and activities.
- The costs to promote and manage the projects are unknown at this time.

Councillor Murdock stated:

- The committee and staff are to be thanked for all the work done.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- The recommendation of staff is to refer the Legacy Initiatives to the Strategic Planning process.

**MOVED by Councillor Murdock and Seconded by Councillor Derman:
"That the motion be amended to include that Council approve the proposed work plan and budget for the District of Saanich Canada 150 Events and Activities."**

Councillor Derman stated:

- He thanks the committee and staff and supports the initiatives.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- The staff report was provided in conjunction with the report from the ACH to provide more detail to Council regarding resources and budget implications.

Councillor Plant stated:

- It may have been helpful to have more detail about public engagement and associated costs.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- Public engagement costs could include rental and printing fees; the Time Capsule would cost approximately \$2,000, with an installation fee of approximately \$1,500.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Finance stated:

- The total budget for ACH is used on a regular basis for the Heritage Tour.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- The Working Group would be responsible for the work related to Canada 150 Celebrations.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- Approval of the motion would mean that Council would have decided on the Legacy Initiatives and that they would not be forwarded to the Strategic Planning process.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- Public engagement could include activities related to room rentals or organizing facilitative discussions.
- The request for \$2,000 for the communications strategy would be used to communicate all of the District's Canada 150 events and activities.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- It may be appropriate to withdraw the motions and move forward with the two recommendations of staff, this would allow Council to consider referring the Legacy Initiatives to the Strategic Planning process.

The Amendment to the Motion was WITHDRAWN

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- There are no staffing implications for the public engagement piece.
- The installation of permanent public art would be funded through the Saanich Public Art fund.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- If Council approves the motion, it would mean the funding would be pre-approved for the budget.

Councillor Brice stated:

- It may not be appropriate to make funding decisions before budget deliberations; it would mean there may be less money available in the budget for other initiatives.
- It may be helpful to have clarification on specific costs and details in the work plan.

MOVED by Councillor Brice and Seconded by Councillor Hayes: "That the Canada 150 Plan be referred to staff to provide further details on the work plan and budget."

Councillor Murdock stated:

- There may be some overlap in the reports that need to be clarified; it would have been beneficial to have been provided a package of recommendations that were complementary to each other or packaged as a single recommendation.

Councillor Haynes stated:

- When the report is returned, it may be helpful to have more detail on resources and budget implications.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- This is the only request for funding that has been received to date.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- It is uncertain whether further requests for funding would come forward; there may be requests that come out of the public engagement process.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- The \$36,000 outlined in the staff report includes the \$5,000 request for additional funding from the ACH.
- It is recommended that the Legacy Initiatives be referred to the Strategic Planning process; the costs for the permanent public art Installation would be funded from the Saanich Public Art Fund.
- Posting events on the Saanich website would be offered to the community; there is no expectation that the community would ask for funding.
- It may be possible to fundraise money for the Time Capsule.

Councillor Derman stated:

- The work plan and budget are supportable; it may be appropriate to approve the recommendations now.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- More detail on the staff report would be helpful.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Parks and Recreation stated:

- The intent of the ACH's recommendation is to create a Temporary Public Art Program in 2017 which would be implemented in 2018.
- This may be considered as a separate fund that would come to Council for consideration during the 2018 budget process.
- The Temporary Art Program may be an annual program; if so, it would be discussed annually at budget deliberations.

**The Motion was then Put and CARRIED
with Councillors Brownoff, Derman, Plant and Sanders OPPOSED**

Adjournment On a motion from Councillor Brice, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 10:01 p.m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the Committee of the Whole Meeting held November 21, 2016

5170-20
Watershed
Coordinator
Funding

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT WATERSHED COORDINATOR FUNDING

MOVED by Councillor Plant and Seconded by Councillor Brice: “That Council:

- 1. Authorize staff to execute an updated service agreement for a Watershed Coordinator with the Capital Regional District for a three-year term on an equal cost sharing basis with the City of Victoria (Bowker Creek Watershed) and the District of Oak Bay (Bowker Creek and Hobbs Creek Watershed); and**
- 2. Approve continued funding for the Capital Regional District Watershed Coordinator for the three-year term.”**

CARRIED

1310-40
CRD
Transportation

REQUEST FOR MOTION OF SUPPORT TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

MOVED by Councillor Haynes and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: “That Saanich Council support the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service through the Capital Regional District.”

CARRIED

Adjournment

On a motion from Councillor Plant, the meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

.....
MAYOR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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MUNICIPAL CLERK

DISTRICT OF SAANICH
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016 AT 8:11 P.M.

Present: **Chair:** Mayor Atwell
Council: Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Haynes, Murdock, Plant, Sanders and Wergeland
Staff: Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer; Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering; Jarret Matanowitsch, Acting Director of Planning; Adriane Pollard, Manager of Environmental Services; Donna Dupas, Legislative Manager; and Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk

1410-04
Report –
Planning

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT WATERSHED COORDINATOR FUNDING
Report of the Director of Planning dated October 6, 2016 recommending that Council authorize staff to execute an updated service agreement for a Watershed Coordinator with the Capital Regional District (CRD) for a three-year term on an equal cost sharing basis with the City of Victoria and the District of Oak Bay, and approved continued funding for the CRD Watershed Coordinator for the three-year term.

xref: 5170-20
Watershed
Coordinator
Funding

PUBLIC INPUT:
Nil

Motion: **MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Haynes: “That it be recommended that Council:**
3. Authorize staff to execute an updated service agreement for a Watershed Coordinator with the Capital Regional District for a three-year term on an equal cost sharing basis with the City of Victoria (Bowker Creek Watershed) and the District of Oak Bay (Bowker Creek and Hobbs Creek Watershed); and
4. Approve continued funding for the Capital Regional District Watershed Coordinator for the three-year term.”

Councillor Derman stated:
- It is very important to continue the work on the preservation of watersheds; this is a big step towards watershed base planning.

Councillor Haynes stated:
- The work of staff is appreciated; there is a significant volunteer base that is enabled by this funding.

The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

The Manager of Environmental Services left the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

1420-30
Report – PTED

SMALL LOT HOUSING AND HOMES UNDER 2,000 SQUARE FEET
Recommendation from the October 13, 2016 Planning, Transportation and

Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting that Council ask staff to investigate if establishing RS-1 infill zoning in appropriate areas of Saanich would be beneficial to the community.

The Acting Director of Planning stated:

- The Planning, Transportation and Economic Development (PTED) Advisory Committee put forward the request that staff explore small lot infill housing; if Council was interested in pursuing the request, it should be considered through the Strategic Planning process.
- Current Official Community Plan (OCP) policies speak to small residential infill where appropriate based on the character of the neighbourhood; there is the ability under current regulations for consideration of small lot housing.
- Some Local Area Plans (LAPs) have minimum lot sizes.
- RS-1 infill is not typically used in Saanich.
- Staff could investigate opportunities for accessory suites, possibly establishing a Development Permit Area and accompanying guidelines, land use perspective, design and policy; significant staff resources would be required.
- Currently, RS-1 rezoning has been site specific; if there was a specific area that Council wished to have considered for RS-1 zoning that could be reviewed.
- It could be determined through public engagement if a community was interested in including RS-1 zoning in the LAP.

The Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- A supporting statement in the OCP is needed; a significant amount of public consultation would also be required to determine if communities wanted to have small lot housing in their neighbourhoods.
- The RS-1 zone is available to developers currently but it does not appear that there is demand for this type of housing in Saanich to date.
- There may be neighbourhoods that wish to have small lot housing in their community but public consultation would have to take place before changes to the LAPs could be made.
- The intent of the PTED committee is to assess how small lot housing could be included in the LAPs as supported residential development.
- An application to rezone to RS-1 could be rejected based on public input at a Public Hearing regardless of whether or not the RS-1 zoning is included in the LAP.
- The Zoning Bylaw has some flexibility to consider new concepts for zoning.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- RS-1 zoning is already available; public input will identify whether it is suitable for a neighbourhood.

PUBLIC INPUT:

T. Lee, Miller Avenue stated:

- There may be opportunities to develop smaller lots in Saanich; RS-1 zoning has not been encouraged.
- Infill housing is an important tool for Saanich; smaller lots and homes may help to address housing affordability. Further discussion is needed.

C. Pringle, owner, Cadillac Homes, stated:

- Small lot homes are needed because of the price of real estate; young people cannot afford to buy single family homes in Saanich.

- Small lot homes allow seniors to age-in-place; RS-1 zoning has been approved as site-specific.
 - RS-1 zoning should be used for infill in existing neighbourhoods.
- C. Edge, Victoria Residential Builders Association, Executive Director, stated:
- The availability of small lot homes is important to housing affordability, which is directly related to average income.
 - In Victoria, affordable housing means a home under \$355,000 based on average income.
 - Most of the cost of housing is for the land; materials and the rising cost of house construction labour.
 - Municipalities need to address affordability; planning concepts of what constitutes a neighbourhood are outdated and do not support sustainability, infrastructure or transportation systems.
- T. Barry, Lily Avenue, stated:
- Any opportunity to address housing affordability is appreciated; careful consideration should be given to where small homes would be placed.
 - They should be located in areas that are accessible to services and transit; there is a need to put more density in areas that are naturally built for density.

COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS:

Motion: **MOVED by Councillor Haynes and Seconded by Councillor Murdock: “That Council request staff to investigate if establishing an RS-1 zone to be applied in appropriate areas of Saanich, would be beneficial to the community and the municipality.”**

Councillor Derman stated:

- It would be appropriate to have density around corridors and centres and where there are amenities; the dream of single family home ownership may not be a reality in the future.
- RS-1 zoning is currently available; altering the wording in the OCP and LAPs may make RS-1 more readily available and understandable for developers.
- A diverse range of housing options is needed in Saanich.

In response to questions from Council, the Acting Director of Planning stated:

- RS-1 zoning currently exists; it is site-specific in that it references a schedule associated with a specific property; the schedule also references a site plan, setbacks, and where a home can be built on a property.

In response to questions from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer stated:

- It may be that there are neighbourhoods and properties where an RS-1 zone would not be applied; there are LAPs and zones that have established minimum lot sizes.
- Developers are able to apply for RS-1 zoning through the development process or through strata subdivision.
- The request appears to be an evaluation of how to promote the idea of small lot rezoning; from staffs' perspective the way to do that is to have it embodied in the LAP.
- That would require a public engagement process and would require dedicated staff resources and time; the tool to apply for RS-1 zoning is already available for development.

Councillor Murdock stated:

- The idea of RS-1 zoning has merit and should be available for potential rezoning applications to permit smaller affordable lot sizes; however, there is nothing that precludes that from happening now.

Councillor Derman stated:

- Conducting a review would require a good deal of staff time and effort; if there is an interest in pursuing the item further, it would be appropriate to send it to the Strategic Planning process.
- Where to locate density needs careful consideration; transportation systems in some communities are not viable.
- It is necessary to locate housing where it minimizes climate change impact; addressing housing affordability is supportable.

Councillor Wergeland stated:

- Currently, infill on smaller lots and detached housing is considered; it is not clear if residents would be eager in having smaller lots in their neighbourhoods.
- Residents have expressed their concerns with the impact of infill in neighbourhoods through the consultation process.

Councillor Brice stated:

- There are currently opportunities for smaller lot infill; developers must be creative when considering density.
- The community would have to support infill when it is being considered for their neighbourhoods; Council may have to be more receptive when considering development applications for infill.

Councillor Haynes stated:

- The tools are available for consideration of RS-1 zoning; there may be neighbourhoods that would be willing to consider smaller lots.
- Developers should engage with the residents to determine where density is appropriate.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- The capability for consideration of RS-1 lots is available now.
- Promotion for this types of housing should take place within the community; affordable housing needs to be located near services and transit.

**The Motion was then Put and DEFEATED
With Mayor Atwell and Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Murdock, Plant,
Sanders, and Wergeland OPPOSED**

The Acting Director of Planning left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

1310-40
CRD
Transportation

REQUEST FOR MOTION OF SUPPORT TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
Request from the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board that Council endorse a motion of support for the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service through the CRD, and forward the supported motion to the CRD by December 1, 2016.

Mr. R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer, Capital Regional District (CRD) and Councillor Brice presented to Council and highlighted:

- It has become evident that oversight is needed for the planning of transportation services in the region; as a result, a committee was struck to look at a Regional Transportation Service.
- The Parks Operating Unit of the CRD currently includes work in relation to major regional trails and the Regional Planning Department does traffic modelling, traffic data collection, cycling counts and active transportation programming.
- A Regional Transportation Plan was adopted in 2014 funded jointly by the CRD and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; that plan includes a multi-modal network, mobility hubs, commitments to reducing greenhouse gasses, and integrated land use.
- The region currently does not have authority to act on the plan other than to collect the data.
- The request is to create the Regional Transportation Service by bringing those activities together as one function; no additional funding is needed.
- The service would give the region a voice to express its transportation priorities and integrate the work of municipalities and other service providers.

In response to questions from Council, Mr. Lapham and Councillor Brice stated:

- If Phase II is implemented, capital funding or other revenue streams would be sought to address collective priorities.
- Currently, each municipality would have to raise their own funds to advance priorities; Phase II would allow pooling of funds, agreeing collectively on priorities and taking them forward to Senior Governments.
- A policy would be created outlining a series of thresholds that would have to be met before a commitment to investing in major infrastructure is made; the Province has made a commitment to looking at other revenue streams to advance transportation issues.
- A sub-regional working group should be considered to address the different interests in the region; the Regional Transportation Plan identifies establishing a performance based criteria based on data collection, demand management objectives and integration with land use as a way of evaluating priorities.
- In terms of vetoing, a cost-sharing model that is agreeable to all parties would be considered; municipal interests could be weighted according to cost-sharing formulas.
- The proposal is to take existing service delivery and realign it into one function without an increase of funding; the policy document that complements the Transportation Service has criteria that has to be met before recommendations for additional funding or expanded service would be considered.
- The sub-regional work group could assist in creating the framework for a collective decision-making process.
- Agreements would be needed on how road assets would be used as regional priorities.
- Currently, there is no collective voice in the region to advocate to the Province or to collectively submit priorities or regional interests; a collaborative perspective will identify gaps and barriers in a regional context.
- Other municipalities have passed a motion to support the establishment of a regional transportation service, however, some communities will have concerns.
- There are concerns with major corridors between communities; there is a need to give residents multi-modal options.

- Provincial policies, such as climate action reduction, may put constraints on the region going forward if transportation is not looked at progressively; performance measures are necessary for managing transportation demand, responding with the right kind of transportation choices and looking at the funding.
- The Transportation Plan talks about an agreement between the municipality and the CRD where the municipality maintains the operating responsibility based on certain criteria; the municipality would know best how to integrate change into its neighbourhoods and with its land uses.
- The Transportation Service would not include BC Transit; an independent Provincial panel encouraged BC Transit to consider a closer relationship with municipalities to deal with travel priorities and demand.
- The panel also recommended more municipal representation on the BC Transit Commission.

PUBLIC INPUT:

T. Barry, Lily Avenue, stated:

- This is a great first step, Phase 1 does not include new funding requests or legislative requirements at the Provincial level.
- The province may listen to a collective voice more than from individual municipalities.
- The Transportation Service would result in more robust data collection, and could assist with better decision-making around land use and transportation in the region.
- Transportation is one of the services blind to municipal boundaries; it is important to think regionally and that future plans include transit.
- The Transportation Service may assist in getting money regionally that could be used in our community and drive down the amount of vehicle traffic; it is desirable to create a multi-modal culture, and build smart and compact complete communities.

COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS:

Motion:

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Haynes: “That it be recommended that Saanich Council support the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service through the Capital Regional District.”

Councillor Derman stated:

- Currently, transportation is not necessarily connected to land use; there is a risk that services would try to accommodate the travel preferences of existing land use patterns; there are also risks of constructing infrastructure that tries to service travel preferences and, in the process, encourages further development of that inappropriate pattern.
- Major streets should not be treated as transportation corridors.
- Good urban streets provide places for interaction and exchange and create value in the lands around it; Saanich is vulnerable because it sits between outlying communities and the downtown core.

Councillor Haynes stated:

- A Regional Transportation Service is an essential part of our integration of services.

Councillor Plant stated:

- The establishment of a Regional Transportation Service is supportable.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- This first step is key; there is a need to move to a coordinated and integrated approach for reviewing transportation.
- It is important to that all municipalities in the region are involved; transportation crosses all boundaries.
- The ability for the region to tie the Regional Growth Strategy and the Regional Transportation Service to apply for Provincial or Federal funding would be beneficial.
- Phase II may have more debate because of the amount of money it involves; when municipalities come together, they have a stronger voice.

Mayor Atwell stated:

- The establishment of a Regional Transportation Service makes sense; it will be important to listen to other municipalities' concerns and find commonality.

The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

Adjournment On a motion from Councillor Brownoff, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

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CHAIR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate

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MUNICIPAL CLERK