



Corporation of the City of  
**NEW WESTMINSTER**

**ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 12, 2014 3:00 pm**  
**Council Chamber, City Hall**

**MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Betty McIntosh	Chair
Anne Bélanger	Community
Ryan Chilton	Student
Erin Gable	Community
Glen Henderson	New Westminster School Board
Ron Jones	Special Advisor
Mary Varga	Community
Michael Wilson	Community
Ken Wilkinson	Community

**VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:**

Paul Gauthier	Community
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**STAFF:**

Jason Haight	Manager, Business Ops, Parks, Culture and Recreation
Fan Jin	Transportation Technologist, Engineering Services
Kathy Prothero	Recording Clerk, Engineering Services
Antonia Reynolds	Transportation Demand Management Coordinator, Eng Services
Eugene Wat	Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Engineering Services (3:16pm)

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm

**1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**3.2** Item 4.3 became a presentation rather than new business

**2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**2.1 Adoption of Minutes of April 3, 2014**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting held April 3, 2014 be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of this motion

## **3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

### **3.1 Car-Sharing in New Westminster – Ms. Antonia Reynolds**

Ms. Reynolds is the TDM Coordinator for the City currently promoting sustainable transportation and encouraging people to use their vehicles less. She gave an overview on car sharing in the City and ways in which it will have a positive impact to residents.

Car sharing is participating in a co-op car sharing program. The fee is hourly inclusive of maintenance, insurance, etc., and is helpful for those on a low income or do not wish to own a vehicle. Modo, our current partner, is beginning to introduce disabled access vehicles into the fleet. There are currently a total of six cars (a variety of different vehicles) in the city and can be loaned for up to a month at a time. The City is looking into expanding as directed by Council and there are proven stats that it reduces the number of cars on the road. There are six reserved parking spots within the City and the car is always returned to this reserved spot. Vancouver has a "Car2Go" plan where a car can be taken from one area and dropped off in another area of the City.

It is anticipated that the City's Street and Traffic Bylaw will be amended to include more flexibility where cars can park, particularly in the Sapperton area.

Following were questions from members:

*Q - Are there any plans to identify spots in high density and commercial property areas such as the Anvil Centre?*

*A - Three Modo vehicle reserved spots are proposed inside the rental building located on the former Gyro site at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Carnarvon. With new development projects, the developers are proposing Car Sharing to reduce the number of parking spots being built with the development.*

*Q - What does the program cost?*

*A - Ms. Reynolds will send information to members (see attached). There is a one-time signup fee and then it is strictly pay per use. Vehicles can be booked on-line or on the phone with a user-friendly 24x7 system. We are currently investigating some programming for the benefit of seniors (education sessions, etc.) and are working with TransLink and Travel Smart in this regard.*

A general discussion ensued.

Ms. Reynolds left the meeting at 3:45.

### **3.2 YouTube Video Project – Mr. Jason Haight**

Mr. Haight updated new members on the pending Access Ability Advisory Committee YouTube Video project initiated approximately two years prior. The project experienced delays related to sourcing a service provider who would do the filming at no cost and through scope expansion that included the addition of videos supporting the work of the City's ACTBiPed Committee.

Mr. Haight suggested that the project be re-initiated with the original AAAC scope and that the video work could be completed in conjunction with a similar Parks, Culture and Recreation Department video filming slated to occur in late July or August. To this end, a Subcommittee was created to oversee the AAAC video project with the goals to:

- a) help educate the public on accessibility, and
- b) increase awareness of accessibility successes within New Westminster.

The project would include approximate 12 (30 second) videos and Mr. Haight showed related video samples for Parks, Culture and Recreation indoor services.

Councillor McIntosh commented that there are many issues that can be used as examples such as increased accessibility through the number of curb cut installations and the installation of disabled park benches in Queen's Park to name a few. The message would be specific to accessibility and awareness advising how many curb cuts have been installed and the City's plan that every intersection with sidewalks would be fully accessible by 2020. Another example would be drivers parking vehicles in front of the curb cuts, thus blocking access to people with mobility issues.

Anne Bélanger stated that often we associate people in wheelchairs/scooters with the aging population but her child also has mobility needs and that all demographics should be depicted in the video project. In addition, it was commented that video clips need to encompass several forms of accessibility needs and include participants with strollers and/or grocery carts.

#### **Moved and Seconded this Committee Recommends**

**THAT** the Access Ability Advisory Committee re-establish the Subcommittee for accessibility videos assisted by Parks, Culture and Recreation staff; and

**THAT** Council approve funding up to \$1,000 to assist in this project to build, promote and educate the City's universal access program.

**CARRIED**

All members voted in favour of this motion

Council asked for volunteers on the Subcommittee and the following members responded:

Anne Bélanger  
Ken Wilkinson  
Erin Gable

Mr. Haight requested that members of this Committee and Subcommittee volunteer as actors on the video.

## **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Status Update-Recommendation from this Committee to Increase Fine for Parking in Disabled Parking Stall – Councillor McIntosh**

Councillor McIntosh updated members on the recommendation that went before Council on April 7<sup>th</sup> to increase the fine for parking in a disabled parking stall to \$450. Staff were not comfortable with this amount based on a comparison to neighboring municipalities

and proposed an increase to \$125. This will be brought forward when the Street & Traffic Bylaw goes before Council August 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4.2 Update from TransLink on Taxi Supplements at New West Exchange - Mr. Fan Jin**

Mr. Wat informed members (per the e-mail sent out with the agenda) that we had received an update from TransLink and Mr. Jin advised that taxi companies are now allowed to enter into the bus exchange. This issue is now with TransLink's lawyers and they will not be able to start in June but are definitely moving forward. Mr. Jin will bring an update to members at the next meeting.

Ms. Bélanger left the meeting at 4:30 pm

#### **4.3 YouTube Video Project – Mr. Jason Haight**

This was moved to Item 3.2.

### **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

#### **6.1 Information Update – Councillor McIntosh, Chair**

- Fourth Street Pedestrian Overpass is under construction with temporary closures on Front Street to accommodate construction;
- Wally's Burgers will be operating the WPP concession;
- Anvil Centre on Columbia Street is scheduled to be opened in September. The City Committee appreciation dinner will be held in September at this venue;
- Wait for me Daddy Memorial unveiling on October 4<sup>th</sup> at Hyack Square;
- There are no Builders' Awards this year so no Access Ability Awards judging; and
- She is retiring and will not be running in the November Municipal election.

### **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE (received by members for information)**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

**THAT** the following correspondence circulated to members be received:

- 7.1 Notice re Master Transportation Plan Open House
- 7.2 Disabled Parking Article from the Royal City Record
- 7.3 Transition, Spring 2014
  - a) Rethinking Disability in the Workplace
  - b) We need a New Employment Strategy for British Columbians with Disabilities
  - c) We Need Taking AIM on Disability and Employment
- 7.4 Access Transit External Stakeholder Newsletter; April
- 7.5 BCCPD Call for Nominations for Board of Directors
- 7.6 Notice of Saint Mary's Park Open House; May 15
- 7.7 Royal City Record Article on Paul Gauthier
- 7.8 OCP Travelling Community Workshop "Our City 2041"
- 7.9 TransLink Funding Announcement re Custom Transit

- 7.10 Access Awareness Day: June 7, 2014
- 7.11 Article "Staying Safe-3 Ways to Plan for an Emergency"; Abilities Spring 2014
- 7.12 ACTBiPed Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2014 and April 2, 2014
- 7.13 Gathering Festival: Free Workshop Opportunities

**CARRIED**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of this motion

**8.0 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, September 11, 2014 @ 3 pm  
Council Chamber, City Hall

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm

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**COUNCILLOR BETTY MCINTOSH**  
**CHAIR**

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**KATHY PROTHERO**  
**RECORDING CLERK**

Doc #540245v2

**Car-sharing presentation to ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Thu 12<sup>th</sup> June 2014, 3pm**

**1. What is carsharing?**

- Carsharing is the low-cost way to have the use of a car when and where you need it
- One fee covers all costs, including maintenance, gas, insurance, even tolls on bridges
- Cars can be used for short or longer periods of time and there are many different types of vehicle to choose from, including vans and trucks
- Cars are based at various locations throughout the City and have designated parking spots that they need to be returned to at the end of each booking

**2. How can carsharing help seniors and the disabled?**

- Seniors and the disabled are groups that often have low income
- Transit may not serve destinations they need to go to (eg: doctor's appointments) and things like shopping trips can be less taxing by car
- Fully disabled access cars are starting to be deployed in the MODO fleet
- Booking cars and managing a carsharing account is user-friendly online, with in-person support also available at all times by phone. There is a good App for mobile phones
- As the carsharing fleet in the City expands, it will become increasingly likely that a car is located within easy access of people's homes

**3. What is the City doing in respect of carsharing?**

- In Feb 2014 Council passed a motion to develop a strategy and policy to increase car sharing options and expand car sharing service in the City
- The City is working with developers to facilitate the expansion of car sharing over demand for parking spaces
- Other carsharing service providers (Car2Go and Zipcar) have been approached in respect of bringing further options to the City (these are not direct competitors, but complimentary services)
- The City is facilitating expansion of the current fleet and promoting carsharing in partnership with Translink's TravelSmart program both online and at various community events throughout the summer
- A dedicated TravelSmart/carsharing session is being held at Century House for seniors
- The City has committed to growing carsharing both in the Master Transport Plan and Official Community Plan in a context of improving sustainable transportation infrastructure

**To become a member of MODO, the City's current service provider:**

- Complete an application form
- Ask ICBC to release driving record information to MODO (phone call)
- Pay a small sign-up fee
- Membership can be casual or join the co-op to get lowest rates
- Disability permit is not a barrier to participating
- All information can be found on their website [www.modo.coop](http://www.modo.coop)

Addendum (\*\*this information is quoted from the MODO website):

1. *When people share cars, fewer cars are on the road*

- Half the people who join Modo ditch their cars, which has taken over 3,000 cars off the road so far

2. *Fewer cars on the road means fewer greenhouse gas emissions and less traffic in our city*

- Modo members use sustainable modes of transportation and save carsharing for when they need a car. We typically drive only 1,400 kilometres a year, while the average driver in the Lower Mainland drives 6,000 - 24,000 kilometres a year!
- In terms of greenhouse gas emissions, we produce 0.32 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents a year, which is 10-36 times less than the average driver

3. *Why does it matter?*

- The number of cars in the Lower Mainland is growing at twice the rate of growth of the number of humans
- If people demand more lanes and parking spots, they will get them to the detriment of our green spaces. With Modo, you can protest our growing dependence on cars and oil
- Plus, not relying on a car all the time can make you more fit and happier
- Carsharing can improve your quality of life, your environment and your bank account

4. *It's liberating to ditch your car for carsharing!*

- It costs approximately 56.4¢ a kilometer to drive a vehicle in the Lower Mainland, which costs the average driver around \$8000 per year
- It also costs roughly:
  - \$200 a month to finance and/or purchase a vehicle
  - \$100+ per month to insure it
  - \$100 to fill it with gas
  - \$100 to maintain it

That's \$500 per month without including depreciation, parking, and those little unexpected costs (that are often not so little!). To compare, Modo members pay about \$100 per month on average for everything they need! The low rates cover the car, the parking, the insurance and the gas