



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 12, 2015 3:05 pm
Council Chamber, City Hall

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone	Chair
Anne Bélanger	Community
Glen Henderson	New Westminster School Board
Karia Olson	Community
Marion Orser	Community
Mary Varga	Community
Michael Wilson	Community

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ron Jones	Special Advisor
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VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:

Bea Omolo (resigned)

STAFF:

Carilyn Cook	Engineering Clerk, Engineering Services
Eugene Wat	Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Engineering Services
Jason Haight	Manager, Business Ops, Parks, Culture and Recreation
Kathy Prothero	Recording Clerk, Engineering Services
Alison Worsfold	Committee Clerk, Legislative Services

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

5.4 'Can Do' Attitude – Mr. Mike Wilson

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Revised Agenda of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting of February 12, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED

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

Procedural Note: Presentation 3.1 was held before the Adoption and Receipt of Minutes/Notes.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Committee Orientation and Oath of Office – Ms. Allison Worsfold, Legislative Services

Ms. Worsfold, Committee Clerk, confirmed that the orientation package was received by members and summarized the content. As noted in the City's Media Policy, members were asked to be cautious what they are posting on Social Media.

As attendance at these meetings is critical, members are to contact the Recording Clerk to confirm attendance prior to each meeting. If a member is unable to fulfill his/her duties, they are asked to notify staff as soon as possible so the position can be refilled. Committee minutes are posted on the City's website for information.

Following the Orientation and administration of the Oath of Office, Ms. Worsfold left the meeting @ 3:15 pm, and members introduced themselves.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Receipt and Adoption of Minutes of September 11, 2014; Receipt of Notes of October 30, 2014

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting held September 11, 2014 be received and adopted; and that the Notes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting held October 30, 2014 be received.

CARRIED

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

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Accessibility Videos – Mr. Jason Haight

Mr. Haight updated members that the Accessibility Videos are available on the Parks, Culture & Recreation website and YouTube channel and the City of New Westminster website. There are ten short videos, of which, five promote accessibility awareness and five promote accessibility accomplishments. If members have suggestions on how to promote and market these videos, please provide input to the Recording Clerk who will forward comments to Mr. Haight.

http://www.newwestpcr.ca/about_us/accessibility

Relating to the accessibility video project, Mr. Haight advised that he was approached by UBC students to conduct research on accessibility and youth services in the City. After sharing information and the accessibility videos, one of the students shared the information with the producer of CBC's On the Coast radio program, who in turn contacted Jason regarding an interview on accessibility in New Westminster. Jason connected CBC with Mr. Wilson from the Access Ability Advisory Committee for the interview which was done and aired.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Election of Alternate Chair – Councillor Johnstone

The floor was open for members to volunteer for the position of Alternate Chair in the event that the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled meeting. Mr. Glen Henderson volunteered for the position.

Moved and Seconded

THAT Mr. Glen Henderson be appointed as Alternate Chair of the Access Ability Advisory Committee during any unscheduled absences of the Chair.

CARRIED

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

5.2 Election of Representative to be appointed to the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians (ACTBiPed) – Councillor Johnstone

The Chair informed members that the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians has provided invaluable feedback with regard to necessary sidewalk improvements and transit issues (e.g., the bus stop at the foot of Sixth Street by the Police Station which is an inaccessible stop due to the grade). Members were invited to submit their name to act as an AAAC representative on the ACTBiPed to attend meetings and provide information updates back to this Committee. Ms. Orser volunteered as she already sits on the ACTBiPed.

Moved and Seconded

THAT Ms. Marion Orser be appointed as an Access Ability Advisory Committee representative on the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians and will provide information updates back to this Committee.

CARRIED

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

5.3 Transportation Referendum – Mr. Eugene Wat

Mr. Wat updated members on the City's position regarding the Transportation Referendum and ran a video provided by the Mayors' Council. Further information and detailed plans can be found at TransLink's website <http://mayorscouncil.ca/>

Mr. Wat's presentation is attached to these minutes for information.

The following comments were made by members:

- What are the service area boundaries for this service expansion?
 - Mr. Wat advised that the service area is the current Metro Vancouver area. One exception is the WestCoast Express which travels to Mission. Any proposed changes to the service boundaries of Metro Vancouver would have to go to the Province for approval. Abbotsford is part of the Fraser Valley Regional District and this is serviced by BC Transit.

- Is there any thought given to enhancing accessibility on transit?
 - Mr. Wilson informed members that he had met with TransLink and provided input on accessibility improvements. One member commented that there is no consistency, for example, two elevators in the same Skytrain station having different designs.

The Chair suggested that TransLink be invited to a future meeting to deal with some of the issues brought up by members. Staff will try and get a representative to attend the next meeting to provide information.

TransLink has been asked why Columbia Station wasn't being upgraded as stairs are currently required when changing lines (although there is an elevator at that location), but no response was provided. There has been an ongoing problem with the Fourth Street elevator but maintenance of that elevator is the responsibility of the building that it is located in.

The Chair commented that Skytrain Stations throughout the system must be upgraded in order to meet their goals, and part of the plan of the Mayors' Council is to improve infrastructure. There are two additional stations that developers are paying for but in New Westminister we already have five stations.

Metrotown Skytrain Station is closed for the next year but a bus will transport you back to Metrotown from Patterson Station.

- One member mentioned that the referendum states a 30% increase for HandyDart users but it doesn't show the number of people that this change would impact.
- Why do we have 4-lane bridge (Pattullo) coming into a funnel (New Westminister)? This will cause extended wait lines around the Victoria Hill area. Councillor Johnstone advised that the bridge is to be tolled in the hopes that this change will offset Port Mann toll avoidance and reduce traffic.

The Chair advised that Council has come out in favour of the Referendum. The mail-in ballot will be sent out to registered voters beginning March 16 and you have until May 29 to respond. Online Voter Registration can be done for those not registered to vote.

- One member asked if there is there a Plan B in place if the Referendum fails? TransLink is focusing on getting the Referendum through and if it is a negative vote, they will address it at that time. Members commented that if a more strenuous pursuit was made with fair evasion it would be better. They rarely see security police during the day and what is the point of paying if TransLink is not monitoring or collecting.

The Chair commented that fundamentally this Referendum is about building infrastructure and not how TransLink is run. One would hope that when the fare gates are up, the system will be more efficient and fare evasion cut back significantly.

5.4 City Accessibility Policy Status – Mr. Mike Wilson

Mr. Wilson asked for an update on the status of the City's 'Can Do' Active Access Policy recommendation to Council by the Special Services and Access Committee (then) and adopted by Council March 3, 2011 for implementation by the Human Resources Department. Mr. Wilson subsequently met with the Directors of Parks, Culture and Recreation and Human Resources in the summer of 2014 for a status update. The policy had not been implemented and Human Resources were to conduct additional research on the policy. Mr. Wilson would like an update on the Active Access Policy for the next meeting and Council Johnstone ensured there would be an update.

This item will go on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Following the discussion on accessibility, the following comments were made:

There is a City Policy that speaks to civic property, pathways and buildings and states that through any new development or capital upgrades of existing facilities, they will either improve accessibility or make the facility fully accessible.

One member mentioned sending in a request regarding railings at CGP but there was no response. Ms. Olson will give the Recording Clerk a copy of the letter to be forwarded to Mr. Haight.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Engineering Services Information Update – Mr. Eugene Wat

- TransLink Pilot Program (New West Exchange for taxis and HandyDart):
 - This pilot program with Royal City Taxi started in September 2014. The duration is one year and there are no issues at this time. If any members have concerns with the program, we will forward them to TransLink.
- Audible Intersections:
 - Recently added devices at Eighth Street at Carnarvon, Eighth Street and Columbia and Columbia at Fourth Street. One member requested that an audible device be added at Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue.
- Concrete Bollards on Columbia Street near Fourth Street:
 - A number have been removed and the one remaining bollard has been wrapped in reflective tape.
- Parkade Rehabilitation and Demolition Project:
 - Council approved to rehab the east half of the Parkade and removal of the west half (Sixth Street to Begbie Street) as part of the Waterfront Vision program.

- Staff is advancing the design work which is going out to tender. A decorative mural will be added and this is being discussed within the Art community now;
- We want to maintain pedestrian access on Frontage Road and maintain some vehicle access for businesses;
 - Overall closure will happen in later part of this year when rehab and removal work is being conducted; and
 - The City is trying to determine the best routing, especially for the truck traffic.
- Fourth Street Overpass to Westminster Pier Park:
 - Expected to open staircase in the March timeframe; and
 - Delivery of elevator parts have delayed the opening but we are hoping for April.
 - Q2Q Bridge (connecting Quayside to Port Royal area of Queensborough):
 - Part will be covered by Casino funding;
 - Currently working with railway;
 - Members asked if a voluntary contribution was made by residents perhaps a plaque would be posted on the bridge; and
 - Emergency vehicle (ambulance/police) is being considered for the Q2Q Bridge design.

Ms. Bélanger left the meeting at 4:45 pm

- Braid Street Bailey Bridge
 - Existing bridge replaced and installation of second bridge is underway, which has the pedestrian/cycling access attached to it.

Marion Orser spoke about the pay stations on Seventh Street between Belmont Street and Sixth Avenue and the placement (see attached photo). This has been forwarded to Engineering Operations for investigation.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

8.0 NEXT MEETINGS (All @ 3pm in Council Chamber, City Hall)

Thursday, April 9
Thursday, June 11
Thursday, October 8

Mr. Wilson left the meeting at 4:55 pm

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm

COUNCILLOR PATRICK JOHNSTONE
CHAIR

Doc #656373v3

KATHY PROTHERO
RECORDING CLERK

NEW WESTMINSTER

Access Ability Advisory Committee Engineering Update

February 12, 2015
Edm: 656203

NEW WESTMINSTER

Updates

- 5.3 Metro Vancouver Transportation Referendum
- 6.1a TransLink Taxi Supplement Pilot Program
- 6.1b Audible Intersections
- 6.1c Concrete Bollard on Columbia Street
- 6.1d Parkade Rehabilitation and Demolition Project
- 6.1e Four Street Pedestrian Overpass to Westminster Pier Park
- 6.1f Q2Q Pedestrian Bridge
- 6.1g Braid Street Bailey Bridge

NEW WESTMINSTER

Metro Vancouver Transportation Referendum

- **25% increase** in bus service across the region: Adding 400 more buses to the existing fleet of 1,800
- **200 more** Wavefront of 8-line routes: 11 new first- and last-mile services that can be faster than driving
- **70% of Metro Vancouver residents will have access to more frequent transit throughout the region**
More frequent all-day service: More corridors with service every 15 minutes on busier, seven-day-a-week (e.g., 12 Street, 6th Ave)
- **More frequent** local-rider service
- **50% more** Seabus service
- **More service to new and growing lower-density neighbourhoods across the region**
- **80% faster** HighBus service
- **30% more HandyDART service:** Improved service for those who cannot use transit without assistance
- **Upgrades to the Expo, Millennium and Canada Lines:** 200 additional fleet vehicles and stations U/S
- **27% More West Coast Express service:** 10 additional fleet vehicles and one new locomotive
- **13 new or expanded transit exchanges across the region 2,700 kilometres of bikeways,** including 300 kilometres of fully traffic-separated routes
- **Better connections to transit through pedestrian improvements** at urban transit stops and stations
- **Maintaining and upgrading the Major Road Network (MRN)** to keep people and goods moving

NEW WESTMINSTER

Metro Vancouver Transportation Referendum

Mail in Ballot

MARCH 16 - MAY 29, 2015

<http://mayorsouncil.ca/referendum/>



NEW WESTMINSTER

TransLink Taxi Supplement Pilot Program

Pilot Program at New West Station Bus Exchange


September 2014 to September 2015



NEW WESTMINSTER

Parkade Project Scope of Work

1. Maintenance and Rehabilitation of East Parkade
2. Deconstruction of the West Parkade
3. Beautification Mural
4. Front Street Mews



NEW WESTMINSTER **Parkade Project Traffic Impacts**

Pedestrian Access
Open at all times on Frontage Road

Vehicular Access on Front Street and Frontage Road

- Front St. (truck corridor) closed between Begbie St. and 4th St. for 12 weeks. Open during the rest of the project duration
- Some temporary closures may be needed outside the 12 week period (railing installations, paving, lights, etc.)
- Frontage Road to be closed in sections
- North-South streets to stay open to accommodate business deliveries (Begbie, McKenzie and 6th Street)

Parkade Access
Open with minor disruptions during rehab/demolition

NEW WESTMINSTER **Parkade Project Schedule**

Task	2015												2016									
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug			
Tendering																						
East Parkade Rehabilitation																						
West Parkade Demolition																						
Front Street Utilities																						
Mural Installation																						
Front Street Mews																						
Deck Membrane Installation																						

NEW WESTMINSTER **4th Street Pedestrian Overpass**

A Pedestrian and Cycling connection between the Downtown and Waterfront Pier Park

NEW WESTMINSTER **Q2Q Pedestrian and Bike Crossing**

A Pedestrian and Cycling connection between the New Westminister Waterfront and Port Royal in Queensborough

Design and Construction 2015-2017

NEW WESTMINSTER **Q2Q Pedestrian and Bike Crossing**

BRIDGE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

NEW WESTMINSTER **Braid Bridge Crossing**