

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR TRANSIT,
BICYCLES AND PEDESTRIANS (ACTBiPed)**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Council Chamber & Chamber Meeting Room
City Hall**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone	- Chair
Stephen Braverman	- Committee Member
Andrew Feltham (arrived at 6:34 pm)	- Committee Member
Brad Cavanagh	- Committee Member
Jennifer Wolowic	- Committee Member
Roland Guasparini (left at 7:27 pm)	- Committee Member
Adam Hempstock	- Committee Member
Andrew Murray	- Committee Member

MEMBER REGRETS:

Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative
Véronique Boulanger	- Committee Member

STAFF:

Stephen Blore	- Transportation Planner, Engineering Services
Lisa Leblanc	- Manager, Transportation, Engineering Services
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Secretary, Engineering Services
Sgt. Paul Fayle	- New Westminster Police Department

GUESTS:

Mary Wilson	- Community Member
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The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

Councillor Johnstone reminded members of the importance of RSVP'ing whether or not they will be attending each meeting, as a number of things need to be considered when planning committee meetings including quorum, catering, room size, etc.

Also, in an effort to reduce paper waste, members were asked to let Carilyn know if they require a hard copy of the agenda package for each meeting. In the future, meeting agendas will be provided for everyone and full agenda packages will be printed only for those who request it.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA & ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1.1 Additions to Agenda & Adoption of May 3, 2017

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda of the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians meeting held on May 3, 2017 be received and adopted with the following changes/additions:

- 1. New Business, Item 5.3 – Downtown Strategic Transportation Plan, will be addressed after Item 4.1 – 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets to accommodate a member who must leave the meeting early;*
- 2. Addition of New Business, Item 5.6 – Bike to Work Week – Andrew Feltham;*
- 3. Addition of New Business, Item 5.7 – New West Grand Prix – Jennifer Wolowic.*

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of March 8, 2017

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians meeting held on March 8, 2017 be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets – Stephen Blore**
(See Item 4.1, *Unfinished Business: 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets*)

- 3.2 Transit Priorities – Andrew Feltham**
(See Item 5.5, *New Business: Transit Priorities*)

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets – Stephen Blore (Item 3.1, Presentation: 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets)

Stephen Blore, Transportation Planner, recapped the original, November 2, 2016, motion put forward to Council by the ACTBiPed requesting that Council direct staff to adopt a policy of 30km/h on all greenways and bikeways within the City, 24 hours a day, and to explore the possibility of expanding that to all routes which are currently designated as “No Cycling on Sidewalk” zones. Stephen’s presentation will be forwarded to members.

The following discussion ensued:

- Speed behaviour, traffic counts, etc., will be studied before and after the implementation of the 30 km/h speed limit;
- Pavement markings and other design modifications could be applied in addition to the regulatory signage, if excessive speeds are noted;
- The request for municipalities to determine their own default speed limit went to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) and the Union of BC Municipalities multiples times and it was rejected; municipalities, however, set their own speed limits with appropriate signage;
- Staff will cost out the implementation of a 30 km/h zone throughout the City and include that cost in the report to Council;
- A member of the Committee expressed that this Policy did not go far enough and that all streets in the City should be 30 km/h.

Committee members were asked if they agreed with the direction staff were taking on the implementation of the 30 km/h speed limit on greenways and streets and the following motion was passed.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the ACTBiPed endorse proceeding with the implementation of 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets as presented at the May 3, 2017 meeting.

CARRIED.

Roland Guasparini voted in opposition to the motion.

Members were asked to consider if they would like to see the entire 2017 capital budget for cycling improvement put towards the implementation of a 30 km/h speed limit or if they would rather use a portion of the budget for the 30 km/h implementation project and the remainder for spot improvements.

The following discussion ensued:

- Allocating the entire budget to one project would leave less discretionary funding available for other bikeway improvements;
- A press release could advise the public of the City's policy to work towards a 30 km/h speed limit on greenways and bikeways, including the plan for implementation;
- Some members were in favour of instating the 30 km/h speed limit all at once;
- Expectations need to be managed; full implementation of a 30 km/h speed limit will necessitate the installation of regulatory signage requiring a great deal of manpower and the City may not have the resources to get it all done this year;
- Staff to provide updates on the 30 km/h implementation at subsequent ACTBiPed meetings.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Update on Connaught Heights Traffic Calming Plan – Stephen Blore (Item 7.2, Report: *Connaught Heights Traffic Calming Plan*)

Points included in this report from the ACTBiPed Projects Sub Committee meeting of April 19, 2017, will be considered as we move forward with our quick wins. Members were asked for additional quick wins they may want considered.

The following discussion ensued:

- Sidewalks will be installed on City property, and homeowners will be contacted regarding overgrown shrubbery, parking on boulevards, and other encroachments that may be impacted;

5.2 Brunette Fraser Regional Greenway(BFRG) - Braid Street Design – Lisa Leblanc (Item 7.3, Report: *Brunette Fraser Regional Greenway*)

The BFRG – Braid Street Design was also addressed at the ACTBiPed Projects Sub Committee meeting. Consultants are advancing the design and determining how to treat rail crossing warning signage, etc. Designs for the railway crossings are also proceeding and work is expected to start in early September of this year.

The following discussion ensued:

- In addition to signage, pavement markings should be installed at both the beginning and the end of the Greenway, warning of trucks turning;
- A physical barrier will be installed to separate parking and the bike path;
- Re-painting of pavement markings is included in the work to be done this year;
- Connecting cyclists coming off Fader Street to the Greenway is not a part of the plan; however, directional signage may be added.

5.3 Downtown Strategic Transportation Plan – Lisa Leblanc/Kanny Chow (Item 7.4, Report: *Downtown Strategic Transportation Plan*)

Kanny Chow, Transportation Engineer, was unable to attend tonight as he was at the Downtown Residents' Association meeting. Lisa stated that as this is the beginning of the study, staff are looking to members for their initial thoughts on the project. The City has money from development, as conditions of rezoning, which can be applied to improvements. Three phases of public engagement are planned with the first to take place in June and the second in the fall. The third phase will occur once staff receive feedback, refine their analysis, and have recommendations for the final plan. This should be done in time to inform the 2018 budget, around November 2017.

The following discussion ensued:

- Agnes Street Greenway and other Downtown bike routes could be the next in the implementation of the 30 km/h speed limit;
- Staff noted that public bike share is mentioned in the Master Transportation Plan; however, it is beyond the scope of this plan.
- A member shared that the City's traffic calming policy states that a non-vote, or lack of selection, is counted as being in favour of the issue's recommendation and wondered if this same policy will apply. Staff responded that it is important to ensure consultation provides an accurate assessment of how residents feel about the issue at hand;
- Staff request public input on various issues to assist with the project design process and these findings are shared with Council through a report. While staff strives to get balanced feedback on issues, it can be challenging to get residents to take part and provide feedback. Staff can only report on input that is actually received from residents and, therefore, it is important for all views, both in support and opposed, be communicated.

5.4 Draft New Westminster Bike Map – Stephen Blore

Members were asked for feedback on the bike map.

The following discussion ensued:

- Burnaby's map shows connectors, including what are currently being used as popular bike routes. New Westminster should consider this to fill in gaps like those found in the northwest/southeast corridors north of Royal Avenue – First Avenue or Second Avenue could be identified as a connector in this area;
- The New Westminster Pier Park elevator could be added as a connector;
- Staff noted that some of the changes to the map include:
 - Boyd Street between Duncan Street and Howes Street;
 - The McBride Boulevard and Columbia Street intersection;
 - Correction of incorrect/inconsistent symbols in certain areas, etc.;

- New Westminster should consider using the same symbols that other cities use;
- New Westminster should consider using the same symbols/colours in TransLink's map where possible;
- Signage should warn cyclists of the odd design of the McBride Boulevard and Columbia Street intersection;

As Roland Guisparini, Committee Member, was unable to stay for this portion of the meeting, he provided the following comments/suggestions via email (note: original comments have been modified for brevity):

- Downtown: Need recommended street routes to connect uptown and downtown to parks, greenways, and paths;
- Carnarvon Street: With thousands of current residents and thousands more expected with proposed developments, the nine blocks of Carnarvon Street should be a parkway that is user-friendly for pedestrians and cyclists. This direct route is used to access Columbia Square Plaza, SkyTrain stations, etc.
- Columbia Street Downtown/Central Valley Greenway: People may opt to cycle on Carnarvon Street instead of Columbia Street as they may feel safer;
- Restricted Sidewalks: Streets with restricted sidewalks could be marked in red or orange on the map instead of having so much explanatory wording.

5.5 Transit Priorities – Andrew Feltham

Andrew Feltham, Committee Member, encouraged members to start thinking about transit priority opportunities now since they will be addressed in September as part of the Committee's work plan. Andrew shared his experiences on transit and transit priorities including:

- Priority for buses to enter into traffic when signalling (from a bus stop or lane);
- Lanes and signal priority which enable transit to move efficiently

Transit priority measures may improve the reliability of bus service, increase the capacity of bus service, are critical to the viability of high-frequency routes, and achieve better use of existing road capacity.

The following discussion ensued:

- Changes to C3 & C4 bus routes have improved things; however, they are still often off schedule during the evening commute due to Columbia Street;
- When travelling from Richmond during rush hour, it is often faster to take the SkyTrain downtown and then bus to New Westminster;
- The C9 route would be a good one to look at for improvement;
- Buses get delayed on Sixth Street going towards Royal Avenue as vehicles queue for the Pattullo Bridge;

- It is helpful for staff to hear from people who use the transit system on a regular basis. Staff want to be strategic, get input from TransLink, and plan from there;
- Staff can work on the 410 route in our region; however, it also has to be improved on in a much larger scale;
- Carilyn will forward a link from Lisa that outlines how well the various transit regions are doing with respect to land use planning and transportation system planning.

5.6 Bike to Work Week – Andrew Feltham

Andrew let everyone know about the upcoming Bike to Work Week which will take place from Monday, May 29th to Sunday, June 4th. Carilyn will send out a link to the HUB page for more information.

5.7 New West Grand Prix – Jennifer Wolowic

Jennifer Wolowic, Committee Member, reminded members of the New West Grand Prix bike race taking place in the City on Tuesday, July 11th. Organizers are seeking volunteers to help set up fences, stages, man crosswalks, etc. They are also recruiting homestays for the athletes. More information can be found at newwestgrandprix.com.

6.0 NETWORK UPDATES

No items.

7.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.1 Report: 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets

No report received. This was addressed under Item 3.1, Presentations, and Item 4.1, Unfinished Business: 30 km/h on Greenways and Streets

7.2 Report: Update on Connaught Heights Traffic Calming Plan

This was addressed under Item 5.1, Update on Connaught Heights Traffic Calming Plan

7.3 Report: Brunette Fraser Regional Greenway (BFRG) - Braid Street Design

This was addressed under Item 5.2, Brunette Fraser Regional Greenway

7.4 Report: Downtown Strategic Transportation Plan (see Item 5.3)

This was addressed under Item 5.3, Downtown Strategic Transportation Plan.

7.5 Action List

Staff continue to work through the items Andrew Feltham commented on, with some of the issues being addressed through various work plans. All items on the List should receive applicable comments (even if they are not being addressed).

In order to plan appropriately for next year, staff need to know from Committee members if items on the Action List should be addressed as priorities or if the List is to be used simply as a reminder of items to be addressed. This conversation will be continued at another meeting.

At this time, Brad Cavanaugh, Committee member, reminded everyone of the Jane's Walks taking place on May 5th, 6th, and 7th. There will be over a dozen walks this weekend and everyone is encouraged to participate.

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

No items.

9.0 NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 7, 2017
Wednesday, September 20, 2017
Wednesday, October 18, 2017
Wednesday, November 22, 2017

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Certified correct,

Original Signed

PATRICK JOHNSTONE
CHAIR

Original Signed

CARILYN COOK
COMMITTEE SECRETARY