



## **Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians (ACTBiPed)**

**November 20, 2013 6:30 p.m.  
Council Chamber, City Hall**

### **MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Jonathan Coté	Chair
Andrew Feltham	Committee Member
Mary Wilson	Committee Member
Lukas Slotman	Committee Member
Patrick Johnstone	Committee Member
Virginia Ayers	Committee Member
Marion Orser	Committee Member
Bruce Warren	Committee Member
Devin Schellenberg (arrived at 6:42 PM)	Committee Member

**NON VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:**

Michael Ewen	School Board
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**VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:**

Keith Ross	Committee Member
Patrick Harris	Committee Member

**STAFF:**

Jerry Behl	Transportation Engineer
Eugene Wat	Manager Infrastructure Planning
Stacey Neves	Committee Secretary
Carilyn Cook	Engineering

Meeting was called to order at 6:36PM

Councillor Cote advised that both recommendations that were passed at the Committee meeting of September 11, 2013 were both adopted and passed by Council at the November 19, 2013 Council Committee of the Whole meeting.

## 1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

## 2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 2.1. Adoption of the Minutes of September 11, 2013

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians meeting held on September 11, 2013 be received and adopted with the following amendments:*

- Under item 4.4 Queensborough/BC Parkway Signs Update – Fan Jin - under “Comments made by Committee members included” *point 2 should outline:*
  - **Have the signs say “22<sup>nd</sup> Street Station/Uptown New Westminster”.**
- Under item 5.5 Queensborough to the Quay Connection – Marion Orser - under “Committee members discussed” *point 3 should outline:*
  - **Future floodplain levels, as it is anticipated to rise by 1m over the next 40 years, and the integrity of the bridge structure of each option.**

**CARRIED**

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

## 3.0 PRESENTATIONS

## 4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 4.1 Master Transportation Plan Update – Jerry Behl

The Committee was updated on the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) through a presentation by Staff (see Engineering for attachment). The Committee was advised that the (MTP) is currently at the draft plan stages which will be presented to Council on November 25, 2013. Public consultation is anticipated to commence in January 2014.

General discussion ensued on the bike network, transit network, sidewalks and the great streets concept by Committee members.

### 4.2 Construction Compromising Pedestrian Routes – Mary Wilson/Stacey Neves

Committee members were presented with the first draft of the City’s Street Occupancy Permit procedures (see Engineering for attachment). Members discussed compromised pedestrian routes during Construction. Staff advised the Committee that these procedures are currently in their draft stages and that Engineering Staff will collaborate with the Building department to work on guidelines to be followed when the roadway, bicycle lanes and sidewalks will be impeded. All applications for Street Occupancy Permits are viewed one by one as different sites vary on conditions to be followed. The development of an informational sheet will be prepared for distribution with building permit application packages outlining street occupancy permit requirements. Committee members will be able to take a look at the procedures within the 2014 term and be able to provide comments.

Committee Members Discussed:

- Permit requirements for occupancy of City boulevards.
- How “Share the road” signage should be implemented in all closures not just those affecting a greenway or dedicated cycling route.
- The difference between the City’s bicycle checklist developed by the Committee earlier in the year and the new Street Occupancy Permit Procedure. Staff advised the bicycle checklist is utilized more at the design process vs. the construction process.

**5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Intersection Safety Review – McBride Boulevard and East Columbia Street  
Crosswalk**

Staff summarized the “Intersection Safety Review – McBride Blvd and E Columbia St Crosswalk” report to Council with a technical study prepared by Associated Engineering at the November 4, 2013 Committee of the Whole Meeting; Council referred this item to the ACTBiPed Committee for feedback.

Four options were presented to the Committee to address current safety concerns at the existing crossing:

1. Option 1 is the status quo option with no modifications. Committee members felt that this would not be a viable option as numerous safety concerns have been reported since the intersection was modified as part of the Central Valley Greenway development.
2. Option 2 indicated moving the crosswalk south to the corner of the intersection to improve visibility. Committee members felt that this option would be problematic as the option provides an unacceptable circuitous routing and grade for pedestrians and cyclists accessing the crosswalk from the Central Valley Greenway. Furthermore, this option presents a safety concern in the event that a cyclist being unable to stop at such a steep gradient, forcing them into traffic along McBride Blvd.
3. Option 3 indicated removal of the corner section of the heritage wall to increase the sight distance. Committee members felt that although sightlines would be improved that the alignment of the Central Valley Greenway would be compromised which could turn into a safety concern as users would no longer be following the desire line of the Greenway.
4. Option 4 indicated moving the crosswalk to the corner to improve visibility and re-align the Central Valley Greenway through an approximately 5 meter opening in the heritage wall. Committee members felt out of the four options this one would work best. It was also suggested that the crosswalk be painted to stand out to drivers turning the corner.

Committee members also discussed:

- The sun blinding drivers at the intersection.
- The heritage value to the retaining wall as the heritage buildings have been removed and solely the retaining wall remains.
- That this heritage retaining wall remains as a reminder of the less humane treatment of people
- Having arrow heads in all the bulbs along the traffic signal. So that a red arrow exists.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*WHEREAS* the Central Valley Greenway is an important regional and local greenway system

*WHEREAS* significant safety issue exist at the current crossing

*WHEREAS* option 2 and 3 do not significantly improve the safety and will introduce new safety issues at the intersection.

*WHEREAS* option 2 provides an unacceptable curvature and grade differential for pedestrians and cyclists.

*WHEREAS* option 4 will only have less than a 2% impact on the heritage wall

Let it be resolved that ACTBiPed recommends:

*THAT* Council endorse option 4 and explore other options to improve the effectiveness of the right turn signal.

**CARRIED**

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

**5.2 Speed Limits on Greenways**

Committee members discussed that the City of Vancouver was exploring options of speed limits along greenways and requested that this be explored for the City of New Westminster. Staff advised that they will look into this and report back at a future Committee Meeting.

**6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

**6.1 Action List Discussion**

**6.1.a) Update from previous meetings**

**Marion – last meeting London Street.**

**6.1.b) Member Concerns**

**7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.0 NEXT MEETING**

**TBD**

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

**Councillor Jonathan Coté**  
**CHAIR**

**Stacey Neves**  
**COMMITTEE SECRETARY**