

## **DRAFT**

### **BICYCLE NETWORK SUBCOMMITTEE**

March 9, 2009

#### **MINUTES**

A meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Sub-Committee was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Strathcona Room, Sub-ground, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Gertjan Hofman, Chair  
Jack Becker  
Rhiannon Chernencoff  
Colin Brander  
Michelle  
Peter Stary (Sustainability)  
David Lewis (Engineering)

#### **1. Olympic and Paralympic Update**

David Lewis (Engineering Services) provided an update on ongoing Olympic and Paralympic operations in the City of Vancouver.

Temporary Detours. David mentioned that the City will keep the "Bike route updates" updated on the website for the latest information on any major detours along bikeways - this includes Olympic related closures. David Lam, Convention Centre and Village Seawall are all scheduled to re-open for April. Midlothian (HIL) is now open, but the Olympic detour will still be advertised until VANOC operations are complete.

Cycling during the Games. During the Games CoV were monitoring traffic which included pedestrians and cyclists entering the Downtown at specific locations. David noted that while preliminary, the cycling volumes were up considerably compared to previous winter months, and at some links were more comparable to summer volumes.

Bike Valet. During the Games there were over 1200 bike parking locations available throughout the city. BEST were conducting counts at each location daily, and were also asking guest to fill out an optional survey. Bike Valet counts varied at each location and in total had over 3,000 bikes parked at the valets (peak 400/day) - with LiveCity Yaletown, BC Place, and Vancouver Olympic Centre being the busier locations.

Members noted that while there were bike detours and roads closed during the Games that were an inconvenience, the weather and decrease in vehicle volumes Downtown made cycling one of the easier ways to get around the City. Regarding Bike Valet, members noted that some of the locations were difficult to access with Venue security and operation fencing.

#### **2. Website Update**

David Lewis (Engineering Services) noted that BNSC 2010 schedule is now posted with the BAC schedule (<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/civicagencies/bicycle/>), and future agendas and minutes should also be available within the site.

David also mentioned that the City has recently signed up with the social media site Facebook. The "Fan Page" is to be used as a tool to communicate with different types of cyclists (e.g. commuters and casual) and to help reach out to different demographics. The page would be used to advertise existing content found on [Vancouver.ca/bikevancouver](http://Vancouver.ca/bikevancouver). In addition David mentioned that the City is looking into having an RSS feed, as a method to notify cyclists of bikeway updates.

Members noted that not everyone subscribes to Facebook, and that the site should be used to enhance City website and that all content should be available at [Vancouver.ca](http://Vancouver.ca). Members showed support for an RSS feed that would notify subscribers of changes.

### 3. Dunsmuir Viaduct and Downtown Connections

When the Dunsmuir Viaduct re-opened after a four week Olympic closure; cyclists were greeted with a new two-way separated bike path connecting the network of downtown bike lanes with the Adanac Bikeway. The path was created by re-locating existing concrete barriers and adding appropriate road markings and signs. The viaduct continues to carry two lanes of westbound vehicle traffic into downtown.

David Lewis (Engineering services) mentioned that the next step is the planning of the Downtown connections from the Viaduct to Burrard Bridge. David mentioned that staff are currently reviewing options with public consultation scheduled for Spring 2010.

Staff are currently in the preliminary planning stages of the project and will be reporting back to BNSC in April to discuss potential route options. David asked if any members of the BAC would be interested in volunteering with public consultation as the City moves forward with their plans. The following names were put forward; Rhiannon Chernencoff, Colin Brander, Jack Becker, Richard Campbell (not present).

The rest of the meeting was an informal discussion on potential route options and configurations of the Downtown connections. Members noted that further discussion is needed on having a two-way separated facility noting that while the route will be quite visible (high volume) that intersections may be difficult. Members also expressed interest in a parking study, to better examine the effects on any loss of parking to Downtown businesses. Many noted that their personal experience is that most shoppers downtown would walk/bike/transit.

Members were also interested in trying different types of separated bike facilities and that this project presents a good opportunity for this. Staff mentioned that the City currently has 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Burrard Bridge and Dunsmuir Viaduct as three different types of separation. Other questions pertaining space available in street right-of-way for future expansion of separated facility, noting that Copenhagen is now expanding to 2.2+ metres and using different types of barriers were also discussed. Members also noted that staff should look at passing widths for 2-way separated facility and potentially having additional width for cyclists facing on-coming vehicle traffic (comfort levels).

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NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
17H30 TUESDAY APRIL 13, AT CITY HALL IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2.