

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 18, 2006

MINUTES

A meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, September 20, 2006, at 5:30 p.m., in the Strathcona Room, Subground, City Hall.

PRESENT: Bonnie Fenton, Chair
Jack Becker
Graeme Brown
Allison Felker
Kari Hewett, Vice-Chair
Neil Salway
Mary Sherlock
Kay Teschke
Ken Timewell

ABSENT: Justin Berger (Leave of Absence)
Colin Brander (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer, Transportation
Scott Edwards, Manager, Greenways & Neighbourhood
Transportation
Gertjan Hofman, Chair, Bicycle Network Sub-committee
Peter Stary, Bicycle Program Coordinator, Neighbourhood
Transportation
Bruce Chown, Chair, Advisory Committee on Seniors
Issues
Paul Storer, Greenways & Neighbourhood Transportation

ALSO ABSENT: Councillor Peter Ladner
Commissioner Heather Holden, Vancouver Park Board
Trustee Allan Wong, Vancouver School Board

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Laura Kazakoff, Meeting Coordinator

Attendance

Leaves of absence were granted for this meeting to Colin Brander and Justin Berger.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 20, 2006, meeting were adopted.

Correspondence

The correspondence folder was circulated.

1. Burrard Bridge Update

Scott Edwards, Manager of Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, provided a brief update, noting the closing date for the Request for Proposals for Burrard Bridge has been extended for one week. Staff will provide a further update at the next Committee meeting.

2. Proposed CD-1 Rezoning Application: 5475 Dunbar Street and 3625 & 3641 West 39th Avenue

Peter Stry, Bicycle Program Coordinator, noted this item was dealt with at the last Bicycle Network Sub-committee, and will therefore be discussed during the Sub-committee Reports part of the agenda.

3. Advisory Committee on Seniors' Issues

Bruce Chown, Chair, Advisory Committee on Seniors' Issues, provided an overview of the Committee, including its mandate, membership, sub-committees and their reporting process, City initiatives and projects which the Committee has provided input to, and their community outreach program. Mr. Chown noted he could look into having the Bicycle Advisory Committee invited to one of their future meetings.

During discussion it was noted that while there is not a lot of overlap in regard to the work of the two Committees, there are still several key areas of concern and interest to both, such as the Burrard Bridge and Southeast False Creek. One member noted it would be desirable to have a process whereby the two Committees could discuss items of common concern, however, acknowledged the difficulties this would pose with regard to timing.

4. Vancouver Police Department (VPD) Bike Patrol

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

5. Union of British Columbia Municipalities: Support for Amendment to Cycling Policy

The Chair and Jack Becker brought forward a request that the Committee lend its support to a motion from the Sunshine Coast Regional District to the upcoming Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference.

The Committee, therefore,

RESOLVED

THAT the Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that the Vancouver City Council representatives to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) support the following motion being put forward at the UBCM Conference in October:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Ministry of Transportation to amend the Cycling Policy to provide for the construction of bicycle lanes or other provisions for bicycle traffic

whenever works compatible with such construction are taking place adjacent to roadways.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Given the short time frame, it was agreed the Chair would forward the Committee's support for the UBCM motion to its Council liaison, Councillor Ladner, and to Councillor Capri, who is the Council representative to the UBCM.

6. Sub-committee Reports

a. *Bicycle Network Sub-committee*

Gertjan Hofman, Chair of the Bicycle Network Sub-committee, reviewed the notes from the October 4, 2006, meeting (*distributed - on file in the City Clerk's Office*). Comments and discussion points are noted below under the specific topic headings.

Rezoning application: 39th at Dunbar (Midtown Bikeway)

The sub-committee provided comments on this project, which were generally supported by the Committee.

Geometric changes, 12th/Trafalgar & Kitsilano Diversion

General support was offered for the "normalizing" of the intersection at 12th and Trafalgar. Options regarding pavement allocations, such as bike lanes and shared wide curb lanes, were referred back to the Bicycle Network Sub-committee for further discussion and possible motion.

Cambie Street restoration

Donny Wong, Rapid Transit Office, provided an overview of the report scheduled for Council's consideration the next day, which outlines a number of different proposed changes to Cambie Street in connection to its restoration following the Canada Line construction.

During discussion it was agreed the Committee stands by its earlier resolution passed on May 18, 2005, in support of bicycle lanes along the entire length of Cambie Street and for the reduction of motorized traffic lanes. For reference purposes, the previously passed motion is copied below:

THAT the Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that, in regard to proposed bicycle facilities associated with construction of the RAV line along the Cambie Street right-of-way:

- *a preferred bike lane design for the full length of Cambie from Kent Avenue to the north end of Cambie Bridge be developed; and*
- *in view of the additional transportation capacity provided by RAV that the reduction of space for cars on Cambie be supported in accordance with Vancouver Transportation Plan and Cool Vancouver objectives and to create space where needed by bicycles.*

Carried unanimously by the Committee on May 18, 2005

b. *Bicycle Education and Promotion Sub-committee*

Kari Hewett, Chair, and Mary Sherlock, Co-Chair, Bicycle Education and Promotion Sub-committee, reviewed the notes from the October 12, 2006, meeting (distributed - on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Subsequent Committee discussion focused on the One Day, One School program and proposed motion of support for the initiative and for the provision of adequate bike racks at participating schools. The Chair noted a motion of support for the program had been passed previously by the Committee, and suggested she would follow up with the School Board Trustee liaison to the Committee in regard to issues raised at today's meeting.

7. Annual Report

The Committee discussed matters related to the preparation of an annual report, noting the difficulty posed by the current interim status of the Committee. It was agreed that a report should be prepared and presented to Council; however, it would likely not be as comprehensive a report as last year's report.

Members were requested to submit brief summaries of the work they have been undertaking in regard to the 2005 workplan to the Chair and Vice-Chair, who will begin compiling the information into a draft report.

8. Public Education: Behaviour at Traffic Circles

Mary Sherlock noted there is a huge lack of awareness among both motorists and cyclists regarding the proper use of traffic circles, especially in terms of who has the right of way, and wondered how this serious problem could be addressed.

Comments during subsequent discussion included the following:

- education of the public is key; a major marketing campaign should accompany any "new" type of traffic facility, such as bike boxes, bicycle lanes, and traffic circles;
- staff noted ICBC had previously sponsored a series of clips regarding traffic circles, which have already been aired on television;
- Provincial drivers' licensing and training programs should include rules regarding traffic circles;
- it was noted there is no excuse for incorrect left turns at circles, as they are all clearly marked to keep right at all times; enforcement is required for these willful violations;
- staff noted the ICBC BikeSense manual is an excellent document; it was also noted the present driver manual contains a lot more information regarding interaction with cyclists than previous versions, and as it is in a modular format to allow easy updating, ICBC may be open to receiving suggestions for additional information.

The Committee agreed to first ascertain what information is contained in the current Driver Training Manual, then consider whether or not to invite a representative from ICBC to discuss this matter further.

9. New Business

(a) 29th Avenue / Nanton Avenue Bikeway

Paul Storer, Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, provided an update on this project and reviewed three options in regard to parking for a section of Puget Drive from 29th Avenue to Eddington.

During Committee discussion, suggestion was made that a coordinated approach be undertaken to promote the use of this bikeway as a way to reduce congestion around the adjacent schools. Scott Edwards, Manager, Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, advised this could be integrated into the bikeway opening.

It was therefore, MOVED AND SECONDED,

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Committee has already supported the One Day One School initiative;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Bicycle Advisory Committee supports the 29th Avenue/Nanton Avenue Bikeway as presented by Engineering Services staff on October 18, 2006, and further notes the Committee's preference for Option "A" as presented for the section of Puget Drive between 29th Avenue and Eddington; and

FURTHER THAT the Committee recommends that schools along the route be invited to participate in the opening of this bikeway.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 15, 2006
5:30 p.m.
Strathcona Room
Sub-Ground, City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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