

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 16, 2008

MINUTES

A meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at 5:30 p.m., in the Strathcona Room, Subground, City Hall.

PRESENT: Bonnie Fenton, Chair
Jack Becker
Tim Blair
Colin Brander
Richard Campbell
Paul Dragan
Kari Hewett, Vice-Chair
Robert Holley
Trudy Lancelyn

ABSENT: Kay Teschke (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Allan Wong, Vancouver School Board
Scott Edwards, Greenways & Neighbourhood Transportation

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

Attendance

There were no objections to granting a leave of absence to Kay Teschke for this meeting.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of March 19, 2008, were adopted.

1. Overview of Transportation Planning for the Olympics 5:30-5:50

Dale Bracewell, Director, Olympic Transportation, introduced observers from TransLink and VANOC, and provided an overview of transportation planning for the Olympic Games, with particular attention to bicycle issues, for the Committee's information.

Highlights:

- need to make games successful and ensure residents and businesses are served during the games;
- City of Vancouver is looking at route planning and traffic management; transportation modeling; and pedestrian flows and linkages;
- review of host city public engagement process;
- requested input from the Committee on interests, the type of information needed over the next two years and how the Committee would like to receive it, and what to consider as the plan is developed.

In discussion it was noted:

- objectives of the Committee are to: minimize the negative impact on cycling in network; retain modal shift as much as possible; and retain any improvements to cycling infrastructure as much as possible;
- work at achieving permanent legacies from games;
- need to have adequate wayfinding and parking for cyclists, both to get to venues and to bike parking; valet bike parking is worth considering, and
- connect cycling with transit to encourage people to leave cars at home; would be an opportunity for bike sharing.

Mr. Bracewell, along with Scott Edwards, Manager - Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, and Matt Craig, TransLink, responded to questions regarding the involvement of other agencies in transportation demand management for the games, distribution of visitors with regard to accommodations and impact on transportation, and whether the City is using previously-developed ideas or generating its own.

Mr. Bracewell noted he would be returning to the Committee in late fall 2008 for an update and any suggestions for the time being can be sent to dale.bracewell@vancouver.ca

2. East Fraserlands

5:50-6:10

Kirsten Robinson, Major Projects Group, and Matthew Holm, Engineering Services, presented a proposal for Phase 1 of the East Fraserlands, including a proposed bikeway strategy, and changes requested by staff.

Highlights:

- description of area and location in the city;
- timeline and history of process; hoping to go to Council in June;
- package includes a public realm plan, and
- overview of ODP and proposed bikeways.

In discussion it was noted:

- would be an idea to move the bike lane next to the curb behind the rows of parked cars;
- consider other ways of separating bikes lanes from vehicles;
- need to plan for separation between pedestrian and bike trails;
- consider door-to-door cycling routes, and
- plan seems generally incomplete as there is no mention of modal share, cycling/pedestrian facilities are to be determined at a later stage, enshrines on-street parking, there is lack of bicycle parking in the plan, and there is a need to provide proper cycling facilities to move people from the outset.

Ms. Robinson and Mr. Holm, along with Scott Edwards, Manager - Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, Peter Stary, Engineering Services responded to questions regarding identification of rail line crossings, separation of bike paths from other modes of transportation, bicycle parking, and placement of bike lanes.

3. Review of Off-Street Bicycle Parking Requirements for Commercial Office and Multiple Residential uses 6:10-6:40

Bob MacDonald, Senior Parking Policy Engineer, and Wali Memon, Parking Policy & Development Engineer, presented a draft report with recommendations for revised Parking By-law requirements for bicycles, which includes increased bicycle space requirements for office buildings, vehicle parking reductions for provision of bicycle spaces and when bicycle spaces are added retroactively. It also has a number of security improvements including a provision of a minimum of 20 per cent bicycle lockers and 20 per cent electrical outlets (for electric bicycles).

In discussion it was noted:

- report is generally on the right track and is very encouraging;
- need to deal explicitly with needs of customers visiting commercial spaces;
- possibility of upping percentages for both bike parking spaces and electrical outlets;
- manage separate access to improve security for both cars and bikes;
- all parking should take in needs of residents, visitors and couriers;
- should eliminate vertical bike parking and bike lockers should be large enough to accommodate bicycles and cycling gear;
- possibility of incentives for those who want to go further, and
- need to include adequate lighting for all bike parking, and weather protection for class B bicycle parking.

4. Workplan and Annual Report 6:40-7:00

The Vice-Chair noted she is aiming for the annual report to come to the May meeting and is looking for assistance in drafting the report.

Robert Holley distributed notes regarding the workplan (on file in the City Clerk's Office) and asked members to think of some initiatives and components for each section.

5. Bicycle Network Sub-Committee Report 7:00-7:20

Peter Sary, Engineering Services, reviewed the notes from the last meeting on April 8, 2008 (*on file in the City Clerk's Office*), which included a recommendation from the Sub-committee to the Committee, regarding design guidelines for local street bikeways.

Scott Edwards, Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation, noted staff are compiling an inventory of traffic counts on existing bikeways, and noted that in order to do such a study as noted in the recommendation, the Committee needs to be explicit with regard to terms of reference for the study.

In discussion, it was noted there is agreement in principle but there is a need to understand the strengths and limitation of on-street bikeways so adequate changes can be made, determine needs and how/whether they are been met.

Jack Becker and Robert Holley agreed to bring back more ideas at the May meeting.

6. Correspondence

The correspondence folder was circulated.

7. Other Business

i. Vancouver School Board Bicycle Advisory Committee

Trustee Wong provided an update on the establishment of the Vancouver School Board Bicycle Advisory Committee.

ii. Bicycle Safety (Mirrors)

Ron Richings provided a sample of a Fresnel window from transport for London, England that allows better visibility of cyclists, particularly for tall vehicles.

Next Meeting:

DATE: Wednesday, May 21, 2008
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Strathcona Room, Subground, City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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