



## ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL

### MINUTES

June 17, 2015

A meeting of the Active Transportation Policy Council (ATPC) was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, at 5:35 pm, in the Business Centre Meeting Room, Second Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Tanya Paz, Chair  
Dean Alexander  
Eric Brooke, Vice-Chair  
John Calimonte  
Joan Andersen  
Eugene Chin  
Lisa Corriveau  
Peggy Harowitz  
Simon Jay  
Adam Kebede  
Molly Millar  
Lisa Slakov  
Adam Vasilevich

**ABSENT:** Veronika Bylicki (Leave of Absence)  
Amelia Huang (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dale Bracewell, Manager, Active Transportation (Staff Liaison)  
Lynn Guilbault, Project Manager, Stakeholder & Community Relations, Active Transportation

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator

#### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Dean Alexander  
SECONDED by Joan Andersen

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council approve leaves of absence for Veronika Bylicki and Amelia Huang, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Joan Andersen  
SECONDED by Peggy Harowitz

THAT the minutes of the Active Transportation Policy Council meeting on April 22, 2015, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Tanya Paz and Eric Brooke were elected Chair and Vice-Chair respectively, for the term ending February 28, 2017, both by acclamation.

### **1. Council Liaison Update**

None.

### **2. Park Board/School Board Liaison Updates**

The Chair referenced the Park Board Report dated May 29, 2015 previously circulated by Commissioner John Coupar.

### **3. ATPC 2015 Priorities Update**

The Committee reviewed and updated tasks set out in the "ATPC 2015 Priorities" document.

### **4. Items From Previous Meetings**

#### **(a) Parking (September 17, 2014)**

This item was dealt with under New Business.

#### **(b) Defining ATPC (April 22, 2015)**

It was noted the website changes requested at the meeting on April 22, 2015, have been made.

#### **(c) All Meetings - Notes on Website (April 22, 2015)**

The Meeting Coordinator advised that at present, the City cannot accommodate posting Civic Agency working session and subcommittee minutes to the City's website. Eric Brooke advised he will work with Corporate Communications on an alternative solution.

**(d) Active Transportation Public Spaces/Plazas (April 22, 2015)**

The Chair noted this matter will be dealt with under Subcommittee Updates.

**(e) Cycling Education (April 22, 2015)**

Lynn Guibault advised a Request for Qualifications was issued by the City to develop and implement a program for Active School Travel Cycling Education for elementary school students and parents.

**(f) Dark Sky/Lighting Presentation (April 22, 2015)**

It was noted this matter was discussed at the Policies Subcommittee meeting on June 10, 2015, with staff from the Streets and Electrical Design Branch, and that a motion is being put forward under Subcommittee Updates.

**5. Subcommittee Updates**

**(a) Selection of Members**

It was agreed to postpone selection of subcommittee members until the September 23, 2015, meeting. John Calimente, Chair, Projects Committee and Molly Millar, Chair, Policies Subcommittee, agreed to provide lists of their members for the meeting.

**(b) Projects Subcommittee Update**

*(i) Burrard Bridge and Burrard/Pacific Project*

MOVED by Dean Alexander  
SECONDED by Lisa Corriveau

WHEREAS

1. The intersection at Burrard Street and Pacific Street has the second highest number of traffic collisions in the City of Vancouver;
2. The City of Vancouver's Transportation 2040 Plan calls for a focus on shifting modes to active transportation;
3. Pedestrian traffic across the Burrard Bridge has been steadily increasing but is currently restricted to using only the western sidewalk;
4. There has already been a significant increase in cycling across the Burrard Bridge and the current northbound route on the narrow eastern sidewalk is unsafe;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council supports the proposal presented by City staff, especially the following:

- Provides safer protected connections moving people out of the intersection in all directions;
- Gives pedestrians access to eastern sidewalk;
- Within the extent of the project there is a net increase in trees and green space; and
- Removal of slip lanes, normalizing the intersection for increased pedestrian safety.

AND FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council suggests adding the following:

- Permitting pedestrians to cross at all four sides of the Burrard and Pacific intersection. The priority for safety and convenience over other modes needs to be part of the design of this section for the first time;
- An eastbound All Ages and Abilities (AAA) bicycle route from Pacific Street at Bute Street, crossing Burrard Street, to join up with the AAA infrastructure on Pacific Street east of Burrard Street - even if this means removal of one tree. The tree may be compromised by root upheaval during construction anyway. A minimum of 50 new trees will be planted as part of this project; and
- Upgrading the west side and east side stairs to modern accessibility standards.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(ii) *St. Augustine's Elementary School Project*

MOVED by Adam Vasilevich

SECONDED by Simon Jay

WHEREAS

1. The Active Transportation Policy Council does not support the proposal for St. Augustine's Elementary School as it prioritizes vehicles over other transportation modes;
2. Drive-through schools should never be encouraged as they are dangerous and also discourage active transportation modes to school;
3. Adding driveways to the bike network is counter to City Council policy;
4. The current proposed street changes and vehicle drop-off design increase the risk to student health with respect to traffic safety and air quality. Studies have shown that vehicular drop off represents a significant risk to students' health with respect to collisions and air quality. Increasing vehicular traffic not only to the site but through the site represents an unreasonable increase in risk to student well-being;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council recommends that the City of Vancouver mitigate health concerns by:

- (a) Reviewing the streets changes with the sites building air-intakes in mind. Indoor air quality of offices, schools, and other workplaces is important not only for individuals comfort but also for their health. Poor indoor air quality has been tied to symptoms like headaches, fatigue, trouble concentrating, and irritation of the eyes, nose, throat and lungs.
- (b) Provide an analysis for traffic drop-off impact for the currently proposed design. The analysis would answer concerns regarding idling and how long it would take to drop-off a student and clear the site.
- (c) Provide a mid-block crosswalk and bike lane opening on West 7th Avenue between Arbutus and Yew Streets.

FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council recommends that the City of Vancouver staff encourage St. Augustine's Elementary School to explore means to reduce vehicular traffic through car-pooling or school bus system like other private schools that draw students from a larger catchment (e.g. St. George's School).

FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council urges the City of Vancouver and St. Augustine's to work together to ensure the continuation of a healthy, safe, comfortable and welcoming school site for all modes, prioritizing active transportation.

AND FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council recommends that the proposed protected bike lane on West 7th Avenue between Arbutus and Yew Streets extend for the whole block.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(c) **Policies Subcommittee Update**

(i) *Special Events*

MOVED by Joan Andersen  
SECONDED by Eric Brooke

WHEREAS

1. Special Events are an opportunity to encourage participants to use Active Transportation to attend events;
2. Special Events, Active Transportation (Engineering) and the Park Board are working together on encouraging Active Transportation to access events;

3. Several initiatives are being planned to encourage Active Transportation at Special Events including developing an information package on Active Transportation for Event Organizers and a workshop for Event Organizers that will include a presentation and discussion on Active Transportation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Special Events staff at the City and the Park Board be given a mandate to educate and incentivize Event Organizers to implement Active Transportation strategies to, from, and at their events.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(ii) *Dark Skies*

MOVED by Eric Brooke

SECONDED by Molly Millar

WHEREAS input from the Active Transportation Policy Council's Policy Subcommittee was as follows:

- #1 concern - people should be able to walk down the street and feel safe
- Car drivers should be able to see the road
- Winter and rain conditions, dangerous for active transportation modes
- Impact of light temperature on humans i.e. Blue/Orange
- Agree that lower energy consumption is a good thing
- Private lighting sources: include or exclude? Lighting on private property could be controlled via zoning bylaws
- Reduce lighting on office towers
- Better communication around lighting changes so people know what to expect
- Illuminate public art, do we need it?
- Britain uses illuminated strips on roads, cat's eyes and bumps on the road if going astray - all good things in use in that allow lighting to be reduced
- What can we learn about lighting for safety from airports?
- Glow in the dark pavement; pot lights from the bottom up?
- How reflective should all our glass be?
- What will the impact on animals and birds be?
- Challenge around compromising international standards if lighting is lowered
- Could level of lighting be varied depending on time of day?

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council supports the spirit of the motion entitled "Vancouver Outdoor Lighting Strategy", approved by City Council on February 3, 2015.

FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council supports ongoing research to determine the way forward.

AND FURTHER THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council will review the results forthcoming from the research.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(iii) *Car-free Spaces - Next Steps*

MOVED by Eric Brooke  
SECONDED by Molly Millar

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council would like to be engaged continually in the planning of Bute Plaza, to see, learn and grow as well as work with the stakeholders.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**6. Staff Liaison Update**

Dale Bracewell, Staff Liaison and Lynn Guilbault, Active Transportation, provided updates on a variety of topics including recent and upcoming public engagement activities, requests for a bike tour with the Food Policy Council, the announcement of a Fire and Rescue Services bike prevention team, and the upcoming CycleHack event taking place the weekend of June 20, 2015.

**7. New business**

**(a) Increasing Bike Parking Downtown**

MOVED by Adam Vasilevich  
SECONDED by Peggy Harowitz

WHEREAS the Active Transportation Policy Council supports increased bike parking downtown because it:

- benefits all in that it provides space for all and organizes the public realm, clearing the sidewalks for pedestrian use;
- reduces damage to property and street trees; and
- provides improved facilities and secure bike parking.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council supports the motion entitled "Options to Install 1000 New Bicycle Parking Spaces for the Secure Locking and Storage of Bicycles in the Downtown Area", being considered by Council at the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on June 24, 2015.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## Adjournment

MOVED by Dean Alexander  
SECONDED by Tanya Paz

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## Next Regular Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, September 23, 2015  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Policy Council adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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