



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 2, 2016

A meeting of the Active Transportation Policy Council was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, at 5:35 pm, in the Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

- PRESENT:** Tanya Paz, Chair
Dean Alexander
Joan Andersen
Ben Bolliger
Veronika Bylicki*
Gene Chin
Lisa Corriveau*
Paul Dragan
Molly Millar
Shan Parmar
Adam Vasilevich
- ABSENT:** Peggy Harowitz (Leave of Absence)
Amelia Huang (Leave of Absence)
Lisa Slakov (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Heather Deal (Council Liaison)
Paul Storer, Branch Manager, Transportation Design
Branch (Staff Liaison)
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Gene Chin
SECONDED by Molly Millar

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council approve leaves of absence for Peggy Harowitz, Amelia Huang and Lisa Slakov for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Veronika Bylicki and Lisa Corriveau absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Paul Dragan
SECONDED by Joan Andersen

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 28, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Evergreen Expansion Update

Sarah Ross, Acting Director, System Planning and Consultation, TransLink, provided a presentation on the Evergreen Expansion and the proposed TransLink 10 Year Vision. Questions and discussion ensued. The Committee provided feedback and suggestions to improve bike accessibility on trains as well as awareness and safety on SkyTrain and at stations for all modes.

2. Council of Councils Presentation and Term Summary

The Committee reviewed the presentation prepared by Ben Bolliger and Shan Parmar, to be presented at the Council of Councils event on November 9, 2016, thanked them for their work, and briefly discussed the summary of activities for the 2015 - 2017 term.

3. Subcommittee Updates

(a) *Policy Subcommittee Update*

No report was provided.

(b) *Projects Subcommittee Update*

(i) 700 and 900 Robson Street - Motion

The Chair introduced a motion regarding the 700 and 900 blocks of Robson Streets. It was,

MOVED by Dean Alexander
SECONDED by Veronika Bylicki

WHEREAS

1. The 800 block of Robson Street is now open to people and closed to vehicles;
2. Before the closure there were seven times the number of pedestrians walking through 800 Robson Street than people in vehicles or on buses;
3. Both the eastbound and westbound outer lanes of the adjacent blocks on Robson - the 700 and 900 blocks - are no longer useful for vehicles since they are no longer permitted to go straight to or from the 800 block of Robson;

4. Currently the 700 and 900 Robson Street outer lanes have large bollards and “Lane Narrows” signs blocking vehicles from using them, making them available to bicycles;
5. The 800 block Robson signs blocking vehicles earlier this summer allowed for slow bicycle riding, now ask people to walk their bicycles and sometimes sign placement blocks bicycles from the roadway in that block;
6. The current interim traffic plan for the 700 and 900 blocks of Robson Street are incongruent with the pedestrian only signage for the 800 block of Robson Street, which confuses people; and
7. In Vancouver and in other cities, people will bicycle through car-free spaces and therefore it is best to direct it or make it obvious;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council recommends that the City of Vancouver improve the 700 and 900 blocks of Robson Street for active transportation modes such as:

- Removing the bus stops;
- Widening the crosswalks;
- Using the location between the trees as better places for vendors;
- Otherwise enhance the environment for people walking but not to the detriment of people bicycling;
- Develop a policy regarding bicycling in car-free spaces partly based upon best practices elsewhere
e.g. http://www.ictct.org/migrated_2014/ictct_document_nr_760_703B%20Hans%20Godefrooij%20Cycling%20in%20pedestrian%20areas.pdf;

Note: This may include signs and/or modification in colour that work on surface to show people bicycling, skateboarding, inline skating and other active transportation is permitted in the space, possibly at certain times such as when it's not crowded.

- Providing all-weather bike corrals (parking) at both ends of any car-free plaza to encourage more people to gather; and
- Closing the 900 block of Robson Street to vehicles, but allowing straight through traffic through the north/southbound alley. The added advantage is potentially making the Number 5 Bus more reliable.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(ii) Next Capital Budget - Allocation for Sidewalks/New Improvements

The Chair noted there is interest in submitting a request for funding for sidewalk improvements as part of the next Capital Budget. The Staff Liaison advised public consultation on the next Capital Budget will begin in 2018.

(iii) Criteria for Active Transportation Routes Task Group

The Chair advised that a three member task group is preparing criteria for selecting potential new bike routes, and that an update on findings will be provided at one of the next Project Subcommittee meetings.

(iv) Crosswalks and #VisionZero

Following discussion regarding upcoming transportation reports to Council on December 14, 2016, Paul Storer, Staff Liaison, agreed to send a summary of transportation items slated for that day.

(v) 30kph Speed Limits on Greenways

Due to time constraints this item was tabled until the next meeting.

4. City Council Liaison Update

The Council Liaison provided updates on a variety of topics including 10th Avenue bikeway and the temporary Arbutus Greenway. Discussion ensued.

5. Chair and Member Updates

(a) *Chair Update - November 4, 2016, Deadline to Apply for the 2017 - 2018 Term*

The Chair reminded members that if reapplying they need to do so by November 4, 2016.

(b) *Chair Update - Urban Design Panel*

The Chair advised she has asked Gil Kelley, the new General Manager of Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability for an active transportation representative to be added to the Urban Design Panel.

(c) *Vancouver City Planning Commission Update - Amelia Huang*

The Chair noted an update had been provided by Amelia Huang by email.

6. Park Board/VSB/VPD Liaison Updates

Park Board Liaison report was circulated by email.

7. Staff Liaison Update

The Staff Liaison provided updates on projects on Commercial Drive, Arbutus Greenway, 10th Avenue, South Side False Creek, and 800 Robson Street and responded to questions. Members commended staff on the recent Arbutus Greenway public consultation meetings and reporting out information presented.

8. New Business

None.

Adjournment

MOVED by Paul Dragan
SECONDED by Adam Vasilevich

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Regular Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, February 1, 2017
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room
2nd Floor, Vancouver City Hall

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