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Date: 12/21/2017 1:20:44 PM

Subject: Memo - Bicycle Food Delivery Services - Safety and Road Use

Attachments: ENG - Memo to Mayor & Council - Bicycle Food Delivery Services - Safetypdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovlny in regards to bicycle food delivery services safety and road use. A short summary of the memos is as follows:

- On July 11, 2017, Council directed staff to provide information on what is known about the Bicycle Food Delivery Services industry, what regulations are already in place, what regulations are under the City's jurisdiction and potential steps to improve worker's safety.
- Currently, the City issues licenses for bicycle couriers to operate but does not have jurisdiction over regulations that address worker safety with respect to bicycle couriers which resides with WorkSafe BC.
- However, the City is committed to doing even more to make cycling safe, more comfortable and enjoyable for people of all ages and abilities. Steps have been taken to improve safety, including the completion of a Cycling Safety Study, installation of engineering treatments such as intersection bike boxes, protected bicycle lanes, protected intersections and dedicated bicycle signals among other treatments.

Should you have any questions, please contact Winston Chou, Manager of Traffic and Data Management, at 604.209.0793 or at winston.chou@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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MEMORANDUM

December 20, 2017

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor's Office
Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor's Office
Andrew Naklicki, Chief Human Resources Officer
Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: RTS 012131 - Referral to Staff - Bicycle Food Delivery Services: Safety & Road Use

On July 11, 2017, Council directed staff to provide information on what is known about Bicycle Food Delivery Services industry, what regulations are already in place, what regulations are under the City's jurisdiction and potential steps to improve worker's safety. This memo is in response to Council's request and the content includes information regarding: the bicycle courier license application process, the role of WorkSafe BC as it relates to ensuring workers safety and the City's cycling safety initiatives.

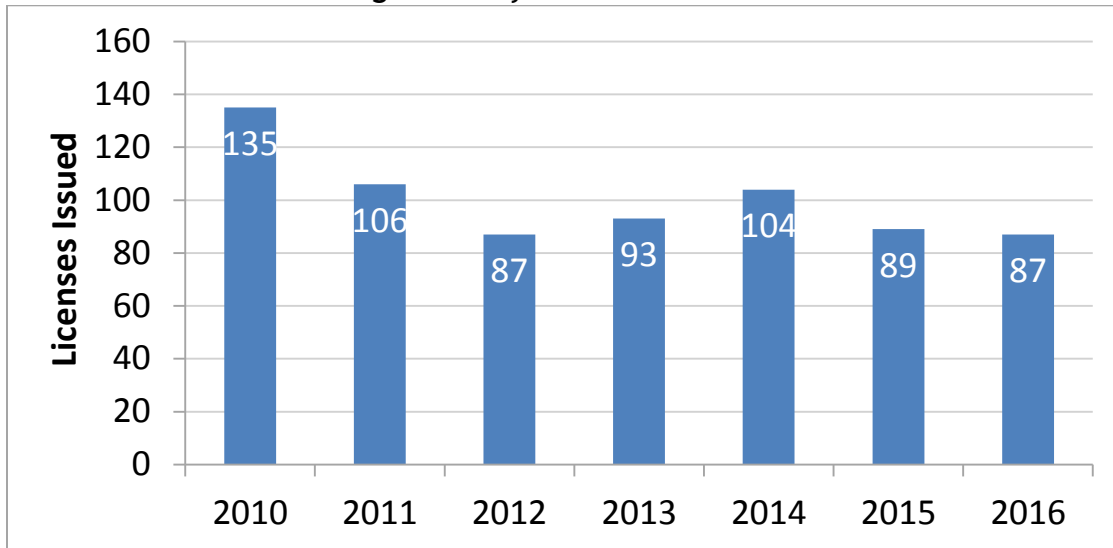
Bicycle Courier Business License Applications

Licensing for bicycle couriers is governed by the 'Vehicles for Hire By-Law #6066'

The City of Vancouver requires that all bicycle couriers be licensed. Prior to obtaining a license, they must pass a written test and be of 19 years of age or older. An application package including a 'How to Become a Courier' study guide and road safety rules is available to assist with the written test. The cost to write the test is \$36 dollars and on successful completion, a courier plate may be purchased for \$18 dollars.

Figure 1 provides the number of licenses issued in the last 7 years, demonstrating a downward trend. The license application process does not distinguish between bicycle couriers who deliver food versus other commodities.

Figure 1-Bicycle courier licenses issued



WorkSafe BC Coverage

The City of Vancouver has no jurisdiction over regulations that address worker safety with respect to bicycle couriers. This resides with WorkSafe BC.

WorkSafe BC coverage is available for independent contractors where they are considered proprietors and partners in a partnership who operate an independent business. This group is not automatically covered under the *Workers Compensation Act* as such, if eligible, proprietors and partners can purchase Personal Optional Protection (POP) coverage, which is optional workplace disability insurance. POP will pay health care, wage-loss, and rehabilitation benefits if a person is injured at work.

Under the Act, the decision regarding if a person is eligible for POP or is considered as a worker rests with WorkSafeBC.

Safety Initiatives

Although the City has no jurisdiction over regulations that address worker safety with respect to bicycle couriers, the City is committed to doing even more to make cycling safe, more comfortable and enjoyable for people of all ages and abilities. The Transportation 2040 plan adopted a target of zero transportation related fatalities. This puts a strong emphasis on safety for cyclists who are among the most vulnerable road users.

Steps have been taken to improve cycling safety in recent years, including the completion of a Cycling Safety Study, installation of engineering treatments such as intersection bike boxes, protected bicycle lanes, protected intersections and dedicated bicycle signals among other treatments. Over the past year, several improvements have been made to create more

opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to choose to cycle to get around the City and to improve safety. Improvements include:

- Upgrades and additions to the downtown bike network
- Improvements at Quebec Street and 1st Avenue
- Improved cycling route along SW Marine Drive (Granville to University Endowment Lands)
- Improvements along the Adanac Bikeway
- The addition of the Arbutus Greenway
- The completion of the Seaside Greenway link between Volunteer Park and Jericho Beach
- Additional separation between people walking and cycling on the False Creek Seawall

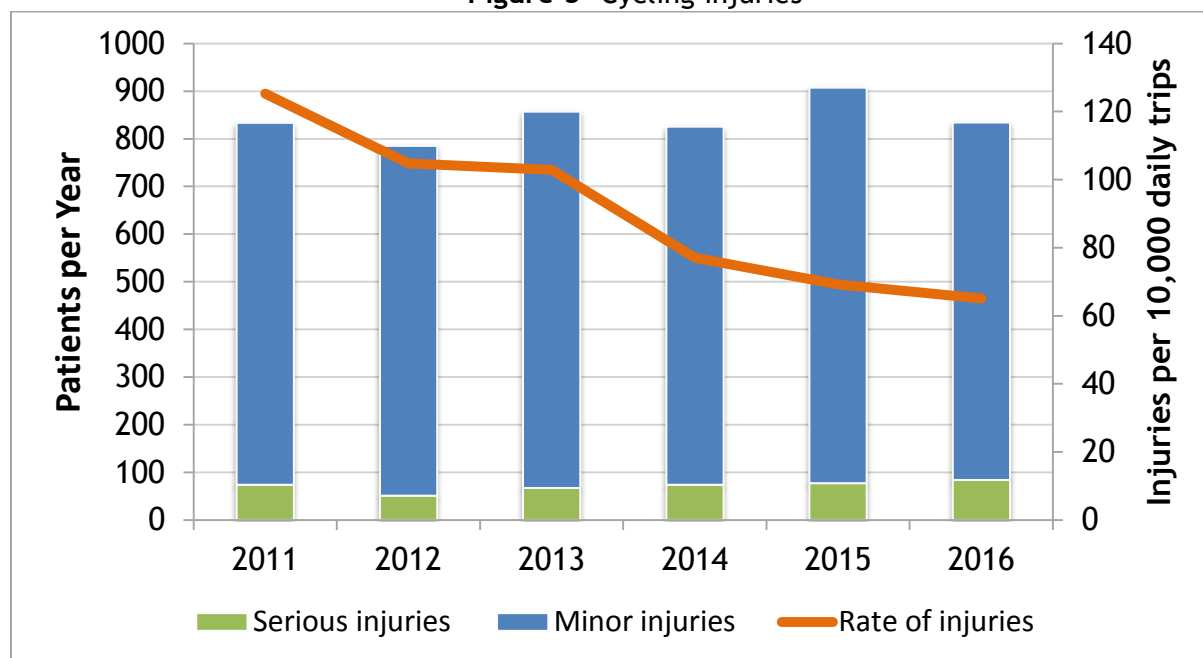
Of priority cycling routes identified in the Transportation 2040 Plan, the City has now completed Comox/Helmken Greenway, Point Grey-Cornwall section of the Seaside Greenway, spot improvements to the Union/Adanac Bikeway, and safety improvements to SW Marine Drive.

In addition, the City has worked with partners such as the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) and Vancouver Police Department (VPD) to enhance education and enforcement as it relates to cycling safety.

Through these initiatives there has been an increase in cycling trips in the City. As part of the Transportation Panel Survey, 2,500 residents have been reporting their travel patterns since 2013 which has shown that the total number of cycling trips is increasing.

Furthermore, hospital injury data from Vancouver Coastal Health has shown that the rate of cycling injuries per trip has been decreasing over the last 5 years, as detailed in Figure 3.

Figure 3- Cycling injuries



Source: Vancouver Coastal Health (2011-16) & Panel Survey (2013-16)

Conclusion

The City has no jurisdiction over regulations that address worker safety in respect to bicycle couriers. In recent years, the City has been making improvement to cycling facilities which have resulted in increased cycling trips and overall reduction of cycling collision rates.

Please contact Winston Chou, Manager of Traffic and Data Management at 604.873.7913 or winston.chou@vancouver.ca if you have any questions or require more information.



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