Greetings Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny regarding Transportation Changes at Yukon Street and West 12th Avenue. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Engineering is planning to implement a pilot closure of the Yukon St bike route to motor vehicles between W 12th Ave and the lane south to improve the safety and comfort of people walking and cycling.

- The closure will address ongoing resident concerns of vehicles speeding and shortcutting through the neighbourhood. Existing vehicle volumes are roughly 4 times above the target volume for an all ages and abilities shared cycling route.

- Staff have notified local residents regarding the pilot closure and received 21 responses. The primary resident concern is increased traffic on the local streets in the neighbourhood. Staff will continue to monitor traffic volumes on the local streets with the pilot closure in place and address any concerns.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation, at 604-873-7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu
MEMORANDUM

April 18, 2018

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
    Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
    Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
    Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office
    Rena Kendall-Craden, Communications Director
    Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
    Naveen Girn, Community Relations Director, Mayor's Office
    Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Transportation Changes at Yukon Street and West 12th Avenue

This memo is to update City Council regarding the planned closure of Yukon Street to motor vehicles in the half block south of W 12th Avenue to make it safer and more comfortable for people of all ages and abilities to walk and cycle.

Background

Yukon is a local bikeway that provides connections to other cycling routes such as the 10th Avenue bikeway, the 29th Avenue bikeway and Cambie Bridge.

Currently, vehicle volumes on Yukon are significantly higher than other nearby local streets. While a portion of the vehicle volumes are due to local access and circulation, many vehicles are observed to use Yukon to shortcut through the neighbourhood. Daily mid-week volumes exceed 1900 vehicles on Yukon south of W 12th Avenue, which is well above the 500 vehicles per day target for all ages and abilities shared cycling routes.

The planned closure is also expected to address multiple resident concerns of speeding and shortcutting through the neighbourhood, and improve the safety and comfort for all road users, particularly people walking or cycling.
Public Consultation

Notification letters were sent to the residents bounded by Cambie, Alberta Street, W 12th Avenue and W 16th Avenue during the week of March 12th, 2018. To date, staff have received 15 emails and phone calls related to the planned closure. While several of the responses were supportive of the closure and establishment of a new mini-park, some residents had concerns about their vehicular egress and having to use Cambie. There were also some concerns about increased vehicle volumes on neighbouring side streets such as Alberta and Columbia.

Design and Implementation

The closure will be implemented in spring 2018. Gravity barriers and signage will be installed on Yukon at the lane south of W 12th Ave as a pilot, to allow staff to monitor traffic patterns in the neighbourhood resulting from the closure. Long-term changes will involve further consultation and may include the creation of a mini-park. If you have any questions, please contact Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation, at 604.873.7336 or lon.laclause@vancouver.ca.

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