

June 28, 2024

MEMO TO: Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Ian Stewart, Acting Director, Park Planning and Development

SUBJECT: Stanley Park Mobility Study - Update - Board Briefing Memo

## Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the Stanley Park Mobility Study, informing the Board of the pending launch of the Phase 3 Engagement process and public survey next Thursday, July 4, 2024, along with an update in response to the Board's <u>motion</u> passed on April 22, 2024.

## Stanley Park Mobility Study - Phase 3 Engagement Launch

As noted in the Stanley Park Mobility Study <u>Board update</u> on April 22, 2024, staff are in the final phase of the study focusing on refinement and narrowing down of options. Staff will be launching a public survey to solicit public feedback on six potential mobility options that scored the highest on several criteria including safety, accessibility, and climate action. This work builds on previous engagement, planning and technical analysis to understand current and future mobility needs in the park.

The public survey will be open from Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, July 28 at 11:59 pm. Stakeholders will be notified and invited to share the survey with their networks. Public input for each option will be used with technical analysis to refine the potential options. This will inform recommendations to form the Mobility Study which once complete will be brought to the board in Q4, 2024 for decision. For more information on the options and the survey link, visit <a href="https://www.shapeyourcity.ca/stanley-park-mobility-study">www.shapeyourcity.ca/stanley-park-mobility-study</a>.

## **Interim Temporary Bike Lane Option**

On April 22, 2024, the Board passed a <u>motion</u> to integrate an option that explores alternative materials for a separated bike lane to enable faster implementation. In response to this motion, staff have updated *Option D – Park Drive with Dedicated Bike Lane*, in preparation for the public survey, to indicate that interim temporary materials could be used to ensure faster implementation. At this time, it is recommended that details on materials not be specified in the draft options for public input, as further investigation on costs, timing, safety and emergency service access is needed.

For example, "flexi-bollards" were considered in the development of the 2021 Stanley Park Drive temporary bike lane project but were not used due to their considerable cost both for installation (per linear metre) and ongoing maintenance costs over and above concrete barriers. Through engagement with Emergency Services both in 2021 and this year, staff learned that driving over flexi-bollard causes damage to the undercarriage of emergency service vehicles, including fire and rescue vehicles, and are not supported by these services.

The 2021 bike lane design included new layout design (building off lessons learned from 2020), involved extensive stakeholder engagement (including with Emergency Services), research into



alternative but robust, cost-effective materials, and contained the use of concrete barriers with flexi-bollards in key locations and gaps for emergency services. More work to is needed to determine if improvements to this design blueprint for a temporary bike lane are possible.

## Conclusion

Staff are seeking the public's feedback to determine if the general direction of a dedicated bike lane is favoured, above other mobility options that also support cycling infrastructure (i.e. bikes, e-bikes, e-scooters and other micromobility devices) along Park Drive.

Upon further analysis, research and technical review, staff have concluded that timelines for the six potential mobility options cannot be determined at this time. While all options have long term considerations, they all can be pursued using short term actions, interim temporary interim measures, pilots, additional funding, and revenue generation opportunities. These will be explored in the final phase of work and brought forward to the Board as part of the Mobility Study in Q4, 2024.

Regards,

Ian Stewart, MBCSLA (Acting)

Director, Park Planning and Development – Vancouver Parks and Recreation

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