



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

September 19, 2012

A meeting of the Active Transportation Policy Council was held on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at 5:40 pm, in City Hall Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Rhiannon Chernencoff, Chair
Graham Anderson
Joan Andersen
Adrian Bell
Eugene Chin
Keltie Craig
Jacob Hunter, Vice-Chair
Tanya Paz
Lisa Slakov
Adam Vasilevich
John Whistler
Meghan Winters

ABSENT: Dean Alexander
Tom Lancaster
Liliana Quintero (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Heather Deal, Vancouver City Council
Constable Pat Allen, Vancouver Police Department Liaison
Dale Bracewell, Manager, Active Transportation, Staff Liaison
Marnie McGregor, Active Transportation

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Lori Isfeld, Meeting Assistant

Leave of Absence Requests

Leave of absence was approved for Liliana Quintero for this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2012, were approved.

1. Subcommittee Reports

(a) Projects Subcommittee Report

Graham Anderson provided an update and responded to questions on the Subcommittee meeting held on September 12, 2012.

(i) Sidewalk Hazard Policy

Graham Anderson provided comments and along with Doug Manarin, Streets and Electrical Design Branch, and Neal Carley, Director, Streets Division, responded to questions. It was noted the report to Council has been postponed. It was also noted that any street or sidewalk hazards should be reported to 3-1-1 so that requests and work orders can be tracked.

(ii) Comox-Helmcken Greenway

Graham Anderson reviewed a draft motion regarding the proposed Comox-Helmcken Greenway, and along with Douglas Scott, Landscape Architect, Active Transportation, responded to questions. Comments were provided and concern expressed regarding managing intersections, one-way streets and Denman Street.

MOVED by Graham Anderson
SECONDED by Jacob Hunter

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Commission supports Section 1 of the Comox-Helmcken Greenway plan and recommends that staff investigate:

- A. The possibility of an additional bikeway along the lane between Burnaby and Harwood, connecting to the planned greenway along Bute. This additional bikeway would have a more favorable grade for cyclists than the current route plan.
- B. The closure of the 1100 block of Comox Street to vehicular traffic.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(iii) Other Projects

Mr. Anderson noted other Subcommittee work includes the proposed Point Gray bikeway. He advised meetings have been held with area residents and that staff is working on options for the Burrard, Cornwall and Macdonald routes and connections.

He also noted the Subcommittee is looking at ways limit traffic into the Strathcona area.

Mr. Anderson reminded the Policy Council that all members are welcome to attend Subcommittee meetings.

(b) Partnerships & Promotion Subcommittee Report

Adrian Bell provided an update and responded to questions, noting the Subcommittee is focussing on defining promotion, setting up a framework and considering the scale of what can be achieved toward active transportation change and better biking and walking in Vancouver.

Dale Bracewell thanked the Subcommittees for their hard work.

2. Transportation 2040 Plan Update

Mike Anderson, Strategic Transportation Planning Branch, provided an update and responded to questions.

MOVED by Lisa Slakov

SECONDED by John Whistler

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council urges City of Vancouver to adopt a goal of zero transportation fatalities in its Transportation 2040 Plan. This goal has been embraced by different jurisdictions, notably by Seattle in August, 2012, and it is believed that it would serve a significant role in assisting Vancouver to achieve all of its road safety goals. In doing so, it is also believed that this goal will have a very positive impact on encouraging increased participation in both walking and cycling, which are the City's priority transportation modes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Robson Street Closure

Dale Bracewell provided an update and responded to questions. He noted staff is looking at the feasibility of the closure of Robson Street as a year-round opportunity and invited Policy Council members to attend a stakeholders meeting on October 4, 2012.

MOVED by Adam Vasilevich

SECONDED by Graham Anderson

THAT the Active Transportation Policy Council submit a letter to Vancouver City Council in support of transforming the 800 block Robson Street into a place for people and creating a permanent pedestrian plaza. The ATPC looks forward to a City public engagement program with the community and stakeholders in 2012, on the future of this block. The ATPC supports the 800 block Robson Street closure in principle as it will advance active transportation in the City of Vancouver by improving the pedestrian environment and providing space for different modes of transportation with a car-free street.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Public Bike Share Update

Scott Edwards, Manager, Street Activities Branch, provided a presentation and responded to questions.

Mr. Edwards invited members to submit their comments through the publicbikeshare.ca.

5. Liaison Reports

a) Council Liaison Report

Councillor Deal provided an update on current topics in the media including Transportation 2040, BikeShare, and improving bike and pedestrian safety on City bridges.

b) Park Board Liaison Report

None.

c) School Board Liaison Report

The Chair advised the VSB has requested the ATPC to appoint a representative to attend VSB Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings, which meet on a monthly basis. It was suggested the Policy Council appoint a rep and an alternate. Ms. Chernencoff agreed to follow up on the matter.

The Policy Council also discussed appointing a member Park Board representative. It was agreed that John Whistler be appointed as the ATPC representative to the Park Board.

d) Staff Liaison Report

Dale Bracewell, Staff Liaison, reported on the following:

- The Velo-city event hosted by the City event provided a good opportunity for City staff and international participants to share information. Holding an annual and more regional cycling event is being considered.
- Update regarding the Pro Walk & Pro Bike conference recently attended by City staff. The City could consider applying to host the event in 2016.
- A motion from the Seniors Advisory Committee regarding bicycle and pedestrian safety will be submitted for review to the Projects Subcommittee.
- Staff are reviewing options for the gateway at the northeast quadrant of Highway 1 and improvements to the Second Narrows Bridge approaches and connections.
- Comparison between Olympic cities where students get points for walking or cycling to school. Testing results for the two Vancouver schools participating will be provided when available.

5. New Business

a) Communications

The Policy Council discussed improving communications. It was agreed that:

- All ATPC members are welcome to attend Subcommittee meetings.
- Where possible members will be provided with advance copies of presentations.
- Agenda items and motions are to be submitted to the Chair and staff by the Friday preceding the meeting.
- A link to meeting minutes will be sent out within 10 days following the meeting.

Next Meeting:

DATE: November 21, 2012
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: City Hall Business Centre

The Policy Council adjourned at 8:13 pm.

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