



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

JUNE 28, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Transportation and Traffic was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Fred Bass, Chair
Mayor Larry Campbell
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Jim Green
Councillor Peter Ladner, Vice-Chair
Councillor Raymond Louie
*Councillor Tim Louis (Sick Leave for Items 1, 2 and 3)
Councillor Anne Roberts
*Councillor Tim Stevenson
*Councillor Sam Sullivan
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absent during a portion of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic meetings of April 26 and May 24, 2005, were adopted.

INFORMATION

1. **Bicycle Advisory Committee 2005 Work Plan (File 3062-1)**

The Committee had before it a Report dated May 23, 2005, in which Council was provided with the 2005 Work Plan for the Vancouver Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC).

Bonnie Fenton, Chair, Bicycle Advisory Committee, presented an overview of the report and the advisory committee's vision for the city. Highlights of her presentation included:

- BAC is made up of a diverse group offering their cycling expertise and recognizes people need and use other modes of transportation;
- its mandate pertaining to infrastructure standards had been expanded to include public education and marketing;
- for the Vancouver to achieve a 10% modal shift by 2010, bicycle capacity on the roads is needed, as well as having the public view the bicycle as a valid and safe mode;
- post-secondary students are studying cycling and sustainability; and

- there is an increased respect of cycling as both a community building tool, and a healthy, environmentally, inexpensive and fun means of transportation.

Richard Campbell, Director of Active Transportation, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, spoke in favour of the report and urged Council to support the work of the Bicycle Advisory Committee and make Vancouver a model city in North America for cycling.

Ms. Fenton, together with Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer - Transportation, and Jim Hall, Neighbourhood Transportation Engineer, responded to questions regarding *Cool Vancouver*, tasks of volunteers and staff related to public education and promotion, and potential neighbourhood modal shift targets.

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT the 2005 Work Plan for the Bicycle Advisory Committee be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louis absent for the vote - Sick Leave)

RECOMMENDATION

2 (a) Pedestrian Enhancements for School Crosswalks, 2005 Program (File 5701)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated June 1, 2005, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services sought Council approval to construct curb bulges at four existing school crosswalks and one existing playground crosswalk.

Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer - Transportation, provided introductory remarks regarding presentation of the pedestrian enhancement reports (2a and 2b), and Todd Wilson, Traffic Management, provided an overview of the report in conjunction with the report on pedestrian crossing enhancements throughout the city. Staff were available to respond to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. That Council approve the construction of pedestrian corner bulges, as described in the Administrative Report dated June 1, 2005, entitled "Pedestrian Enhancements for School Crosswalks, 2005 Program", at the following locations:
- Victoria Drive at Kitchener Street
 - Victoria Drive at East 3rd Avenue
 - Elliott Street at Waverley Street
 - Renfrew Street at 15th Avenue
 - West 49th Avenue at Montgomery Street

- B. THAT funding of \$125,000 be provided from the 2005 Streets Basic Capital Account Group CB3EA5AX1 - Local Area Traffic Plans and Other Improvements (order # 30007852).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote and Councillor Louis absent for the vote - Sick Leave)

2 (b) Enhancements at Pedestrian Crossings (File 5757)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated June 14, 2005, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services sought Council approval to construct pedestrian corner bulges and make geometric modifications as identified in the aforementioned report.

Todd Wilson, Traffic Management Branch, provided an overview of the report and outlined pedestrian crossing enhancements throughout the city as well as for specific schools and how the locations were determined for this year's improvement program.

Mr. Wilson, together with Tom Timm, General Manager of Engineering Services, Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer - Transportation, Pat Ryan, Traffic Management Engineer, and Peter Sary and David Rawsthorne, Neighbourhood Transportation Engineers, responded to questions regarding project budget, timelines and storm water collection, and various means of addressing speeding issues. Staff agreed to provide further information regarding Delta's traffic calming measures and to review intersections on Victoria Drive at 13th and 19th Avenue.

The following delegations spoke in support of enhancements to pedestrian crossings:

Monica Forster, Residents Group - Champlain Heights (*brief submitted - on file*)
Richard Campbell, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation
Oliver Rohlfs (*brief submitted - on file*)

Their comments included:

- urged the City to make changes to pedestrian crossings quickly and increase the next budget for pedestrian improvements be increased;
- expressed concern about the danger to pedestrians along Champlain Crescent's 7800 block;
- expressed frustration in the number of years campaigning to have the speeding problem addressed on Champlain Crescent;
- the section of Victoria Drive between Grandview Highway and the Victoria Diversion is long overdue for pedestrian crossing improvements and requires more than one crosswalk; and
- pedestrians cannot depend on the goodwill of the drivers on Victoria Drive, the playground sign is often ignored, and vehicles speeding along the route are problems for area residents and users.

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the Administrative Report dated June 14, 2005, entitled "Enhancements at Pedestrian Crossings", including the installation of corner bulges at the specified locations, with funding of \$180,000 to be provided as follows:
- i) \$125,000 from Arterial Improvements: Enhancements at Pedestrian Crossings, 2005 Streets Basic Capital Budget (includes \$25,000 DCL funding);
 - ii) \$35,000 from Arterial Improvements: Enhancements at Pedestrian Crossings, 2004 Streets Basic Capital Budget;
 - iii) \$20,000 from Neighbourhood Traffic Control (Kerrisdale Bulges), Streets Basic Capital Budget.
- B. THAT the Traffic Operating Budgets for Paint Marking and Signage Maintenance be increased by \$1,300 without offset and subject to budget review commencing in 2006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote and Councillor Louis absent for the vote - Sick Leave)

3. Grant Contribution Toward Cycling Market Research Study (File 5553)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated May 31, 2005, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services sought Council approval of a \$15,000 contribution toward the production of an extensive market research study focused on generating a substantially increased transportation mode share for cycling within the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD).

Peter Stary, Neighbourhood Transportation Branch, provided an overview of the report and noted study results would help with allocation of resources into cycling facilities and programs aimed at increasing cycling mode share.

Mr. Stary, together with Dr. Kay Teschke, Professor, University of British Columbia Department of Health Care and Epidemiology, and Gavin Davidson, Bicycle Program Manager, TransLink, responded to questions regarding:

- promotion of lifelong cycling and increasing the number of women cyclists;
- aspects of the study with respect to demographic target(s) and their information needs, and relationship building between cyclists and public transit;
- comparison with Europe's cycling demographics;
- current steps being taken to encourage cycling to and from schools;
- potential and requirements for a separate survey in schools;
- types of end-of-trip facilities and infrastructure investment being considered; and
- municipal funding and input into the study.

It was agreed the study survey would include asking participants' permission with respect to a follow-up survey on their cycling behaviour. Dr. Teschke offered to provide a list of variables being considered for the study.

Richard Campbell, Director of Active Transportation, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, spoke in favour of the report recommendations and noted the results of the study will be "invaluable" for increasing cycling in the city.

MOVED by Councillor Louie
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT a grant of \$15,000 be approved as a contribution to the production of a market research study conducted by UBC and Translink focused on substantially increasing cycling mode share.
- B. THAT funding of \$15,000 be provided from the 2004 Streets Basic Capital Account Group CB2EA2EX1- Bicycle Network (Order #30006969).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louis absent for the vote - Sick Leave)

4. Main Street Showcase - Pedestrian and Transit Priority Project (File 5551)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated June 10, 2005, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services, in consultation with the Director of City Plans and the Director of Current Planning, sought Council approval to implement measures developed through the Main Street Showcase Plan to improve pedestrian and transit services along Main Street, and asked Council to direct staff to pursue, as part of future funding or existing City programs, measures identified through the Showcase process that cannot be implemented at this time due to budget constraints.

Winston Chou, Traffic Management Engineer, presented an overview of the Main Street Showcase project and noted that following completion of the above-mentioned report, additional funding has been secured from TransLink for the Showcase and from the Downtown Eastside Revitalization Program which can be applied to priorities along the corridor. Mr. Chou outlined Showcase initiatives (*maps distributed - on file*) to increase pedestrian accessibility and transit ridership along the Main Street corridor and noted a "toolkit of initiatives" was developed which could assist with planning improvements in other areas of the city.

Mr. Chou, together with Tom Timm, General Manager of Engineering Services, Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer - Transportation, Scott Edwards, Strategic Transportation Planning Engineer, and Tamin Raad, Project Manager - Sustainable Region Showcase, TransLink, responded to questions regarding:

- pedestrian enhancements for Main Street at Kingsway and 7th Avenue;
- consideration of all door boarding for buses within the Showcase project area;
- bus stop spacing and walking distances for elderly pedestrians and at Georgia and National Streets;
- baseline and expected ridership statistics, as well as factors impacting ridership;
- transfers, traffic congestion and service reliability for downtown routes; and
- Area Transit Plan and Bicycle Advisory Committees' input.

Staff agreed to provide further information on pedestrian accessibility around Main Street at 16th Avenue.

The following spoke in favour of improvements to pedestrian accessibility:

Ingrid Steenhuisen, Little Mountain Neighbourhood House

Lisa Schwabe, Little Mountain Residential Care & Housing Society (*brief submitted - on file*)

Richard Campbell, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation

Harvey Des Roches, 18th Avenue & Quebec Street Traffic Committee (*brief submitted - on file*)

Nancy Chiavario, Mount Pleasant Community Centre Association

Their comments included:

- described difficulties for pedestrians with mobility issues facing water and sewer repairs along the route and bus stops which can't be used during that time;
- advised not to rely solely on electronic means and community bulletin boards for getting information out;
- many people live in Mount Pleasant without cars and need curb cuts at every corner;
- buses coming from downtown are "almost never on time", and at times arrive three in a row, creating stress for those who depend on the transit system and discouraging others who might use it;
- suggested a bus loop be added in the southern portion for buses behind schedule in this high density area with heavy ridership;
- expressed concern about the delay for pedestrian bulges at 10th, 14th and 16th Avenues and the need for improvements at 7th Avenue;
- concern about safety issues for children heading to the park at 19th Avenue and Main Street and that the Showcase project will increase short-cutting around 18th Avenue and Quebec Street unless something is done to curtail it;
- suggested a mini-park plaza be created at 18th Avenue; and
- concerned the Mount Pleasant section of Kingsway, Broadway and Main Street is heavily used and that traffic may increase during the construction of RAV.

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the Main Street Showcase Corridor Plan, as described in the Administrative Report dated June 10, 2005 entitled "Main Street Showcase - Pedestrian and Transit Priority Project", at an estimated cost of \$5,976,000 with funding to be provided as follows:
 - i) \$5,471,000 from existing capital approved for the Urban Transportation Showcase program (previously approved with \$1.5 million City funding, \$2.6 million Translink funding, and \$1.371 million Transport Canada funding),
 - ii) \$46,000 from 2005 Basic Capital for Downtown Eastside Revitalization Program,
 - iii) \$189,000 contribution ICBC, and
 - iv) \$270,000 from 2004 New Pedestrian Signals Unallocated account (30006973).
- B. THAT Council direct staff to pursue, as part of future funding or existing City programs, the measures identified through the Showcase initiative that can not be implemented at this time; and
- C. THAT additional annual costs of \$17,000 related to ongoing maintenance be reflected in future Operating Budgets, subject to the 2006/2007 budget review process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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*At 12:28 p.m., the Chair stepped down, and the Vice-Chair assumed the Chair.
At 12:30 p.m., Councillor Bass resumed as Chair.*

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5. Burrard Bridge Sidewalk Capacity Improvements for Pedestrians and Cyclists
(File 5752-3)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated May 31, 2005, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services and Director of Current Planning documented investigations into options for improving the walking and cycling environment on the Burrard Bridge and sought Council approval of a plan to advance the design of improved sidewalk facilities on the Burrard Bridge.

David Rawsthorne, Neighbourhood Transportation Engineer, provided an overview of the report and together with Tom Timm, General Manager of Engineering Services, and Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer - Transportation, responded to questions regarding comparative and potential costs, sidewalk "pinch points", bridge connections, long-term planning, cycling traffic and width for passing, and comparisons with Lion's Gate Bridge.

ADJOURNMENT MOVED by Mayor Campbell

THAT the Standing Committee meeting be adjourned and the Regular Council meeting be convened to deal with Standing committee on Transportation and Traffic recommendations of June 28, 2005, so as to provide set-up and preparation time for the afternoon Council meeting.

LOST (Tie Vote)

(Councillors Bass, Cadman, Louis, Roberts, and Woodsworth opposed)

(Councillor Sullivan absent for the vote)

The vote having lost, the Committee continued to hear delegations before adjourning.

Bonnie Fenton, Chair, Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), noted the BAC is opposed to staff's recommendation regarding sidewalk widening, and conveyed BAC's first choice is the two lane re-allocation to bicycle lanes as the best option and provides for separation of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. Their second choice was outward sidewalk widening the entire length of the bridge without "pinch points" at the towers. The BAC also supported dedication of one lane in each direction for transit and HOV use. Ms. Fenton urged that bridge improvements begin by the end of 2005 and that *people carrying*, not just *vehicle carrying*, capacity be considered in existing and future planning.

Richard Keate, Chair, Vancouver Heritage Commission (VHC), spoke against staff's recommendation for sidewalk widening. He referred to resolutions passed by the VHC at their January 10 and June 6, 2005 meetings (*on file - City Clerk's Office*) noting the VHC does not support the outward sidewalk widening option, the inside railing, nor any options resulting in additional signage, lighting or structures which would have a negative visual impact. Mr. Keate further noted the Commission supports *in principle*, a non-automobile under-slung bridge and requests more information regarding First Nations land claims and cyclist usage on the Burrard Street during evening hours. Mr. Keate responded to questions from Council regarding the under-slung bridge and lane allocation options.

Due to time constraints, Council heard two of the 21 registered speakers and agreed to continue hearing from speakers at the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2005, regarding this topic.

The Committee adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

JUNE 28, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 1:20 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT: Mayor Larry Campbell
Councillor Fred Bass
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Jim Green
Councillor Peter Ladner
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Tim Louis
Councillor Anne Roberts
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

ABSENT: Councillor Sam Sullivan

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Woodsworth

THAT this Council resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, Mayor Campbell in the Chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic June 28, 2005

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic. Its items of business included:

1. Bicycle Advisory Committee 2005 Work Plan
2. (a) Pedestrian Enhancements for School Crosswalks, 2005 Program
(b) Enhancements at Pedestrian Crossings
3. Grant Contribution Toward Cycling Market Research Study
4. Main Street Showcase - Pedestrian and Transit Priority Project
5. Burrard Bridge Sidewalk Capacity Improvements for Pedestrians and Cyclists

Items 1, 2, 4, and 5

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic at its meeting of June 28, 2005, as contained in items 1, 2, 4 and 5, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic at its meeting of June 28, 2005, as contained in item 3, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Roberts

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Roberts
SECONDED by Councillor Bass

THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

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