

*These minutes will be adopted at the regular Council meeting on July 19, 2005*



**CITY OF VANCOUVER**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 29, 2005**

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, June 29, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Larry Campbell  
Councillor Fred Bass  
Councillor David Cadman  
Councillor Peter Ladner  
Councillor Raymond Louie  
Councillor Anne Roberts  
Councillor Tim Stevenson  
Councillor Sam Sullivan  
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

**ABSENT:** Councillor Jim Green (Leave of Absence)  
Councillor Tim Louis (Sick Leave)

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

MOVED by Councillor Roberts  
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**1. Vancouver & UBC Area Transit Plan - Draft Final Report (File 8026)**

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on June 28, 2005, received a Report Reference dated June 17, 2005, entitled, "Vancouver & UBC Area Transit Plan - Draft Final Report", and referred it to a Special Council meeting on June 29, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., in order to hear from members of the public.

Accordingly, the Committee had the report before it.

Helen Cook, Manager of the Vancouver-UBC Area Transit Plan, presented the plan, explained the process followed and future directions for the plan, and distributed the document dated June 2005, entitled, "Vancouver & UBC Transit Plan Technical Report #3: Public Advisory

Committee Summary Report" and the document entitled, "Summary of Public Consultation Events" (*on file*)

Scott Edwards, Strategic Transportation Engineer, explained the staff recommendations, and clarified that once Council approves recommendations in principle, staff will continue the public consultation process to ensure neighbourhood needs are taken into account during the implementation process.

Ms. Cook and Mr. Edwards, along with Tom Timm, General Manager of Engineering Services, Jerry Dobrovolny, Assistant City Engineer, and Pat Wotherspoon, Assistant Director of City Plans, responded to questions regarding:

- crowding issues, particularly along the Broadway corridor;
- funding, its limits and the budgetary process;
- what will happen to the trolley system and lines;
- "alternative vehicle" for Cambie Street following the construction of the RAV line;
- noise and pollution issues;
- fare review and the possibility of implementing a low-income bus pass;
- the Arbutus Corridor;
- implementation of the plan;
- zone boundary issues, especially short trips across boundaries;
- involvement of women's groups in the process;
- bus procurement and replacement of the trolley fleet;
- stops along Main Street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues;
- how stops are chosen;
- routes in the Downtown area;
- issues with the bus-only lane on Pender Street;
- integration of the plan with community visions;
- alternative fuel vehicles;
- the public consultation process that will occur after adoption of the plan;
- impact of new routes on real estate values; and,
- current construction on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The following delegations spoke in opposition to the plan:

Bev Ballantyne (*brief distributed - on file*)  
Nathan Davidowicz  
Wendy Turner  
Susan MacLean

Their comments included:

- past issues are not reflected in the current report;
- various existing plans for traffic and transit are not complementary and do not ensure livability within the region;
- concerns with the process;
- staff must ensure perception of fairness when establishing routes;
- UBC should make some significant contribution; and

- West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue is already extensively used for UBC parking.

The following individuals spoke in general support of the plan, with specific concerns:

Wendy Thompson  
Ray Straatsma, BEST  
Mike Kushnir  
Jim Houlahan, CAW 111  
Michel Morin  
Matti Siemiatycki  
May Kossoff  
Kelly Reaburn

Their comments included:

- impressed with the report;
- concern with the elimination of north and south bus stops on Man Street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues;
- TransLink should move beyond diesel buses;
- Council should consider a summary to be distributed to the GVRD, TransLink and other municipalities to demonstrate necessity of plan;
- problems with fare boundaries;
- importance of the trolley system;
- current capacity issues;
- converting electric trolley lines to diesel does not help with environmental issues;
- downtown community shuttles are not really convenient and only connect to other areas in the West End, not with neighbouring areas;
- the idea of bus-only lanes has been talked about for years and should be addressed;
- put a bus shelter, or at least a bench at every stop; and
- environmental needs should be put at the top of issues.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the proposed #33 bus route (33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Cambie, and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue):

Christine Freer  
Les Crawford  
Patrick Van

Their comments included:

- lack of consultation with residents on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue;
- the proposed route will increase noise and air pollution;
- real estate values will drop;
- the new route will make 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue even busier and noisier than it already is;
- the route is not appropriate for this area;
- the only answer is a subway system; and
- staff need to communicate with residents not just other stakeholder groups.

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*Council recessed at 10:15 p.m. for 15 minutes, and reconvened at 10:30p.m. with the same members present, in order to continue hearing from speakers and to deliberate.*

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MOVED by Councillor Bass

- A. THAT Council support the recommendations included in the Vancouver-UBC Area Transit plan (attached as Appendices A & C to the Administrative Report dated June 17, 2005, entitled, "Vancouver and UBC Transit Plan - Draft Final Report).
- B. THAT Council request TransLink and Coast Mountain Bus Company to base future bus procurement on specifications that prioritize the reduction of noise and emissions and support both the City of Vancouver Community Climate Change Action Plan (CCCAP) and the recommendations within the GVRD Draft Air Quality Management Plan.
- C. THAT Council request TransLink to undertake a system wide fare review including a modified fare structure to better accommodate short trips crossing existing zone boundaries, and a fare free zone for the Downtown Peninsula.
- D. THAT Council approve in principle new bus routes proposed within the Vancouver-UBC Area Transit Plan and direct staff and request TransLink to conduct neighbourhood consultation regarding the detailed implementation of new routes on City streets that do not currently have transit service:
  - i. 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Cambie and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue (proposed #33 route);
  - ii. Cambie Street - proposed alternate vehicle type; and
  - iii. Renfrew from Hastings to McGill.
- E. THAT Council support the installation of Transit Priority measures beginning with the Broadway corridor subject to any required funding and cost sharing being reported to Council. These items would include:
  - i. Installation of bus lanes;
  - ii. Installation of transit signal priority;
  - iii. Introduction of operational measures for the Broadway Corridor including:
    - (a) all-door loading
    - (b) improved fare boxes & smart-cards,
    - (c) new scheduling practices
  - iv. before and after technical studies for each component; and
  - v. stakeholder consultation being completed prior to implementation.

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- F. THAT Council request that TransLink and Coast Mountain Bus Company (CMBC) undertake annual monitoring of all bus routes using automated passenger counting and vehicle location systems to monitor current route demand, to quantify bus travel times, bus loading delays, as well as intersection delay and that this information be transmitted to the City.
  - G. THAT Council request that TransLink conduct before and after surveys on all corridors which are contemplated for enhanced transit accommodation and priority.
  - H. THAT the City of Vancouver update modal share targets contained in the 1997 Vancouver Transportation Study for the years 2021, and 2031.
  - I. THAT should additional buses and operating funds become available, Council request TransLink to revisit and prioritize routes that are not yet operating at 5 minute peak frequency.
  - J. THAT regarding the implementation of Recommendation E, above:
    - i. THAT TransLink be asked to present to Council before November 1, 2005, a review of transit priority measures done in other jurisdictions around the world.
    - ii. THAT City of Vancouver staff update Council before November 1, 2005, on the progress of planning transit priority measures on the Broadway corridor.
  - K. THAT Council express to the Province its strong endorsement of the need for provincial legislation that would designate buses to be fare-paid zones, so as to facilitate all-door loading of passengers onto the buses.
  - L. THAT Council reaffirm Vancouver's commitments to demand management as noted in the previous reports, such as the Vancouver Transportation Plan, the Downtown Transportation Plan, and the Transit Strategy.
  - M. THAT Council request the Vancouver Engineering and Police Departments to prioritize parking and by-law enforcement in traffic lanes that have major transit use.
  - N. THAT City of Vancouver staff report to Council on options for avoiding the reconstruction of major transit streets during hours of high transit use.
  - O. THAT Council continue the Public Advisory and Front Line Transit Operators Advisory Committees to the Vancouver-UBC Area Transit Plan in order to provide input on the implementation of the Plan, particularly on receipt of the follow-up information identified in Recommendation F above.
  - P. THAT Council express its deep appreciation to the hard work of the TransLink and City of Vancouver staff, the public who provided input and the advisory

committees, who, in jointly working together, have formulated an excellent five year transit area plan.

- Q. THAT Council request the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority (GVTA) Board of Directors to allocate additional service hours and new transit vehicles as approved by the GVTA Board of Directors on June 22, 2005 to transit services within the City of Vancouver and UBC as identified in the Administrative Report dated June 17, 2005, entitled "Vancouver and UBC Area Transit Plan - Draft Final Report", and the TransLink report entitled "Transit Capacity Study", in order to address existing crowding issues.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Ladner

THAT J(i) be struck from the motion.

LOST

(Councillors Bass, Cadman, Louie, Roberts, Stevenson, Woodsworth and the Mayor opposed)

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

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 Cadman

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Special Council adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

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