

MOTION

12. Transport Pricing – “Stopping the Road Tax” (Member’ Motion B.6)

At the Council meeting on November 15, 2022, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 16, 2022, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

MOVED by: Councillor Klassen and Councillor Bligh

WHEREAS

1. In October 2012, Vancouver City Council approved the Transportation 2040 plan. The plan serves as the City’s long-term strategic vision to help guide transportation and land use decisions, and public investments for the years ahead;
2. The plan sets long-term targets and includes both high-level policies and specific actions to achieve this vision;
3. In November 2020, City council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan, which included actions to significantly cut carbon emissions from the biggest local sources such as burning gas and diesel in vehicles and using natural gas in buildings;
4. As part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, transportation actions were developed to create more options for transit, cycling and walking, and to create more walkable communities. To further encourage the shift to active transportation and transit, Council directed staff to assess the feasibility of transport pricing, otherwise known by terms such as road pricing, congestion pricing, and a road tax;
5. Transport pricing (i.e., a road tax) would be a fee for vehicles to drive into, and through Vancouver’s city centre;
6. Encouraging active transportation and greater transit use, while reducing the number of private vehicle trips in the city, are desirable objectives. However, the public have clearly indicated that they do not support a road tax in order to achieve the city’s transportation and climate objectives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to ensure that all work and processes specific to the planning and implementation of Transport Pricing, by and within the City of Vancouver, planned or otherwise or by any other technical definition or name, including any planning for the implementation of Transport Pricing for Downtown Vancouver and the Central Broadway Corridor as per the CEAP, is suspended;

FURTHER THAT any and all City staff who may be engaged in work related to the implementation of Transport Pricing by and within the City of Vancouver, exclusive of staff participation in regional transportation discussions and conversations, shall be –

and shall be confirmed to be – reassigned to work on other transportation priorities in the city.

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