
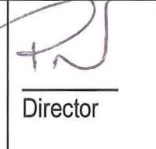

 Section Manager	 Division Manager	 Director	 CAO
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The Corporation of **THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER**
INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

INFORMATION REPORT

To: Mayor Darrell R. Mussatto and Members of Council

From: Chair & Members of the Integrated Transportation Committee

SUBJECT: 2013 ANNUAL REPORT - INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE

Date: June 4, 2014

File No: 0360-20- ITC -06

The Integrated Transportation Committee advises Council and staff on transportation policy, planning and mobility issues within the City of North Vancouver. The focus is on active transportation, and transit as well as the integration of all modes of transportation including walking, cycling, transit, goods movements, and general-purpose vehicles. The ITC is interested in ensuring transportation system efficiency and optimizing the integration between land use and transportation.

MEMBERS:

This advisory committee comprises 13 citizen representatives from the community with one member each from the Squamish First Nation, RCMP, Port Metro Vancouver, and School District 44.

REVIEWING 2013:

Transportation plans in the City are progressive and the draft OCP and existing Long Term Transportation Plan are united in their direction to create a livable city where all citizens can enjoy access to safe transportation routes with an emphasis on active transportation. With these guiding documents in mind, in 2013, the ITC reviewed the following projects, policies and proposals.

Official Community Plan

During 2013, the ITC received information about the developing Official Community plan on a number of occasions. The Committee reviewed the transportation segment of the first draft, made a number of recommendations emphasizing the importance of active

transportation and strengthening the language and clarifying specific goals. In general, the OCP transportation plan reflects the issues and ideas raised by the Committee over the past year. The committee believes that it is critically important that the OCP establish a strong framework, which recognizes the interrelationship between land use and other community objectives. The ITC commends staff on their efforts to be holistic in this regard.

Development Reviews

Over the year, ITC reviewed plans for development or re-development, which included a transportation component:

- Harbourside Development Re-Zoning
- 255 West 1st Development

In the reviews, the committee recommended improving active transportation infrastructure to ensure that all modes of active travel would receive a treatment that would not only support, but also encourage people to walk, cycle or take transit.

CITY PROJECT REVIEWS:

Foot of Lonsdale Transportation Plan

In the case of the redevelopment at the foot of Lonsdale, ITC looked at how best to accommodate commercial delivery trucks along the Spirit Trail alignment, recommending separation of delivery vehicles from the multi-use path.

Spirit Trail

The Committee reviewed plans for the Chesterfield to Carrie Cates Landing extension of the Spirit Trail, as well as the plans for the Spirit Trail through the waterfront. The committee encouraged staff to work with the residents adjacent to Chesterfield Court to open access from the south end of Waterfront Park to the SeaBus terminal to the east.

Chesterfield Cycling Infrastructure

The ITC reviewed the options for the new Chesterfield cycling infrastructure. There was agreement that the options, including sharrows, and painted lanes, did not go far enough to protect cyclists on this busy street. The committee questioned the viability of a bike facility sufficient to promote cycling without parking removal.

Parking

The ITC dealt with the topic of parking at a number of meetings.

Harbourside

The ITC reviewed the Harbourside parking plan and recommended that the City implement a demand management program to reduce the number of vehicles requiring parking, in addition to dealing with supply. ITC noted also in the Harbourside Development review that, unless there was a firm commitment from TransLink to provide transit service to the area, the developer commit to a shuttle service to take

residents out to established transit lines. The preference was for the developer to work with TransLink to develop regular service as soon as ground breaks on the project.

This review highlighted for committee members the need for the extension of the Spirit Trail west to allow people living at Harbourside to access the transportation hub at Lonsdale Quay.

Laneway parking

The Committee discussed the possibility of laneway parking in the City. Generally, the committee approved of repurposing alleys for parking if pressure from active forms of transportation reduced on-street parking.

Hospital Parking

More recently, the ITC was pleased to see the implementation of parking meters in the hospital precinct. The issue of hospital employee parking requires further exploration. Employees park on residential streets because it is free. Providing free public parking in the form of residential streets may undermine hospital transportation demand management programs.

EXPLORING TRANSPORTATION TOPICS:

2013 started with a visioning session in which the Committee identified transportation-related areas for exploration, including green lanes and the pedestrian network.

Green Lanes

Members attended a field-trip to green lanes in Vancouver as well as pedestrian and cycling facilities in South False Creek, Downtown Vancouver and the West End. During the trip, members learned that green lanes are costly and can be difficult to maintain, but contributed other social goods such as increased green space and improved water management. Many of the examples in Vancouver served as local community building opportunities and were joint efforts between neighbours, city staff and crews.

Pedestrian Network

During the field-trip, the committee visited infrastructure sites in Vancouver built to encourage active transportation and livability. The new Comox greenway and "Health Walk" around the hospital district at St. Paul's hospital are good models to look to when designing pedestrian and cycling facilities in the City. The "parklets" operated and maintained by merchants in Vancouver is a program that the City might consider since parklets add to public space, without adding a lot of cost. This item will come back in 2014 with a staff presentation and workshop.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2014:

During 2014, the committee will continue to review projects and policies brought forth from staff and council. ITC will work with staff to find innovative ways to design and

implement transportation projects, learning from jurisdictions around the world how to make the City of North Vancouver a five-star example of a vibrant, livable city, that promotes local jobs, active transportation, transit and goods movement. Specifically, when projects are shovel-ready, how can the City be a leader when dollars are tight and requirements high? Innovation, flexibility and creativity are key. ITC would like to see the City push the envelope in terms of infrastructure, public education and community engagement related to transportation in order to reach five-star status.

Members of ITC are looking forward to working with staff and council during 2014. We would like to thank all of the members and volunteers of the committee including Councillor Craig Keating and staff including Clare Husk, Iona Bonamis, Daniel Watson, Dragana Mitic, and Michael Epp for their work on behalf of transportation in the City.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Melina Scholefield & Heather Drugge
Chair Vice-Chair