

MINUTES
SAANICH BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ROOM #1
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007 AT NOON

Present: Chair: Councillor Judy Brownoff
Members: Dave De Shane; James Grayson; Neil Neate; John Smith; Sarah Webb
and D. Wick
Staff: Mike Lai, Manager of Transportation; Anne Topp, Manager of Community
Planning; Gerald Fleming, Manager of Park Planning and Design;
MaryAnn Greco, Senior Committee Clerk
Regrets: Pam Shatzko and Judy Gaylord
Guests: John Luton, Capital Bike and Walk Society

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed new and returning members to the Committee. She stated that she had Chaired the former Saanich Bicycle Advisory Committee in the past and is looking forward to carrying out the new mandate of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee.

MINUTES

MOVED by D. DeShane and Seconded by Sarah Webb: "That the minutes of November 22, 2006 and January 24, 2007 be adopted as amended."

Carried.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Chair outlined the new terms of reference and asked if members had any questions or concerns.

In response to a question from Sarah Webb, the Chair advised that special events such as Bike to Work Week are included in the Committee's mandate.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM THE FORMER BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Chair circulated the former Bicycle Advisory Committee ongoing list of outstanding items and requested that staff provide a status update.

The Manager of Transportation provided the following information on the items assigned to the Engineering Department:

- **Interurban Rail Trail:** He will ask staff to research the status of the portion on Interurban Road and Wallace Drive.
- **Local Connectors: Gordon Head (Mt. Doug to UVic) and UVic-Shelbourne Plaza – Cedar Hill Golf Course – Victoria:** The installation of way finding signs are not on the departmental plan however, if there are funds available, the Interurban Rail Trail would be first priority as it is a regional trail.
- **Saanich Touring Route:** He will ask staff to locate the plans that indicated where the signs were to be located and bring it back to the Committee to discuss as a possible budget item.

- **Local Connector, Douglas Street:** He will set up a meeting with the Ministry of Highways and report back at the next meeting.
- **Sweeping:** The regular sweeping schedule has been affected by the recent extreme weather conditions so crews are focusing on the removal of large debris. They are currently looking at the possibility of leasing an additional sweeper.
Fowler Water Line Project: This project is essentially complete and is waiting for good weather for the final lift of asphalt. This is a water project so there is no budget to add more pavement width for a bike lane.
- **Royal Oak Drive Bicycle Lanes and Streetscape:** This has been deferred until 2008 awaiting the watermain replacement project to be done in Broadmead.
- **Shelbourne Street (Torquay Road to Cedar Hill Road):** There are currently no plans for this item. The Chair suggested that this item be brought back on a future agenda as a possible project for the Committee.

The Manager of Park Planning and Design provided the following update on the items assigned to the Parks and Recreation Department:

- **Map Sign proposed for the Lochside Trail at Royal Oak Drive:** Installation to proceed. He will bring copies of what the sign looks like at the next meeting.
- **Local Connector: Cherry Tree Bend and Falaise Drive:** This item should be brought back to a future agenda for discussion/review.
- **Trail Standards:** This item should be put on the agenda for the April meeting for review.

D. DeShane stated that in terms of his item "Road Conversion Inventory/Road Dieting", the purpose of this initiative is to create a list of roads where there is sufficient existing width to install bikelanes. The list would then be reviewed and prioritized and forwarded to the Engineering Department so that they can include it in their budget. These would be low budget items. A sub-committee needs to be formed to undertake this review.

D. DeShane, D. Wick and J. Smith volunteered to join the sub-committee.

2007 CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS

The Chair circulated a list of possible 2007 Cycling and Pedestrian Projects most of which are already included in the 2007/08 Strategic Plan. She advised that she would like the Committee to be involved with the projects at the planning stage so that input can be provided before plans are finalized.

In terms of some of the items listed under the Planning Department, the Manager of Community Planning advised that a consultant will be hired to undertake revisions to the development permit guidelines for major centres. Some of this work has been done and the consultant's report will come to this Committee as a draft for input this year. In terms of the proposed policy changes to the Official Community Plan (OCP), the Planning Department needs to know what kind of questions or criteria would be essential for an OCP with respect to pedestrians and cycling.

The Committee made the following suggestions:

- Are you comfortable cycling or walking from your home to the local store? If not, why?
- Do you feel safe at a bus stop?
- What time or distance do you feel comfortable traveling from your home to the shopping centre either cycling or walking?
- Possible ranking question: What do you see as important amenities? For example: Benches? Directional Signage? Sidewalks? Curb Cuts? Sidewalk Width? Pedestrian Controlled Crosswalks? Pedestrian Refuge Areas? Surface of Sidewalks? Toilets? Fountains? Visibility of Bus Stops? End of trip facilities like washrooms? Bike Racks?
- How long will you bike or walk to access local shopping?

The Manager of Community Planning noted that a telephone inquiry will be done regarding these and other issues surrounding the OCP this Spring. Another item that will come back to this Committee is amenities at major shopping centres in terms of what do we need and how do we get it. This item can be brought forward at a future meeting as a brain storming session.

In terms of the items listed under the Engineering Department, the Manager of Transportation stated:

- The new sidewalk on Cordova Bay Road is in process and included in the Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program grant applications. Some of the details of these plans can be brought back to a future meeting for review.
- The Pedestrian Priorities Implementation Plan has already been before this Committee and will be brought forward during Council's budget process. He will provide a copy of the plan to the members for their information.
- A conditional assessment will be done of Saanich 16 bridges. He will bring back any plans which involve cycling or pedestrian improvements.
- A report will be forthcoming to Council on a proposed assessment model for street projects. He will circulate the draft report to the Committee members for comment.
- The review of transportation design standards to reflect current trends in sustainability and transportation demand management is underway.
- The Engineering Department is currently implementing updated transportation design standards.
- Phase 2 of the Douglas Street Transit Corridor Study is looking at a dedicated bus way perhaps from downtown Victoria to the Langford area. This project will be brought back to the Committee for comment.
- A budget request will be going forward to keep the Safer City Criteria program going.

The Manager of Park Planning and Design stated that, in terms of the items listed under the Parks Department:

- In terms of the Centennial Trails Phase 1, we have been waiting for some land acquisitions to complete the Royal Oak Trail, the San Juan portion is mostly signs that will be put up this year and a meeting was held this fall about the Gordon Head Coastal Greenways so this is ongoing.

- Plans for the Cuthbert Holmes Park trail upgrades, Royal Oak Burial Park and Layritz Park/Glendale Trail/new Pacific Sport Institute will be brought back to the Committee for feedback.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The Chair stated that she would like the Committee to look at the Safe Routes to School program in terms of developing a policy around maintenance. During the extreme weather conditions, she received many complaints from parents that their children had to walk in the middle of the road because the sidewalks on the designated Safe Routes to School were not cleared. This item will be brought back for further discussion at a future meeting.

Next Meeting: The next regular BIPED meeting will be held at noon on Thursday, March 15, 2007 in the Council Chambers.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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Councillor Brownoff, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary