

MINUTES
SAANICH BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ROOM #2
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008 AT NOON

Present: Chair: Councillor Judy Brownoff
Members: David DeShane; Judy Gaylord; James Grayson; John Smith and Darrell Wick.
Staff: Anne Topp, Manager of Community Planning; Mike Lai, Manager of Transportation; Gerald Fleming, Parks Planning and Design Manager; Cst. Steve Kruk; Steve Holroyd, Engineering Planner and Designer; D. Yuen, Engineering Technician IV; and Cathy Weston, Senior Committee Clerk.
Regrets: Neil Neate, Pam Shatzko and Sarah Webb
Guest: John Luton, Executive Director, Capital Bike and Walk Society

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Smith and Seconded by D. DeShane: "That the minutes of the meeting held February 21, 2008 be adopted as amended."

CARRIED.

SAN JUAN GREENWAY

The Engineering Technician presented the design drawings for the proposed greenway route which starts at the west end at Cedar Hill Road. A 2 metre concrete sidewalk is proposed and will be separated where possible. There will be a painted crosswalk at Shelbourne Street with median in the middle. Approximately 34 mature flowering cherry trees located within the sidewalk corridor will require removal. The trees are between 25 – 30 years old. Any trees being removed will be replaced on a 1 – 1 basis. The proposed tree removals were brought up at the open house and no complaints were received. Pedestrian activated solar beacons will be installed at the crosswalks at Shelbourne Street and Torquay Drive. Staff are considering the installation of "rain gardens" along the route. There are no hydro poles that will conflict with the proposed sidewalk. Staff looked at one pole closely and determined there is enough room for the sidewalk beside it. A couple of lamp standards will require relocation. Speed humps will be installed at either end of Sierra Park. Staff did look at installing bike lanes but felt they would not be suitable because the entire area is very residential in nature with lots of on-street parking and not huge traffic volume. Staff will be monitoring the effectiveness of the Shelbourne Street crossing.

The Committee noted the following:

- A push-button solar activated light on both sides at Shelbourne Street should be installed. An alternative would be to provide two crosswalks; one for pedestrians and one for cyclists.
- The crossing at Shelbourne Street needs to be reconsidered so that cyclists can activate the light from both sides of the road.
- A wide crosswalk to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists with appropriate markings for both should be considered.
- It was hoped that bike lanes would be installed.
- The multi-use greenway aspect was supported.
- The lack of provision for cyclists crossing Shelbourne needs to be reconsidered.
- Concern regarding the removal of 34 trees was expressed.
- Storm/water run off needs to be addressed.

The Manager of Community Planning stated this is meant to be a multi-use greenway trail as identified in the Gordon Head Greenway Plan.

The Manager of Transportation stated San Juan/Shelbourne intersection was not intended to be a full traffic signal. Some residents on San Juan Avenue have expressed concern about additional traffic should a full traffic light be installed at that location.

The Chair noted staff need to be cautious of curves in the sidewalk so that people using scooters, walkers, etc. don't have difficulty manoeuvring. She has heard concerns from people that the curves in sidewalks sometimes are hard to manoeuvre.

GORDON HEAD ROAD – McKENZIE AVENUE TO LAVAL

The Engineering Planner presented the design drawings. This is currently a four lane road with no cycling facilities. The proposal for Section 1 (Laval to McKenzie) is single lane traffic in each direction with dedicated bike lanes on either side, a centre dual left turn lane, centre median south of McCoy intersection and a left turn lane south bound at McKenzie. The proposal for Section 2 (Laval to Feltham) is to remove the current peak period parking restrictions and provide single lane traffic in each direction, 24-hour parking permitted in each direction north of the transition at the Laval intersection, and a left turn lane north bound at Feltham. Installation for both sections is planned for July/August, 2008. The ultimate plan proposed for Section 2 calls for single lane traffic in each direction with dedicated bike lanes on either side, a centre two-way left turn lane, a left turn lane north of Feltham with no on-street parking permitted.

CENTENNIAL TRAILS

The Parks Planning and Design Manager presented the Saanich Centennial Trails Phase 2 – Draft Project Review dated March 19, 2008. None of the work is currently identified in the 2008 budget.

Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

NO EXIT SIGNS

The Manager of Transportation presented a proposed design for a hybrid sign with white lettering on green with a tab at the bottom giving the distance ahead. The design complies with national guidelines. The sign will be bolted to existing sign posts and can have multi symbols (cyclist/pedestrian).

A discussion ensued and the general Committee consensus was not in support of the proposed hybrid sign. The Committee preferred a "shared pathway sign" without a "distance tab".

Staff were requested to review the proposed design and report back at a future meeting.

WENDE ROAD/GARNET ROAD WALKWAY

The Engineering Planner stated there are a couple of sections where the landscaping impedes the walkway and there is currently no money allocated in the budget for upgrading this section.

The Committee noted the following:

- This is a heavily used walkway and the problem is a safety issue.

The Chair requested staff revisit this in terms of identifying funding options and suggested pull-outs could be considered.

2008 PROJECT PRIORITIES LIST

The Chair stated she liked the new layout. She requested the “status” and “due date” information be added for review by the Committee at the next meeting.

The Parks Planning and Design Manager stated he is looking into what trails do not require bollards and will report back.

The Committee requested Planning, Engineering and Parks staff prepare status reports on the following items for consideration at the May meeting:

- Local Connectors – North Quadra; and
- Local Connectors – Douglas Broadmead Local Connector (Coordinate Overall Project and Sections 1 – 4).

BORDEN STREET BIKEWAY UPGRADE

The Manager of Community Planning presented the proposed plan for bikes lanes on both sides of Borden Street between McKenzie Avenue and Cedar Hill X Road. This is being presented to the Committee for information only further to a rezoning application for apartment use at Borden/Cedar Hill X. This section of road will be widened, no roundabout is proposed and a raised pedestrian crosswalk is planned. This section of road is identified as a commuter bikeway trail; north of Cedar Hill X Road is not. It is intended the road improvements will be paid for by the developer.

SHELBOURNE STREET CORRIDOR – ARBORDALE TO CEDAR HILL ROAD

The Engineering Planner presented the design drawings. Some construction is proposed for 2008 with the remaining proposed in 2009/2010. Currently this section is a four vehicle lane cross section with am/pm peak parking restrictions. The proposal is for a two vehicle lane cross section north and south with dedicated parking and bike lanes. The sidewalk currently ends just south of San Juan Avenue (east side). It is hoped to extend the sidewalk to Mt. Douglas Park but with the London plane trees this may not be possible.

The Committee noted the following:

- Staff should monitor the potential increase in traffic along Cedar Hill Road that may result during the construction process.

Next Meeting: The next regular BIPED meeting will be held at noon on Thursday, April 17, 2008 in Committee Room No. 2.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary

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Councillor Brownoff, Chair