

Present:

Chair - Councillor Bose
Councillor Rasode
Mayor Watts

Absent:

Councillor Hunt

Guests:

Elizabeth Model, Downtown
Surrey BIA

Staff Present:

P. Bellefontaine, Transportation Engineer
J. Boan, Transportation Manager
V. Lalonde, General Manager, Engineering
N. Dyrbye, Legislative Services

Quorum was not established at the start of the meeting.

The Agenda was varied at the start of the meeting.

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Debra Simms, Friends of Bear Creek Park**

84th Avenue road allowance closure through Bear Creek Park.

The Chair advised that this issue is premature to discuss. The City is in the process of evaluating its options and dealing with public consultations to understand what the goals should be.

The delegation made the following comments:

- The Friends of Bear Creek Park want to have the 84th Avenue road allowance closed and permanently removed so that if the City has future plans then they will need to go to referendum. Surrey cannot afford not to preserve green spaces and trees.
- The group has prepared a synopsis of options to improve traffic flow in the area. A thorough analysis of 88th Avenue from the Highway #1 to Delta has been conducted and each potential problem has been reviewed and a suggested solution provided.

Reference to the traffic and transit on 88th Avenue is touched on briefly, however a full study cannot be completed at this time until the full effect of the Golden Ears Bridge and South Fraser Perimeter Road is completed.

A hand-out containing alternative options was provided on-table.

The Chair made the following further comments:

- The City is making a commitment to give further opportunities to individuals and groups to speak to this Committee about this issue.

Staff made the following comments:

- The City is looking forward to engaging more with community groups and stakeholders. In 2010, there will be further dialogue with citizens about these issues and the many other programs that the City is and will be promoting.

2. **Lisa Fox**

84th Avenue road extension.

The following comments were made:

- Although there are significant traffic issues in the area, having a road extension through Bear Creek Park is not the answer.
- In a letter to Council, four recommendations were put forward that the Transportation Committee should endorse:
 - Close or remove the 10 meter road allowance under the Community Charter Act (by doing so also take care of the removal of the 999m² from the north east corner of 84th Avenue and King George Highway and restore this paved road to parkland);
 - Consolidate the parkland parcels south of the proposed 84th Avenue with each other and the larger Bear Creek Park north of 84th Avenue. Re-attach the 999m² removed section to Bear Creek Park;
 - Dedicate all the parkland under the Bear Creek name; and
 - Place a Conservation Covenant in favour of the Fraser Valley Conservancy over the parkland south of 84th Avenue.
- It is important that the City work to take care of dedicated parkland and not erode the trust in the people and therefore should seriously consider all four recommendations.
- With respect to covenants, this also needs to be seriously considered as it will help to get community support for the City as well as provide tax incentives for developers.
- A letter from West Coast Environmental Law outlines dedication of park lands as per the Community Charter and should be reviewed prior to any decisions being made.

The Chair made the following comments:

- The City would like to explore all options and review all the information before the recommendations can be responded to, including the impact of the SFPR and Highway 1 projects, future transit expansion and opportunities for improved traffic management on the corridor. It is important to have a certain level of comfort before any further decisions on 84th Avenue are made otherwise there might be a false sense of closure.

The Chair thanked both the Delegates for their presentations.

The Delegates left the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the November 16, 2009 meeting to be adopted.

It was
Committee meeting held on November 16, 2009, be received.
Moved by Councillor Rasode
Seconded by Mayor Watts
That the minutes of the Transportation
Carried

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

D. NEW BUSINESS

2. Transportation Strategic Plan Early Action Progress

Staff made the following comments:

- The Transportation Strategic Plan (TSP) was adopted about a year ago. One central pillar of the plan was to report back annually on progress and over time, establish metrics to measure this.
- Staff plans to issue a 'report card' in the next few months that is planned to be more comprehensive in future years. It will assist the public in understanding the many transportation initiatives and investments undertaken by the City.
- The TSP identified eight early actions.
 - 1) Improve existing and establish new intergovernmental relationships.
 - 2) Partner with TransLink on rapid transit studies.

Federal and Provincial Government:

- The City needs to build on relationships that we have with Federal and Provincial Governments, RCMP, TransLink and Schools and School Boards.
- The City has had heavy involvement over the last several years with the South Fraser Perimeter Road, Highway 99 interchange and ramps and Highway #1 widening. The City meets with the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) and TransLink at least 3 times per year concerning these and other issues.
- The City has also been working to obtain funding from outside agencies and have been successful to receive \$8 million in Federal funds for 96th Avenue – 152nd Street to 176th Street and \$8.5 million in Federal/Provincial funds for the City's cycling infrastructure including three pedestrian/cycling bridges and pathways.

Police:

- City staff has a long standing relationship with the RCMP, but is seeking ways to build further on this.

- Staff would wish to examine enhanced working relationships on shared priorities such as:
 - Speed enforcement (supporting the 2010 City wide speed limit review); and
 - Emergency planning.

TransLink:

- The City is continuing to work with TransLink on the following initiatives:
 - Rapid Transit studies (Phase 1 complete). – Early Action #2
 - City Centre and Town Centre plans and Transit Exchanges – for example, this was quite successful, specifically in Newton and Semiahmoo.
 - Individual route planning for new bus services.
 - Planning and infrastructure works for King George Blvd B-Line. The City has installed extended busy bays in preparation for the B-Line so that it can be implemented as soon as TransLink has the funding to operate it.
 - MRN minor capital funding (King George Blvd., Fraser Highway, 96th Avenue) – the City successfully obtained an additional \$1 million regional needs funding.
 - TRIPP and BICCS funding for transit and cycling.
 - Regional Liaison through MRTAC and Subcommittees.

Schools and School Board:

- The City has had a long standing relationship with Surrey Schools and the School Board. Currently, collaborating on the City Wide Safe Schools Initiative.
- Joint application has been submitted for federal funding related to education and encouraging kids to walk and cycle to school.
- There is a joint City/School Board Liaison Group that has led to a number of different initiatives and safety improvements.

3) Service Redesign

- Expanded inventory of infrastructure:
 - Improve infrastructure capital and maintenance planning.
 - Meet PSAB requirements.
- Spatial tracking of all service requests:
 - Better coordination between Divisions.
 - Better manage multiple inquiries and repeat clients.
- Created ability to view City's snow plough trucks on a map:
 - Better manage and direct operations.
- A large effort has been made to enhance the information on the City's infrastructure to allow improved management and maintenance strategies.

- A new version of Cosmos will be coming in the New Year – Cosmos 2. This program will also allow Cosmos capabilities for Council and Staff at Council meetings.
- 4) Strategic Missing Link Review
- Agreement on approach to achieving a finer road grid through the development process.
 - Assessed, identified all strategic missing links in the City and developed a list of:
 - Top priorities;
 - Concerns raised during the 84th Avenue public process; and
 - Implementation strategy to be re-evaluated.

Work in progress and next steps:

- Update Major Road Classification (R91) Map – first update to Council in early 2010;
 - Create new Road Allowance Map – to Council by mid 2010;
 - Further review of strategic road network as part of a broader public process on transportation attitudes and priorities; and
 - Review and update of all road network plans.
- 5) Speed Limit Review
- TAC developed the Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits (completed April 2009);
 - Surrey was a member of the Project Steering Committee – provided considerable input and guidance;
 - 2010 Departmental Goal to review speed limits for all City roads using the new methodology; and
 - Work with RCMP and ICBC on the implementation and reducing speeding.
- 6) Walking and Cycling Plans Update
- Public consultation (March – July 2009).
 - Staff Advisory Group;
 - Key stakeholders contacted directly in Spring 2009; and
 - Public online survey in June 2009 (400 responses).
 - Broad public support for new plans.
 - Walking themes and priorities of public:
 - Prefer routes further from high traffic volumes and speeds;
 - Prefer greener walking routes;
 - Destinations (shops, leisure etc.) too far away; and
 - Lack of adequate transit.
 - Cycling themes and priorities of public:
 - Proximity of traffic to bike lanes;
 - Traffic speeds and volumes;
 - Sweeping and maintenance of bike lanes; and
 - Incompleteness of network.

Next steps:

- First draft of plans to be completed early 2010;
- Presentation to Transportation Committee in early 2010;
- Consultation on drafts with stakeholders and the public in early 2010;
- Updated plans to Transportation Committee by mid 2010; and
- Seek Council endorsement of the finalized plans by mid 2010.

Mayor Watts arrived at the meeting at 11:27 a.m. and quorum was established.

7) Safe and Active Schools

School Safety and Operational Review

- Reviewing walking, cycling and vehicle access, movements and parking;
- Identifying operational issues and concerns;
- All 120 elementary and secondary schools to be assessed – 50 elementary schools completed to date in.

Engineering Action Plan

- Short, intermediate and long term projects;
- Priorities – need, timelines, budget – monitoring; and
- More than 40 improvements to be implemented in 2010.

Education/Motivation Action Plan

- Implement programs in tandem with engineering improvements;
- Supported by School District #36, RCMP, VACC, BEST and other City Departments (Municipal Stakeholders Committee);
- Utilizing established HASTE Program to pilot at 3 schools (Bridgeview Elementary School, Strawberry Hill Elementary School and George Greenaway Elementary School):

Public awareness and Information strategy:

- 2010 Departmental Goal; and
- Retain public relations specialist services to develop an action plan and strategy.

The Committee made the following comments:

- Part of the education piece should be coming from someone at the school to deal with the parents, perhaps someone part of the PAC.

8) ITS and Surrey Traffic Control Centre

- Key component of the City's overall strategy to respond to increasing transportation demands along with:

- Finer grid (new roads and missing links);
 - Road widening and intersection improvements;
 - More transit, walking and cycling; and
 - TDM.
- ITS maximize utilization of existing roadway capacity;
 - Affordable and good return on investment;

4. City Centre Road Naming

The following comments were made:

- Feedback has been received from the business community concerning 'East Whalley Ring Road' being renamed to 'Whalley Drive' and that this new name may not be appropriate.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved by Councillor Rasode
 Seconded by Mayor Watts
 That the Transportation Committee
 recommend to Council that they further rename East Whalley Ring Road from
 'Whalley Drive' to 'Whalley Boulevard'.

Carried

- The City is working with the Post Office in order to allow a grace period for the name change.

3. Pay Parking Implementation

The following comments were made:

Progress

- Council approved to award contract July 2009;
- Contract preparations complete;
- Public and stakeholder consultations undertaken – Newton TC objections;
- 25 parking stations ordered;
- Preparatory civil works completed;
- IT and enforcement systems established;
- Staff training programmed;
- First stations potentially installed before Christmas at existing parking meter locations; and
- Additional stations in new locations – planned for post Christmas.

Newton Town Centre

- Original request from property owner on 137th Street with empty units.

- Consultation undertaken – objections from businesses.
- Staff met merchants to discuss.
- Further dialogue with businesses will be undertaken.

Project expansion important to address:

- Growing City
 - Increased demands on limited road space.
 - Requires increased management and intervention.
- Parking Supply and Turnover
- Short, medium or long stay.
- Equitable supply.
- Supporting City Centre and Town Centres vitality and business friendly.
- TDM Tool and transit supportive.
- Trip end Services. Positive experience = return visits.

Councillor Rasode left the meeting at 12:05 p.m. and quorum was lost.

Recommendations:

- Implement projects already served by parking meters;
- Implement single parking station in Newton Town Centre at originally requested location meet with all business owners; and
- Implement projects planned for parking expansion in early 2010 in conjunction with further public information and consultation.

1. R-91 Update

The following comments were made:

Fraser Heights:

- Staff met with the Fraser Heights Community Association and they are in agreement with the classification changes.
- A desire was supposed to have 104th Avenue downgraded from arterial to collector status.

153rd Street in Fleetwood

- Planning & Development Department supports this road link to support redevelopment and traffic circulation.
- This new connection has been flagged with the school district.

105A Avenue

- West of 140th Street – approved through City Centre LUP – add to R-91.
- East of 140th Street – update R-91 in coordination with the Rapid Transit study or through 104th Avenue corridor land use planning.

- Staff would like to go through the public consultation process before adjusting the R-91.

Newton Town Centre

- New road network will be incorporated in the Town Centre plan.

Croydon Drive and 164th Street

- Alignment options still being examined.
- Future update to the Transportation Committee.
- New road network will be incorporated in NCP #2.

Next Steps

- Corporate Report to Council seeking approval of R-91 changes and strategy for future changes in early 2010.
- By mid 2010 – present draft Road Allowance Map to transportation Committee for review.
- Corporate Report to Council seeking approval for By-law changes and approval of Road Allowance Map by mid 2010.

5. Review Median Road Projects

- (a) 96th Avenue: 152nd Street to 176th Street

This item was deferred to the next Transportation Committee Meeting.

- (b) 132nd Street: 62B Avenue to 64th Avenue

This item was deferred to the next Transportation Committee Meeting.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

H. OTHER BUSINESS

I. NEXT MEETING

J. ADJOURNMENT

The Transportation Committee adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Bose, Chair
Transportation Committee