

# *Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minutes*

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**Present:**

Councillor Gill - Chairperson  
Councillor Hunt  
Councillor Rasode  
Councillor Steele

**Absent:****Staff Present:**

J. Boan, Transportation Manager, Engineering  
V. Lalonde, General Manager, Engineering  
P. Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager, Engineering  
P. Lee, Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects Manager, Engineering  
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

**Guests:**

Debbie Lawrence  
Dave Deane  
Michel Touzard  
Pauline Cremin  
Elizabeth Model

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the July 16, 2012 meeting to be adopted.

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt

Seconded by Councillor Rasode

That the minutes of the Transportation

Committee meeting held on July 16, 2012 be received.

Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

1. **Traffic Concerns on o Avenue 17000 Block – Update**

The Manager of Transportation provided an update on Traffic Concerns on o Avenue.

A petition was forwarded to the City in September, 2011 requesting traffic calming on o Avenue and Peace Park Drive. o Avenue is narrower than a typical road and there is a playground zone with a posted speed of 30 km/h.

Staff provided the following comments:

- The playground zone warrant for signage is met, but the reduced speed limit warrant is not met.
- As explained at the previous TIC meeting, traffic calming is not warranted at this location.
- Although the road is narrow, traffic volumes and speeds are relatively low enabling pedestrian activity.

- Road widening and sidewalks would be implemented in the future through redevelopment.
- Based on the delegations concerns, staff are intending to retain the 30 km/h speed limit but make no other changes at this time.
- The committee supported staffs' approach.

2. **32 Avenue Update**  
**File No. 5400-80-03200**

The Manager of Transportation provided an update on 32 Avenue.

The following comments were made:

- TransLink forwarded a report to its Executive for review. The Executive requested further information from City staff, which was provided.
- Staff are also undertaking additional traffic counts to better quantify the change in truck traffic.
- As a result, TransLink will be delaying the process to incorporate this new information before bringing a report back to the Executive and Board.

3. **Pattullo Bridge Update**

The Manager of Rapid Transit and Strategic Projects provided an update on the Pattullo Bridge Project.

Staff made the following comments:

- In the Spring, consultation was held with stakeholders. New Westminster stated that they were not aware of all the technical workings done since 2008 and felt more work was required. New Westminster also wanted to complete their new Transportation Master Plan before moving forward on Pattullo Bridge options.
- Surrey staff met with TransLink, New Westminster and the province to launch a strategic process to re-examine all the previous technical proposals including Tree Island (closer to Richmond) and Sapperton Crossing (Burnaby). This process is planned for completion by the end of 2012 and will be rolled into a Regional Investment Strategy; a long term transportation strategy that will prioritize infrastructure and transit improvements.
- The project will essentially be delayed by one year; however, TransLink has agreed to continue to pursue elements of the design work for the 6-lane crossing option.
- TransLink has stated it is unable to implement a new bridge, or enforce it, if both communities (Surrey/New Westminster) are not on board.
- TransLink believes that the planned 2018 construction date will not change with this new process.

The Committee made the following comments:

- New Westminster is not happy with the road connectivity and exits.

- New Westminster will be bringing forward their issues at UBCM to oppose the bridge.
- The bridge is a serious safety concern and requires rehabilitation or replacement right away.
- It was recommended the Committee write to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure copying the Critic of Transportation and Infrastructure stating Surrey's position.
- Metro Vancouver planning includes a 6-lane model for the Pattullo Bridge.

It was Moved by Councillor Rasode  
 Seconded by Councillor Steele  
 That the Transportation and Infrastructure  
 Committee recommends that staff draft a letter for the Committee's review  
 to the Minister of Transportation and copied to the Critic of  
 Transportation detailing the City of Surrey's position on the Pattullo  
 Bridge.

Carried

#### 4. **Rapid Transit Update**

File No. 8630-01

The Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects provided an update on Rapid Transit.

The presentation summarized three tracks of activities that the City is currently conducting in its advocacy of an early implementation of Light Rail Transit (LRT) for Surrey.

- Track A: Wrap-up of Phase 2 of the Joint TransLink/Province Surrey Rapid Transit Alternative Analysis (SRTAA) Study
- Track B: Addition technical work by the City in defining the wider benefits and justification of its LRT vision
- Track C: Preparation of a advocacy/communication program for "Making the Case for LRT" in Surrey
- Staff will continue to brief the Committee with updates

The Committee made the following comments:

- A member of the Committee met with the President of UBC. The President recognizes Surrey's need for LRT and believes it should proceed the UBC-Broadway Line.

## D. **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. **Implementing Bicycle Infrastructure – Challenges**

The Manager of Transportation provided a report on Implementing Bicycle Infrastructure – Challenges.

Staff made the following comments:

The three types of projects include Cycling, Greenway and Bike Routes:

- *Greenway Projects:*
  - 4 km of greenway is built each year. 75 km is complete with 275 km to be built totalling 350 km.
  - Tynehead Overpass and Pioneer Overpass have been successful with recent counts showing users of Tynehead Overpass increasing to over 300 daily.
  - Concerns from residents include security and safety, privacy, property value, fear of change and drainage/vegetation. Staff noted that there will be no changes to property values; in some cases the property values will increase.
  - **Surrey Lake Greenway**
    - 104 to 144 Street to be done in two phases
    - The pathway is 10 m away from the properties throughout the area with an overall corridor width of 20 – 40 m
    - Plan to proceed with construction in 2013; advise residents
    - Require removal of resident encroachments
  - **Fleetwood Greenway**
    - Proceed to consultation
    - Include special consideration for narrow corridor
  - **Riverside Greenway**
    - Undertake further environmental assessment
    - Proceed to consultation
    - Report back to TIC
  - **20 Avenue**
    - Residents were opposed to parking
    - Endorse revised alignment
    - Continue consultation with residents
    - Explore further mitigation to address Sunnyside Acres Heritage Society concerns regarding tree loss
- *Cycling Projects:*
  - The amount of bike lanes being implemented have increased.
  - Concerns from residents include loss of parking, loss of travel lanes, safety and fear of change.
  - 188 Street Project was successfully introduced through extensive consultation and refinements to the design to address concerns regarding loss of parking on one side of the street. The project achieved 2.5 km of new bike lanes with very little cost.
  - 128 Street Project is planned for October, 2012. Parking would be banned for less than 500 m. Consultation has started for this 8.5 km of on-street bike lanes (Highway 10 to 100 Avenue). The cost will be kept low by varying the bike lane width between 1.3m and 1.8 m

- *Neighbourhood Bike Routes:*
  - Low costs to implement
  - Seeking Gateway program funding for the Port Mann City Centre route as it will link to Port Mann Bridge.
  - A bridge would be added over Bon Accord Creek and a pathway at Robin Park.
  - This route is important as 104 and 108 Avenues do not have any good east/west opportunities

Next steps:

- Staff will continue to keep the TIC apprised of progress and any future issues will be reviewed with the TIC.

The Committee made the following comments:

- The road surface traveling north from 64 Avenue onto Fraser Highway is very confusing in the rain due to the old paint that was burned off.
- A process needs to be put in place to deal with the encroachments. Staff noted that the strategy may have to be different for each situation.
- The City needs to work with the cyclists as well as those who want to save the trees along the 20 Ave route. It should be acceptable to remove the lower valued trees like alders and cottonwoods. The coniferous trees should be protected.

## 2. **Heritage Rail Streetcar Update**

The Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects provided an update on the Heritage Rail Streetcar.

Staff made the following comments:

- In January, 2011 Council approved \$2.9 million in funding which was used to purchase the land to house the "car barn". In February, 2012 the budget increased with additional funding of \$1.175 million.
- Lark Group was instrumental in the design and project management, with the site work carried out by RDM.
- Staff were present when the two refurbished cars were moved from Sullivan to Cloverdale on August 15, 2012.
- The Operating Agreement signed by the City, the Society and Southern Railway has been executed. BC Hydro is to make the final approval.
- Insurance coverage, certification and training to operate the car are underway.
- The Society has received official railway operator status from the BC Safety authority and is now an operable railway. A "Thank you Celebration" will take place at the end of October.
- Training, testing and revenue service will be running Victoria Day weekend next year.

The Committee made the following comments:

- City staff has done tremendous work on this project.

- The society is embarking on the next phase of the project which is building a replica Cloverdale station through donations and volunteers. The station will be built off-site and transported to the location.
- Initially the society did not require water or sewer; however, the society has now requested water service and a sanitary connection. Staff is exploring possible ideas to accommodate the request.

### 3. Highway 99 - 16 Avenue Interchange Design Project

The Manager of Transportation provided a report on the Highway 99 - 16 Avenue Interchange Design Project.

Staff made the following comments:

- Staff has conducted planning studies on the Hwy 99 interchanges in South Surrey for the past few years and have been coordinating with the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI). The need to move forward with the 16 Avenue interchange has arisen from the growing regional commuter demand from South Surrey, Langley and Abbotsford, along with increasing needs for goods movement, border crossing accessibility and growing congestion on 32 Avenue at the 32 Avenue interchange.
- In the Spring of this year, staff was approached by MoTI to initiate discussion on the design concept and cost-sharing arrangement for a full interchange on 16 Avenue at Hwy 99. By early summer, the design concept for a tight diamond interchange was agreed between MoTI and Surrey. Surrey and TransLink also agreed to cost-sharing the design fees for the project.
- MoTI has appointed R.F. Binnie & Associates Ltd. (Binnie) as the consultant to carry out the design of the interchange with a completion date scheduled for mid-December of this year. The actual construction cost of the interchange would not be established until the detailed design is completed and bids are received from contractors.
- The funding commitment for construction of the interchange has yet to be confirmed, but there is potential for it to proceed in early 2013.
- One of the key design issues was traffic management of 16 Avenue during construction. As this is critical for the design work, the City needs to confirm with MOTI as to whether they would support a full closure of 16 Avenue during construction. Binnie has indicated that a full closure of 16 Avenue would accelerate construction schedule by 14 weeks and would accrue a construction saving of nearly \$1 million. A full closure is preferred from a traffic safety viewpoint and would minimize the construction footprint and environmental impacts. Staff noted that Council has supported similar construction closures in the past, such as 24 Avenue during the construction of the Hwy 99 overpass.
- Binnie has also indicated that the new on- and off-ramps located on the east side of Hwy 99 may be able to be constructed prior to the full implementation of the interchange. This would allow truck and general purpose traffic to access Hwy 99 while 16 Avenue is closed. Such an arrangement would minimize the truck traffic concerns on parallel streets such as 32 Avenue.

- The Committee expressed support for the full closure of 16 Avenue during construction. Staff will be communicating this to MoTI.

4. **Development/Road Network Planning for Area Bounded by 104 Avenue, 107 Avenue, 127 Street and 128 Street**

The Manager of Transportation provided a report on the Development/Road Network Planning for Area Bounded by 104 Avenue, 107 Avenue, 127 Street and 128 Street.

Staff made the following comments:

- The current road concept plan for the area is broadly sufficient to service the current RF land uses and no changes to the road network are required if the lot layout completed at the north end continues south. The current plan includes a north-south road (127A Street) between 104A Avenue and 107 Avenue and a discontinuous east-west connection between 127 Street and 128 Street.
- The area is currently zoned RF so subdivision can occur with approval from the Approving Officer, and thus would not be seen by Council. Subdivision to lots smaller than RF size would require rezoning and Council approval.
- This area is heavily treed and much of the land is identified as an ecosystem site in the Ecosystem Management Study. Past applications in this area have raised considerable concern from the community regarding tree loss, densification and traffic.
- Any changes to the land use or densities in the area will require the east-west road network to be assessed and possible additional connections identified to support the densification.
- An application has been submitted to rezone to RF-12 to create 16 lots from the current 2 lots. Pre-notification letters have recently been sent to the neighbourhood and the development proposal sign has now been installed at the site. A public information meeting is planned for the application.

Councillor Steele left the meeting at 4:46 pm

- The subject development application includes the implementation an east-west connection between 127 Street and 127A Street. Engineering has agreed to support reducing the road width standard from 20 m to 17 m, for this new east-west road, in order to preserve more trees.
- As this application may trigger additional development interest in the area, staff and the TIC see a need for a land use plan for the area. Through this development's public information meeting process, staff could receive community feedback indicating the level of support for the proposed development and views on appropriate densities for the area. Based on this feedback, a decision could be made on the appropriate process required for the land use review. The land use review of the area would allow consideration of the ecosystem/tree impacts of broader development in the area. A strategy to minimize the impact on trees within the area would be developed that also considers the impact on views of the area from other parts of the city, including the Pattullo Bridge.

Committee endorsed next steps:

- Allow the application to hold a public information meeting and obtain public feedback that would be used to inform staff and Council on the most appropriate approach/process to developing a land use plan for the area.
- A plan for the area should be completed prior to this development application being taken to Council. By doing so, this application and any future ones, would be considered by Council in the context of a broader land use plan.

Councillor Rasode left the meeting at 4:50 pm

**E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**H. OTHER BUSINESS**

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Transportation Committee will be held on **Monday, October 15** from 2:00 pm in the Executive Meeting Room.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The Transportation Committee meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Councillor Gill, Chair