

# *Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minutes*

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**Present:**

Chair - Councillor Gill  
Councillor LeFranc  
Councillor Woods  
C. Davidson (YR)  
R. Dhaliwal (YR)

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

F. Smith, General Manager, Engineering  
P. Bellefontaine, Manager, Transportation  
Planning, Engineering  
P. Lee, Manager, Rapid Transit & Strategic  
Projects, Engineering  
D. Harkness, Parking Services Manager  
J. Arason, Utilities Manager  
K. Grewal, Manager, Financial Reporting  
J. Rehal, Manager, By-Law Enforcement  
J. Magtoto, Engineering Assistant  
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

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**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. The Committee was requested to pass a motion adopting the minutes of September 11, 2015.

It was

Moved by Councillor LeFranc  
Seconded by Councillor Woods

That the minutes of the Transportation and  
Infrastructure Committee meeting held on September 11, 2015 be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS**

1. **Transit Network Consultation**  
File: 8630-01

Paul Lee, Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects provided the following introductory comments:

- City staff has been working with TransLink to assess bus transit services in Surrey, with a focus on South Surrey.
- TransLink has a limited amount of bus hours to re-allocate to help address the demand of the growing population within the region. Additional funding for service expansion is not available as the recent Plebiscite on funding did not pass.
- Dan Freeman, Manager of Transit Network Management and Margaret Wittgens, Director of System Planning and Consultation were introduced to present to the Committee on proposed changes to bus routes in Surrey.

The following comments were made:

- TransLink has developed 85 near-term potential options to revise the bus transit network across the region. Twelve of the proposed changes are relevant to Surrey.
- The bus transit network is reviewed annually to identify any changes required to the system. Currently, any changes that occur must be done within existing resources.
- The four specific packages for changes related to Surrey are:
  1. **Cloverdale – Panorama Village** (Route 320/Route 341 )  
Introducing service along Highway 10
  2. **King George Boulevard** (Route 392)  
Moving towards a future B-Line service to White Rock
  3. **Walnut Grove-Lougheed Highway** (Route 501/Route 509)  
Increasing travel options on Highway 1
  4. **South Surrey – White Rock** (Routes 351/352/354/C50/C51/C52/C53)  
Matching service to demand and increase efficiency

Public consultation using an on-line survey will take place between October 13 and November 6. Once TransLink receives feedback from the consultations, decisions will be made and implementation will take place within a year or two. The timing depends on the nature of the feedback received and coordination of infrastructure work with the City.

## C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### 1. **Pattullo Bridge** File: 8310-01

The Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects provided an update to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) on the Pattullo Bridge.

The following comments were made:

- TransLink has re-focused its direction with the rehabilitation program by not proceeding with the seismic work on the bridge but to focus on the bridge deck replacement. The 18 month closure has now been scaled down to a 5 month closure. Any financial savings resulted from the reduced scope will be re-directed to the bridge replacement project. TransLink continues to move forward on the design work of the replacement project.
- TransLink has made an application to PPP Canada for investment of the new bridge. As a result of that application, TransLink may be required to produce a P3 business case by March, 2016 for submission to PPP Canada.
- The Committee asked staff for clarification on the P3 funding application for Pattullo Bridge and if it will be competing with the Light Rail Transit

(LRT) P3 application. The General Manager noted that the Pattullo Bridge application is not competing against federal funding for LRT.

- The Committee asked staff for clarification on the bridge deck repairs. The Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects noted that the bridge deck will be patched where needed to minimize costs. In the event the bridge deck cannot be adequately repaired, TransLink may have to impose closure of the bridge.
- The Committee ensued discussion about the safety of the bridge and the potential risks if a significant event were to occur. The Chair requested that staff inquire about other premature failure concerns of the bridge that could result in the bridge being rendered inoperable. The Chair also requested that staff look into the volume flows on the bridge and the potential causes for the recent increased high volumes of traffic on Highway 1.
- The Committee questioned staff about the option of tolling for the new bridge. The Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects Manager noted that the tolling option is dependent on provincial policy and advised that staff have met with TransLink to assess the option of an equitable tolling plan such as Mobility Pricing envisioned in the Mayors' plan.
- The Committee questioned staff what the future alignment would look like and the Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects noted that over four years ago work was done on the alignment and it was put aside due to the concerns of New Westminster. The new bridge alignment may depend on the timing of the replacement of the existing rail bridge adjacent to the Pattullo Bridge.

Staff will provide the Committee an update at a future TIC meeting of the new bridge alignment developed previously.

## 2. Transit Update

File: 8310-01

The Manager of Rapid Transit & Strategic Projects provided an update on the Light Rail Transit project to the TIC.

The following comments were made:

- LRT design work will be able to continue to March, 2016 now that the TransLink Board has approved additional funding. The design work is essential for the project to meet the PPP Canada timeline for a P3 business case.
- It is anticipated that PPP Canada will provide an oral update on the status of the Round Seven application some time in October. Formal notification will likely occur after the federal election.
- The General Manager noted that staff will be going to Council November 16 to provide a progress update on various projects the City has been working on.

**D. NEW BUSINESS****1. District Energy: Status and Rate Review Panel Update**

File: 5280-01

Jeff Arason, Manager, Utilities provided an update to the TIC on the Status and Review Panel.

The following comments were made:

- District Energy is a community based heating system that centralizes heating infrastructure as opposed to individual heating systems such as boilers within each building.
- The Surrey Sustainability Charter noted that the City would evaluate district energy opportunities in Surrey and in 2009 and the first strategy was completed. In 2010, Council supported the establishment of the thermal energy utility. The goal of the utility was to service the Surrey City Centre. A couple of the objectives of the utility included establishing resilient infrastructure that would allow fuel sources to be changed over time and, to achieve greenhouse gas reductions by changing fuel sources as technology grows.
- In 2013, the City came up with a number of principals that Council supported. The policies focused on cost recovery, rate stability, low carbon energy, rate competitiveness and fairness. There were concerns from the development community of what the rates would be for the utility. Council supported a proposal to lock in a set rate for 3 years based on a BC Hydro rate benchmark that was developed by working together with the development community.
- The development community also asked that the utility be subject to the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) which is a body that regulates private energy utilities. The City is not required to be regulated by the BCUC and the BCUC does not want to regulate city owned utilities. To mimic the BCUC, an External Rate Review Panel was established (the "Panel") in 2014 and comprised of three qualified individuals. The Panel addresses any transparency aspects on the utility. Each year, in advance of rates going to Council, the Panel reviews the proposed rates.
- To give the Panel direction, a City policy was established based on the following six principles:
  1. Cost Recovery
  2. Rate Competitiveness
  3. Return on Investment
  4. Shortfall Recovery
  5. Low-Carbon Renewal Energy
  6. Fairness

- The first Panel meeting took place last year and the rates were supported. The Panel met again on September 2 and worked through the model in great detail. The Panel was provided supporting material and an Information Request from the Panel was submitted to staff on October 2. Staff reviewed the request and is working to respond to this request by the end of the week of October 5. By the end of October, staff are expecting a letter of endorsement from the Panel for the proposed 2016 energy rates.

The Chair thanked the delegation for the presentation.

## 2. **Fraser Surrey Docks Access Options Update**

File: 5400-08

The following item was first presented to the TIC in January, 2015. Philip Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager provided an update on the Fraser Surrey Docks Access Options.

The following comments were made:

- The planned closure to the Elevator Road rail crossing and access into Surrey Fraser Docks is associated with safety concerns of traffic queuing on to the South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR) when the train barriers are down. A second BNSF track is under construction which is expected to increase train crossings at the access including possible shunting. An agreement was made between BNSF and MoTI that the closure would happen by December 1, 2015. Predominantly, the closure affects properties and businesses south of Elevator Road.
- Surrey Fraser Docks has been looking at an alternative access using an internal private road connection via Robson Road and Timberland Road connecting to the Tannery Road interchange to the north.
- Surrey has raised concerns regarding the reliability and usefulness of the connection especially as it relates to emergency services access, given there are 9 railway crossings between the Tannery Road interchange and Elevator Road access. Surrey has highlighted these concerns to the Port, confirmed that it considers the Robson Road connection as an interim alternative and encourages the Port to seek a permanent means of access.
- At the last TIC meeting, staff identified some of the options that had been reviewed by the Port. The different concepts all have issues of some nature which include potential noise and visual impacts for neighbouring residential properties, large construction costs for the interchange and property constraints.
- The project for access from SFPR to Surrey Fraser Docks has been submitted by the Port to the Fraser River Trade Area program. As such any project will be competing against several other potential projects within that program. Therefore there is no guarantee that an alternative, permanent access will be achieved in the shorter term.

- Surrey has a number of other projects that are a priority and although access through Robson Road and Timberland Road is not a first priority, staff believes the ultimate solution should continue to be pursued.
- Staff recommended that a letter be forwarded to the MoTI and Port Metro Vancouver to confirm that the City considers that access through Robson Road and Timberland Road is an interim solution and that Port Metro Vancouver continues to pursue a permanent access.

It was

Moved by Councillor LeFranc  
Seconded by Councillor Woods

That the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recommend that a staff letter be forwarded to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and Port Metro Vancouver to confirm that access through Robson Road and Timberland Road is an interim solution and that more permanent access options should continue to be pursued.

Carried

### 3. **East Clayton Parking Update**

File: 5480-01

Dave Harkness, Parking Services Manager provided an update to the TIC on parking in East Clayton.

The following comments were made:

- Total parking service requests for Surrey between 2009 and 2015 were presented. It was noted that service requests or complaints dramatically increased since 2013 with an increase in requests associated with small lot and multi-unit residential projects. The majority of complaints are related to concerns that there is insufficient parking on street.
- It was confirmed through surveys of East Clayton that virtually all on-street parking supply is fully occupied. In 2014, the City reviewed the option of queuing streets in an effort to increase parking supply in East Clayton. 18 locations were identified as potential streets to consider a queuing configuration and as part of that process, 6000 letters were sent to residents requesting their feedback on modifying specific streets to queuing streets. Of the letters sent out, 10% responded with 59% opposed to the proposed changes. Staff were surprised at the results considering initial feedback from the Cloverdale Community Association (CCA) indicated that queuing streets were supported.
- 3 of the 18 streets had a close vote between supporting and opposing queuing streets; therefore, staff went back to those residents and asked if they would re-consider. In June, 2015, the responses showed that residents

were against the option. One street did vote to proceed with queuing conversion.

- In August, 2015 the City Manager was approached by a resident of 69A Avenue requesting queuing configuration of 69A Avenue. Staff reached out to residents again with a survey and the option of queuing configuration was rejected by a substantial majority.
- Feedback received from the community in the form of comment cards indicated that the biggest concern for residents of East Clayton are illegal suites. Staff noted that improper use of garages also contributes to the high demand for on street parking.
- The Chair requested an update from Bylaw Enforcement staff on Surrey's Secondary Suites policy. The Manager of Bylaws noted that the department has been working with the Legal and Finance departments to amend the policy and increase the current \$1000 penalty for unregistered suites. It was further noted that an enforcement plan exists; however, consideration needs to be given to families that occupy these suites.

Bylaw Enforcement Staff will update the TIC at a future meeting and will also appear at Council for endorsement on the policy.

- The Committee questioned staff about the City of Vancouver's on-street policy where each house receives two parking passes. Staff explained why that program was applicable to parts of Vancouver but not the East Clayton situation, and that it would require enforcement resources not currently available.
- Any future roads within the Single Family zone will be configured for 10.5 m which is ample room for parking on both sides without a queuing configuration.
- The City has explored and tried many options to resolve the parking issue in East Clayton. One initiative that had some success was the Give Your Car a Home campaign, a contest that promoted residents to clean out their garages to be able to park their cars in that space. Parking complaints in East Clayton have reduced from 106 to 86 in the current year.
- One successful incident where the City was able to deal with the concerns of residents was the widening project on 72 Avenue. Residents fronting 72 Avenue enjoyed the use of parking on a gravel shoulder that was turned into a grassy boulevard with trees. Residents complained about the loss of parking. A survey was done and by re-configuring part of 194A Street and providing temporary parallel parking on 72 Avenue, 191 spaces were provided and the City was able to meet the peak parking demand. There were no concerns expressed by residents during the construction project.

Councillor Gill thanked Parking Services for the extensive work done on this issue.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

G. OTHER BUSINESS

H. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is scheduled for Monday, November 9 @ 2:30 pm City Hall, 2E Community Room A.

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Councillor LeFranc  
Seconded by Councillor Woods  
That the Transportation and Infrastructure  
Advisory Committee meeting do now adjourn.  
Carried

The Transportation and Infrastructure Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:15 pm.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Councillor Gill, Chair