

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Minutes

Present:

Chair - Councillor Gill
Councillor Woods
R. Dhaliwal (Youth Rep.)

Absent:

Councillor LeFranc
C. Davidson (Youth Rep.)

Staff Present:

F. Smith, General Manager, Engineering
P. Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager
A. Afridi, Traffic Operations Signal Team Lead
J. Robertson, Manager, Area Planning &
Development North
S. Fillion, Manager Financial Services
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The Committee was requested to pass a motion adopting the minutes of March 21 and April 15, 2016.

It was

Moved by Councillor Woods

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That the minutes of the Transportation and
Infrastructure Committee meetings held on March 21 and April 15, 2016 be
adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **Truck Repair Association of BC**
File: 5400-05

J. Braich, Truck Repair Association provided a verbal presentation to the
Committee re: Issues with Truck Repair Facilities.

The following comments were made:

- The Truck Repair Association has 50 shops in the lower mainland and employs an average of 7 to 10 people per shop.
- The delegation expressed concerns about unlicensed mobile or yard mechanics (estimated to be about 50-60) that perform various truck repairs and are not certified.
- A certified repair shop must adhere to requirements which include proper zoning and proper disposal of oil and other contaminants. Without the enforcement of proper regulations, fluids such as oil are left on the ground and can be potentially hazardous to the environment. Another concern expressed is for the safety of the trucks when they are repaired by unqualified individuals through mobile servicing.

- The delegation noted that competition with mobile mechanics is challenging and unfair. Certified mechanic shops are required to pay property taxes and abide by a certain standard of regulations that mobile mechanics do not have to abide by.
- The delegation is seeking assistance from the City of Surrey to ensure mobile mechanics have proper business licenses, operate out of proper facilities and follow the same standards that certified businesses follow.
- Staff will look at the issues upon receipt of more detailed information from the delegation and then follow-up with the Committee.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Pattullo Bridge Update

File: 5400-05

Fraser Smith, General Manager, Engineering, provided the following update on the Pattullo Bridge:

- The rehabilitation project is two weeks ahead of schedule and will continue to October 3. A full closure of the bridge is scheduled for the end of September.
- Traffic lineups have been significant but there has been some diversion of vehicles to other bridges. A few incidents occurred, including a collision on June 16 that affected the flow of operations.
- No further work has been done on the current design of the Pattullo Bridge that involves the City. The current consultation period will end July 4 with a public meeting regarding the 125A Street connection work on Saturday, June 25 at Bridgeview Elementary from 10 am to 1 pm.
- The public is in support of the bridge replacement, but many have questioned why the bridge is not going to be 6-lanes and when it would be expanded.
- TransLink has received lot more interest and feedback from the public regarding the Pattullo Bridge project through social media and the website.
- Staff will report back to Council once the summary information is received from TransLink which will likely be in September.

2. Transit Update

File: 8310-01

Fraser Smith, General Manager, Engineering, provided the following update on Transit:

Light Rail Transit (LRT)

- The Federal and Provincial governments have committed \$740 M to improve transit in Metro Vancouver. \$20 million dollars has been allocated for planning, design, and related activities required to prepare for procurement for the South of Fraser Rapid Transit (LRT) project and \$38 million has been allocated for LRT supportive early works including: transit exchange upgrades in Newton and Guildford and also road and utility pre-work.
- Design work is moving ahead on the LRT project for the L-line and Fraser Hwy line. The business case has been accelerated and all parties' involved (Provincial and Federal governments, City of Surrey and TransLink) have been involved in a Risk Evaluation to help refine the cost estimates. Submission of the business case to the Federal government for the 27 km LRT project will occur in October. The Province supports LRT on the L-line and as the first phase of construction but further evaluation on technology for the Fraser Hwy line will continue.

D. NEW BUSINESS**1. Railway Crossings Update**

Amer Afridi, Traffic Operations Signal Team Leader provided an update on Railway Crossing Regulation changes and on the status of Crossing Improvements.

The following comments were made:

- In 1995, a draft form of standards was developed for railway crossings; however, it wasn't until November 27, 2014 that the Grade Crossing Regulations (GCR) and Grade Crossing Standards (GCS) came into effect. Within two years, information will be shared with the railways that require completion by November 27, 2016 and by November 27, 2021 existing crossings are expected to comply with GCR and GCS.
- Federally regulated grade crossings will apply to: Canadian National (CN), Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) and Burlington Northern Sante Fe (BNSF).
- Provincially regulated standards have not been adopted but are expected to adhere to the Federal standards and this is for Southern Railway and BC Rail.
- The Phase-in Period for the basic requirements of existing crossings is effective immediately. The remaining requirements are to be met by November 27, 2021. Any major changes or improvements to a crossing will trigger the requirement for immediate compliance. New crossings will be expected to meet all requirements in effect immediately.

- If sightlines cannot be achieved, the Grade Crossing Warning System Requirements are flashing lights, bells and gates.
- One of the items discussed in length is the Obstruction of Grade Crossings and when the 5 Minute Rule is applied. If a train stops for more than 5 minutes, the rule of disengagement becomes effective. If a train is moving at a slow speed, the rule does not apply.
- The requirements for Whistle Cessation are in the GCR and outline a clear procedure for eliminating whistling at public grade crossings. Due to the high volume of requests concerning whistle cessation, the City intends to pursue this for all crossings in the City of Surrey.
- The procedure for Whistle Cessation is as follows:
 - The municipality consults with the railway company
 - Both parties assess crossing vs. requirements
 - The municipality issues notifications and public notice
 - Both parties agree crossing meets requirements (after improvements if required)
 - The municipality passes a resolution declaring no-whistling
 - Railway uses instruction, notifies Transport Canada and informs municipality within 30 days of agreement to cease whistling
- Current Status of Railway Crossings in Surrey
 - The City will be sharing information with the railway companies and compiling the required data by the November 27 deadline. Most of the information has been collected.
 - **Roberts Bank Railway Corridor**
 - Upgrades have been completed and whistle cessation has been implemented at:
 - 127 A Street
 - King George Boulevard
 - 160 Street
 - 164 Street
 - 168 Street
 - Overpass has been constructed at 152 Street and 192 Street
 - 184 Street and 56 Avenue
 - Grade crossing assessments completed
 - Assessments sent to CP for review

- **Crescent Beach**
 - Meetings have been held with BNSF and the City of Surrey intends to install a 400 m fence along the railway tracks at Crescent Beach to deter trespassing (there is no solid number of trespassers counted; however, there are pathways which determine there is a trend of people trespassing and walking in the area)
 - Gates exist at both crossings
 - Whistle cessation is expected soon after fencing is built

- **Other Federally Regulated Crossings**
 - Crossing grade assessments are complete
 - Engaged railways to share completed assessments and develop a priority list of crossings
 - Golden Ears Way Construction – closure of 104 Avenue crossing and new crossing East of 176 Street
 - Elevator Road is closed to the general public and only opened for emergency responders. The ultimate goal is to close crossing once grade separation solution is in place

2. **Safe & Active Schools Program Update**

Philip Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an update on the Safe & Active Schools Program and associated Capital Works.

- The Safe & Active Schools program was established in 2009 with the intent of developing safe environments for students to walk or cycle to school. This includes the improvement of road safety around schools and also in the broader community, reduction of traffic around schools, and reduction in GHG's.
- The program has made tremendous progress in the past 2 years and enabled communities to connect with the City at a grassroots level and build relationships with parents, schools and the City.

There are two components of the program: "Safe" and "Active". The Safe component includes: Operational Reviews of 150 schools in Surrey and Improving Infrastructure. The Active portion focuses on the education, outreach and planning work which include:

- **Safe**
 - 650 projects have been completed between 2010-2015 in Surrey and totaled \$ 14.4 million. The projects included signage, crosswalks and/or curb bulges, sidewalks, traffic calming projects and other projects.
 - In 2016, there are 35 projects valued at \$5.8 million dollars. There are a range of projects including crosswalks and sidewalks.
 - Projects near schools will continue to receive priority in regular capital programs.

- **Active**
 - The three components (School Travel Planning, Bike Education and Events and Promotion) promote walking and cycling and identify ways to overcome barriers to active travel and improve road safety.
 - The City has worked with 3 to 4 schools per year for travel planning (reached 30 schools since 2009). This year 3 additional schools will be recruited.
 - Approximately 16,000 students have received bicycle training since it was introduced.
 - Education and promotions are undertaken in collaboration with other agencies such as RCMP and ICBC.

- Impacts of the program include the following outcomes:
 - 10% increase in parents at Frost Road Elementary who feel their neighbourhood is safe to walk to school
 - 47% of families at Walnut Road Elementary are walking to school more often (significant improvement)
 - 9% decrease in driving to school at Coast Meridian Elementary
 - 30% decrease in driving to school at Dr. F.D. Sinclair Elementary

- Staff noted that UBC's Centre for Hip Health and Mobility had chosen the Safe & Active Schools program to undertake a study and recognized the program as having potential to be an important part of children's fitness and activity. Staff also recently presented on the program at the CITE conference in Kelowna.

- The Program delivers a number of Sustainability Charter 2.0 outcomes in the areas of inclusion, built environment and neighbourhoods and public safety.

- The Committee noted that there are no sidewalks from Country Woods Drive to 176 Street close to Pacific Heights School. With the growth in student population plus additional traffic, there is a need to improve certain parts of the street from the school to 168 Street that lack sidewalks etc. Staff will review the issue and follow up with the Committee.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. BC Trucking Association Letters to the Township of Langley and the City of Abbotsford re: 16 Avenue Corridor Study and Proposed Improvements.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Councillor Woods
That the Transportation and Infrastructure
Committee receive the information items as presented.
Carried

H. OTHER BUSINESS

Electronic Speed Signs

The Committee discussed the use of electronic speed signs and noted the feedback from residents has been positive.

Staff will provide the Committee information about costs to increase the capacity of the signs and if there are other areas to approach and budget impacts at a future TIC meeting

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is scheduled for **Monday, July 18 @ 2:30 pm** City Hall, 2E Community Room A.

J. ADJOURNMENT

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

The Transportation and Infrastructure Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Gill, Chair