

Council-in-Committee Minutes

Council Chamber City Hall 14245 - 56 Avenue Surrey, B.C. MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011

Time: 4:51 p.m.

Present:

Chairperson - Councillor Rasode Councillor Bose Councillor Hepner Councillor Martin Councillor Villeneuve Mayor Watts

Absent:

Councillor Gill Councillor Hunt Councillor Steele

Staff Present:

City Clerk
City Manager
City Solicitor
Deputy City Clerk
Deputy City Manager

General Manager, Engineering

General Manager, Finance & Technology General Manager, Human Resources

General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture General Manager, Planning & Development

A. DELEGATIONS

 Natasha Raey, Health Promotion Coordinator White Rock/Delta/Surrey, Canadian Cancer Society

File: 3900-01; 0550-20-10

Note: See Corporate Report Ro52 of the Regular Council - Public Hearing agenda.

In attendance before Council, to provide more information and support from the Canadian Cancer Society relative to the Surrey Public Health Smoking Protection By-law No. 16694.

The following comments were made:

- 16.7% of Surrey residents smoke. Tobacco related illness remains the leading cause of preventable death in BC.
- There are a number of benefits for smoke free policies. If there are fewer people smoking there are fewer events of smoke-related diseases causing death.
- By-laws help to de-normalize smoking and help to reduce litter, pollution, and
 environmental damage. By-laws that cover the full spectrum in terms of
 tobacco exposure have yielded successful results. The delegation noted that
 most citizens are law abiding and people tend to take a leadership role and
 remind people about smoking restricted areas.
- Fraser Health and the Canadian Cancer Society are delighted by the new by-law and offered to provide financial resources and volunteers to help train the public.

Philip Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager Walking Plan

File: 8630-01; 0550-20-10

Note: See Corporate Report Ro46 of the Regular Council – Public Hearing agenda.

In attendance before Council to provide information on the City of Surrey "Walking Plan - creating walkable neighbourhoods."

The following comments were made:

- Surrey has had a 25% population increase which has lead to increased complexity and competing demands on the system. Expanded transportation solutions have been important as the public is more knowledgeable and issues such as the environment have become more important to people.
- The Transportation Strategic Plan has 6 Principles which ensure integration of transportation into broader City policies and objectives.
- The City of Surrey walking plan was one of the items identified in the Transportation Strategic Action Plan.
- In 2009, consultation was undertaken involving stakeholders and the public.
 Through 2010, there was a testing of understanding of the issues. A successful
 on-line public consultation survey was undertaken with 400 responses
 received.

Examples of some of the questions that were asked include:

1. What would help you walk more in Surrey?

Responses:

- More off-street paths/walking further from traffic
- Shorter distances to destinations (good land use planning)
- Increased frequency of transit
- More sidewalks

2. What deters you from walking?

Responses:

- Lack of time
- Feeling uncomfortable due to traffic speed and volume
- Unswept or unploughed sidewalks

Four Principles of the Walking Plan (Note: within each of the principles are several actions for change and examples from each were presented):

1. Making Connections - the importance of networks

- Newton Town Centre was reviewed last year. Focussed on holistic, comprehensive approach when targeting neighbourhoods to identify additional sidewalks, lighting, and other needs.
- Completing networks

- Looking at walking "in the whole"
- Prioritization, e.g. schools, transit
- Improved planning and management

2. Walking for all – universal accessibility

- Employ audible and tactile devices at traffic signals. In 2011, one intersection will be used as a pilot for tactile paving.
- Universal accessibility at street level
- Universal accessibility to transit
- Universal accessibility to employment, health services, education, shopping, etc.

3. Shaping Surrey – new opportunities from new development

- Integration of land use and transportation.
- Promoting pedestrian-supportive development forms and densities.
- Achieving a finer grid of roads to facilitate walking and transit.

4. Streets for people – safety and comfort

- Neighbourhoods will be physically walked, reviewed and extensive public consultation will be conducted.
- 120 schools now have a full road safety plan.
- Working with partners
 - RCMP
 - TransLink
 - ICBC
- Prioritization of projects near schools and on routes to schools.
- Public education and engagement, there is a tremendous amount of value in sharing the benefits of walking such as, reducing environmental impacts to improved health.
- Targeting full spectrum of issues, large and small.

Walking Program Success Measurement:

1. Monitoring

- Are we achieving plan goals?
- Are funding and resources appropriate?
- Need for re-prioritization within programs?
- Are we effecting change?

2. Focus on Value

- Capital sidewalk programs, missing links, new multi-use pathway, road crossings implemented or improved, accessible bus stops, and school travel planning programs.
- Creating pedestrian opportunities in locations of higher need, i.e., high density neighbourhoods, routes to schools and hospitals.

Next Steps:

- Updates relative to the success of the Walking Plan will be provided to Council in future transportation reports.
- Missing links will be continued to be reviewed by staff.
- Distances and KM walked to new greenways will be recorded and updated.
- Accessibility of bus stops will continue to be measured.
- The number of Surrey residents who walk will be recorded.

Council thanked staff for their work on the Walking Plan and noted the plan is both accessible and readable.

Council noted that having a liveable walkable city and a finer network of transit and roadways is also necessary and that the road major road network within Surrey needs to be further considered to make the plan workable.

- B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL
- C. CORPORATE REPORTS
- D. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
- F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS
- G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Raspde, Chairperson