

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

City Hall, Atrium Meeting Room
141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver

Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 6:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Alex Boston
Brian Polydore
Cam McLeod
Heather Drugge
Melina Scholefield (Chair)
Pam Bookham, Councillor
Raj Janjua
Robert Glover

Presenter: Michael Epp, City Planner

Staff: Courtney Miller, Planner 1
Daniel Watson, Transportation Planner
Tanis Huckell, Committee Clerk

Observer: Don Bell, Councillor

Apologies: Ann McAlister
Gary Goller
Kathleen Callow
Marcus Siu
Pam Horton
Susan Skinner

Quorum 5

0360-20-ITC

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, OPENING COMMENTS

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 pm with a quorum present.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The following corrections to the minutes of November 5, 2014 were requested:

1. That a seconding action to the motion pertaining to the proposal to amend parking stall widths be attributed to Ms. Pam Horton;
2. That under Section 7.0 Any Other Business and Correspondence, first paragraph, "Mayor and Council" be changed to "Mayor's Council".

It was then regularly moved, seconded and carried unanimously:

THAT the minutes of the regular Integrated Transportation Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 be adopted with minor corrections amended.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

The Chair wished to add the following items to the agenda:

1. Welcome to our new Council representative.
2. An update on the status of the OCP – where the process is at and what it means for the City.
3. Inquiry for staff regarding the upcoming transit referendum.
4. Other issues raised by Ann McAlister in absentia (thanking those who contributed to the November field trip and streetscape design with respect to pedestrians).

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that these items be added to the agenda.

The Chair welcomed an observer to the meeting, Councillor Don Bell, and reiterated that per the ITC terms of reference guests are welcome to observe the proceedings without comment. They can neither answer questions nor participate in discussion.

The Chair also welcomed the Councillor Pam Bookham, the new Council representative for the ITC Committee.

5.0 CITY PROJECTS UPDATE

Michael Epp, City Planner, presented on Parking Policy Changes to Support Affordable Housing. This presentation is in response to direction from Council that came via a series of zoning amendments intended to support affordable housing, and pertains to residential parking. Council direction involved three concepts:

1. Reducing parking requirements where car share or TDM (Transportation Demand Management) measures are provided.
2. Reducing rental building parking requirements from 0.75 per unit to 0.5 per unit.
3. Removing the requirement for parking stalls for secondary suites close to the frequent transit corridor.

Michael's presentation reviewed a number of factors influencing parking demands in the City. The two most significant are unit size and household income. Household composition (age etc.) and availability of transit are also factors.

Current practice in the City of North Vancouver is as follows:

Use	Stalls required (per DU)
Rental Apartment	0.75
One-Unit or Two-Unit Use	1
Townhome	1.5
Apartment	1.2 (incl 0.2 visitor stalls)
Coach House	1
Secondary Suite	1

Some limitations on these requirements are the lack of recognition of the role of unit size, no non-market/affordable housing rate, and no recognition of availability of transit.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of parking spots actually required (both in theory and in reality) for buildings of various sizes. Discussion also included how building savings

(achieved by creating fewer parking spots) would ultimately be passed on to potential homeowners.

The FTN (Frequent Transit Network) and secondary suites were also discussed, and what areas the FTN encompasses in the City of North Vancouver. A general feeling was that high demand for parking in certain areas such as Lion's Gate Hospital and City Hall are due to employee parking, not because of too many secondary suites. The Committee felt that it was important that future exploration of high parking demand areas be considered.

A resolution was proposed as follows:

THAT the Integrated Transportation Committee has reviewed the Parking Policy Changes to Support Affordable Housing and that the Committee supports the car sharing concept, however the committee recommends that the City consider reducing the unit threshold whereby a developer could use this car sharing substitution;

AND THAT the Committee supports the concept of amending parking requirements to better reflect unit sizes and unit tenure;

AND THAT the Committee recommends staff consider exploring parking standards that further constrain the parking supply for the future and discourage oversupply of parking;

AND THAT the Committee supports the proposal to reduce parking where secondary suites and coach houses may be allowed on the same lot, and that this should be explored in more depth at a later date should the OCP allow these changes;

AND THAT the Committee recommends further study to encourage unbundling to examine maximum parking space requirements as well as minimum parking space requirements.

Moved by Mr. Raj Janjua, seconded by Mr. Cam McLeod. With all in favour the motion carried.

The Chair thanked Michael Epp for his time and presentation.

Michael Epp left the meeting at 7:35 pm.

The Committee recessed at 7:35 pm and reconvened at 7:45 pm.

6.0 FIELD TRIP REVIEW AND PLANNING FOR 2015

The field trip on November 29 was enjoyed by those who were able to attend. The addition of APC (Advisory Planning Committee) staff allowed even broader discussions. The Chair will compose a letter to Ian Galsworthy and Marcus Siu from Port Metro Vancouver thanking them for their time.

ACTION: THE CHAIR TO COMPOSE THANK YOU LETTERS TO THE PORT METRO VANCOUVER REPRESENTATIVES. COMMITTEE CLERK TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY NEEDED.

We also received one very important piece of feedback from one member, namely: as long as any member in a wheelchair is attending such a field trip, before plans are finalized on the vehicle, it must be ensured that whoever is driving has up-to-date training on how to properly secure a mobility aid such as a scooter or a wheelchair.

With respect to planning a field trip for the 2015 calendar year, a previously suggested idea has been the “everybody has a different ability” topic. The concept is to go and experience City streets with different abilities impaired; for example, in wheelchairs, with visual impairments, and so forth. The idea is to give everybody a chance to experience what it is like to not be a fully able bodied person. Committee members were supportive of the idea and discussion ensued about approaching ACDI and/or ICBC for a joint field trip and/or equipment. Ms. Pam Horton will be also contacted to take advantage of her expertise and contacts.

The trip was very tentatively planned for a May date.

ACTION: DANIEL WATSON AND COMMITTEE CLERK TO START GATHERING INFORMATION.

7.0 CITY PROJECTS / INFORMATION

Daniel Watson elaborated on the Lower Lonsdale East traffic calming plan. All temporary measures have been placed. In February/March data and public consultation will be collected.

The bike route on the 200 block of East 13th has been held up by bad weather but the contractors have assured us that it is at the top of their list when temperatures rise.

The City is partnering with the school district to participate in the “safe and active routes to school” program, with the hope of improving safety and encouraging people to walk and bike to school. We started with Queensbury Elementary last year, and are targeting Ridgeway Elementary and Larson Elementary next.

The Children and Youth Traffic Safety Committee is moving forward; the initiation of this Committee was delayed due to the school strike but we are gathering names for members now.

The Chair inquired about an update of the OCP (Official Community Plan). Courtney Miller answered that the Plan has remained at second reading since the September public hearing. Staff identified a number of housekeeping amendments during the interim. The next step is reporting back to Council for direction. It is anticipated that the next opportunity to receive direction from Council will be at next Monday’s meeting (January 12).

A Committee member inquired about the upcoming TransLink Referendum. City staff are looking into holding some sort of a discussion or forum to engage the public. The question is: “Do you support a new 0.5% Metro Vancouver Congestion Improvement Tax, to be dedicated to the Mayors’ Transportation and Transit Plan?”

Ballots will be sent out on March 16, and votes must be in by May 29.

ACTION: DANIEL WATSON AND COMMITTEE CLERK TO LOOK FURTHER INTO HOLDING A

*PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENT REGARDING THE
REFERENDUM.*

Additionally, a Committee member wondered if there is a list of North Shore projects proposed for funding under that referendum. Daniel responded that there is, but he doesn't have it currently; he agreed to bring it to the next ITC meeting.

*ACTION: DANIEL WATSON TO BRING A LIST OF
NORTH SHORE PROJECTS PROPOSED TO BE
FUNDED UNDER THE TRANSLINK REFERENDUM
IF SUCCESSFUL.*

Cam McLeod also mentioned there is a talk at SFU on January 19; he will forward the information to the group via Tanis.

*ACTION: COMMITTEE CLERK TO FORWARD
INFORMATION TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS.*

In addition, Daniel reported that the Low Level Road is open for vehicles. There were some issues with the Spirit Trail Bridge spanning 3rd Street; it should be open by early spring. The safety audit has just been completed, which has highlighted a number of deficiencies; we are currently negotiating how to amend these.

A Committee member commented that it seemed odd that westbound on the Low Level Road and 3rd construction didn't include an overpass, eliminating the need for traffic lights coming down on 3rd. Daniel responded that he believes that was considered, however there was probably a cost issue. Past Low Level Road there would have been too abrupt a change of grade.

ACTION: DANIEL TO CLARIFY.

8.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS / CORRESPONDENCE

Ann McAlister queried in absentia whether there is merit in considering how streetscape design and pedestrian crossings can discourage jaywalking in dangerous places. Discussion ensued regarding the City's overall strategy for making North Vancouver a pedestrian-friendly city.

The Chair thanked City staff for their updates and for fielding questions.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Moved by Mr. Alex Boston, seconded by Mr. Raj Janjua. With all in favour the motion carried.



Melina Scholefield, Chair



Tanis Huckell, Committee Clerk