

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

**Meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission
Held at City Hall, 141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, B.C.
in Conference Room A on Wednesday, March 11th, 2020**

MINUTES

Present: S. Huber
M. Tasi Baker
M. McCorkindale
A. Rahbar
S. Tornes
W. Antje
C. Castro
Councillor Hu
Councillor McIlroy

Staff: M. Friesen, Planner
R. Fish, Committee Clerk
A. Devlin, Manager - Transportation

Absent: Y. Al-Nakeeb
K. Balcom
B. Thorburn

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:05PM

1. **Acknowledgement of Unceded Territory**
2. **Orientation and Welcome to New Members**

Staff took the Chair and welcomed the new members to the Panel. The members introduced themselves.

3. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

It was agreed to elect the Chair and Vice Chair by show of hands.

Staff asked for nominations for the position of Chair; Steve Tornes was nominated and accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Steve Tornes was elected Chair by acclamation.

Staff asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Antje Wilson was nominated and accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Antje Wilson was elected Vice Chair by acclamation.

Staff gave members a presentation on the advisory body process and the mandate of the Advisory Planning Commission.

Steve Tornes took the Chair at 6:26 p.m.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of November 13th, 2019

It was regularly moved and seconded

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission held November 13th, 2019 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

5. Business Arising

A motion to approve the amendment of the April 8th APC meeting start time to 7PM was adopted.

Carried Unanimously

6. Staff Update

None.

7. Transportation Master Plan: Mobility Strategy

The Manager of Transportation, Planning & Development gave a presentation on the Mobility Strategy. The main points included but were not limited to the following:

- The Strategy will deliver a modernized plan to guide city-wide transportation services through a vision, big moves, supporting policies and an action plan.
- The time is right to do this work now as the existing long-term Transportation Plan is over a decade old and will continue to evolve.
- Strong foundational planning principles for mobility will guide us.
- We have delivered on a broad range of focus areas over the last 10 years.
- Factors that shape our current mobility landscape include, limited network connectivity, being a compact community, a lack of rapid transit connection, competition for road and curb space, rising infrastructure costs and dynamic travel patterns.
- A complicated mobility landscape creates challenging trade-offs for the city.
- Ultimate outcome will center on how we can design a plan that works for everyone in the face of change and uncertainty, providing choice, resiliency, adaptability, sustainability and equity.
- The Strategy is being developed in phases.
- Focus on the project as a process not just the outcomes.
- APC be engaged through this process on a monthly basis with project status updates and once per phase with workshops and reviewing of key deliverables.

Questions/Comments from the Commission included:

- We have great new paths and walking opportunities but there's concern around the elementary schools and the impact of commuting.
- There are no pathways between some schools and are quite a distance away.
- The locations of these elementary schools is going to have an impact on commuting and travel.
- There should be walking communities in Moodyville, Seylynn etc.
- The new walking paths and the parklets that are popping up are well used.
- Consider the schools frustrations with morning/evening traffic. Parents feel they have to be able to drive their children up to the door for drop off. The solution could be a simple design change to have them drop off further away.
- Consider that micro design solutions are also important.
- Possibly an overhang or a path where parents could drop off children.
- From an environmental standpoint, consider permeable surfaces. This ties into flooding issues, consider rain gardens.
- Semi trucks are a big concern in school zones driving off the highway at a high speed. Consider signage alerting drivers of school/residential zones.
- Consider how to make safe pedestrian walkways in areas where semi-trucks sneak through the city to avoid traffic jams.
- The speed limit is not being enforced enough.
 - Staff: truck movement is in the scope. Changing circumstances are changing the nature of our roads and putting additional pressure on our streets.
- Metro Vancouver is doing a 2050 transportation paper, are you getting feedback on that or working with them?
 - Staff: yes, as well as TransLink and local government levels in Metro Vancouver that are needing updates to their transportation plan. We are sharing information to make sure we are on the same page.
- The Federal Government is planning an Active Transportation Strategy and are currently beginning rounds of consultation and planning.
- Is there engagement with the Province and Federal Government to ensure they don't set upgrade ideas without providing tools to implement them?
 - Staff: governance of the transportation system is complicated in the city, there are many stakeholders involved.
 - Our job is to understand what the city can and cannot do.
 - At our local level, we can advocate to the other levels of government.
- Prioritize or rank the modes of transportation that we prefer as a city. Start with walking.
- Transit at peak hours is at capacity or close to, a few more buses or another rapid bus may not be effective in alleviating that.
- Consider turning one of those connector roads into planning for rapid transit or light rail, something that has more frequency, reliability and capacity.
- Big ideas will need funding from government.
 - Staff: big ideas aren't always big expenses.
- Integrating land use with transit is important to consider.
- This can bring opportunities to create affordable housing, larger scale projects and address multiple issues at once.

- Ride sharing means that cars are empty, circling around looking for rides in an unregulated environment. Make sure it doesn't add to the congestion.
- It can have a negative impact to business that are headquartered here.
- How will the Strategy shape out?
 - Staff: it is still in the early days to speak to the mechanics of it.
 - We are taking a scan of what we have right now in terms of policy, what's missing and what gaps there are.
 - The challenge with transportation plans is that they are too broad and get watered down with too many commitments.
 - We don't have any targets in our transportation plan right now.
- Have you thought about maintaining strategies like walk CNV?
 - Staff: yes, this still needs to be ironed out and determined. We want to move away from modal specific strategies.
- How will funding for this work?
 - Staff: some will come from development. It provides significant upgrades to the public realm and to service those upgrades.
 - CACs funnel into projects like rapid bus and spirit trail.
- Prioritize walking, cycling etc., to enhance them and the safety of it so people feel safe to choose those modes.
- Pinpoint opportunities for how to make people comfortable using these modes.
- Consider opportunities for more community in the Central Lonsdale area, reimagine how we use that space.
- Consider what factors would cause someone to walk more.
- Staff: 80% of people believe they live in a walkable neighbourhood but only 20% use walking modes for daily errands.
- Consider the optimal use of space.
- Ride hailing takes away from transit use.
- Consider more qualitative data.
- Consider equity. Many people miss out on studies or public hearings, who is being missed why are we missing them and how can we reach them.
- Students are difficult to reach.
- The Capilano University newspaper is a good way to reach students.
- Some useful thesis to consider are:
 - Peter Marriott, "Moving targets: Mobilities, sustainability and space on Vancouver's streets"
 - Devon Farmer, "An ex post facto evaluation of a Metro Vancouver Transportation Plan"
 - Lori Macdonald, "Mapping daily mobility in Metro Vancouver: an ethnography of regional transportation for newcomers studying within the service industry"
- A lot of students are looking for projects. An outside perspective can benefit the larger community.
- Consider reaching out to the Multicultural Society.
- Reach out to schools. Grade 6 or 7 students may have ideas for safe walking environments.
- People use many different modes of transit in a day. There are stereotypes around ride hailing from those that have a regular 9-5 job. There are many people and youth who are thrilled about ride hailing.

- It's important to not make assumptions around ride hailing and compare it to other areas.
- Gathering information on what the experience of a daily user is, based on different users, senior, youth, 9-5 worker etc.
- Consider home deliveries, it's not just young people doing it. Seniors get their deliveries arranged by their family members. There are areas within the city where it's very dense and there's no parking, making it difficult for people who are transporting goods.
- Consider mothers with young children and infants that take transit.
- Staff gave an overview of what was passed at Council on Monday, March 9, 2020.
- Consider a mix of different groups of stake holders and online participation tools for capturing data.
 - Staff: we have a new online engagement platform called Lets Talk CNV, discussion boards and an interactive map feature with drop pins for safety issues.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, April 8th, 2020.



Chair