

City of North Vancouver

INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, July 17, 2014 at 6:00pm

MINUTES

Present: Alex Boston
Ann McAlister
Brian Polydore
Craig Keating
Heather Drugge
Melina Scholefield (Chair)
Pam Horton
Raj Janjua
Robert Glover

Guests: **1549 St. George's Avenue (Rezoning Application)**
David Porte, Porte Development Corp/Signal Investments Ltd.
Harvey Hatch, H.R. Hatch Architect Ltd.
Jan Voss, CTS Creative Transportation Solutions
Kerry Kukucha, Porte Development Corp/Signal Investments Ltd.
Meredith Mitchell, M2 Landscape Architecture

Staff: Clare Husk, Committee Clerk
Daniel Watson, Transportation Planner
Courtney Miller, Planning Technician

Absent: Cam McLeod, Susan Skinner

Quorum 5

0360-20-ITC

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:10pm with a quorum present. The revised agenda was adopted.

Staff requested that the City Projects item not be deferred again this month and also be given sufficient time as members have not been updated on projects for some time.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried unanimously:

THAT the minutes of the regular Integrated Transportation Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 be adopted with minor corrections amended.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

No business arising from the minutes. Mr. Watson announced staffing changes. Mr. Courtney Miller will now be attending on behalf of the Community Development Department. Ms. Husk has accepted another position in the City, but will continue to clerk this committee until her replacement has been appointed.

4.0 COMMITTEE'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Chair referred to the previously circulated priorities from the workshop in 2013. Are there any items that the Committee needs to explore afresh? Is there a need for another workshop?

Councillor Keating joined at 6:40pm

Items suggested

- Staff presentation on electric vehicles/charging stations.
- Pedestrianisation.
- Would like an update from staff about budgeting and how it works. How flexible are the budgets, etc.
- Development and congestion for both site scale and community scale items.
- North Shore transit (which is mostly outside of the City's purview).
- Goods movement.
- How are we influencing regional transportation decision making?
- Request for some clarification/itemization on the list, e.g. for the topic of congestion some line items need to be added.

ACTION: to update key points and have a list of the priorities ready for September meeting. **CHAIR**

5.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & THE GREEN NECKLACE

This item was added to the agenda.

One member felt the committee often receives no updates on the results of public process and committee resolutions. Additionally it was expressed that stakeholders do not always hear the result of open houses, and a better process could lead to better outcomes.

Members would like to recommend that transportation items are brought to the committee earlier – for example it was felt the Green necklace was a fait accompli. It was noted that the Committee are receiving items more early in the process, but felt that the “large ones” are received too late in the process.

Dissatisfaction was expressed with the outcome of some resolutions from the Committee, and they would like to know why items have or have not been engaged.

Chair noted that Committee Clerk has been diligent in forwarding items of interest to the Committee.

Councillor Keating noted that the Committee is an advisory committee. Council receives advice from all the committees, and occasionally they will be in divergent from one another.

Mr. Watson noted that there is no set best practices policy for informational open houses. Staff will gather project specific email addresses and does let people know the outcome for open houses.

Mr. Miller noted that the City’s website has a project specific webpage, which the City is seeking to make more usable.

RESOLUTION

THAT THE Integrated Transportation Committee requests that transportation issues be brought to the Committee sufficiently in advance so that the Committee can comment in a meaningful way;

AND THAT the Committee be appraised of key transportation decisions as they develop.

Unanimous.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Integrated Transportation Committee recommends to staff that the stakeholder process is procedurally improved so that stakeholders and participants are consistently informed both in advance of key decision points and of the outcomes arising from those decisions.

Unanimous.

The Committee Recessed at 7:15pm until 7:20pm

6.0 1549 ST. GEORGES AVENUE APARTMENT RENOVATION PROJECT

This project is to rezone an existing property to permit a full renovation and an additional floor. The number of rental housing units would increase from 13 to 29 units. Parking would remain off the lane. The aim is to bring the building up to modern code and provide additional density.

Parking will be a challenge with no change to the footprint. The developers assessed parking demand and noted parking demand is less in rental housing. Car ownership in the units is currently 50%. The provision of secured bicycle parking will reduce the required 22 vehicle parking spaces to 15 spaces. The applicant proposes 6 off-street vehicle parking spaces, leaving a 9 space shortfall. One of the parking stalls is to be a disability parking space, and one is to be limited to visitor parking only.

The developers suggested increasing on-street parking in the area by creating angled parking in front of building. This could add up to two parking spaces over that currently provided parallel to the curb. One of the spaces could be set aside for a car share vehicle.

The Developer analysed on-street parking spaces in the surrounding blocks at various times of the day. Peak time for the neighbourhood was 2pm. More parking spaces were available at night than in the day. They surmise that

employees from nearby commercial developments are using the surrounding on-street parking during the daytime.

The Developers also reviewed the bus stops in the immediate area. They noted they are in excellent condition (e.g. have shelters) and will encourage transit use.

The Chair reminded members of the request to look at

- Proposed 9 stall parking variance;
- Consistency with relevant transportation policy; and,
- The Proposed Traffic Demand Management strategy.

Questions from the Committee included, but was not limited to:

Q: Assuming no change for the parking behaviour of the residents there will approximately 14 to 16 vehicles vying for 6 spaces? **A:** Yes but there is an expectation that the residents that have cars will be able to find overnight parking spaces as the average number of spaces overnight would be 53 within a two block radius.

Q: Did you count underground parking? **A:** No, just the on street parking spaces.

Q: Does this condo not require loading zones for passenger pick up and drop off? **A:** The City could designate one of the on-street spaces as a short-term parking space.

Q: What do staff think of the angled parking on an arterial road? **A (Staff):** We would not support it on St. George's Avenue as we wish to maintain the movement of traffic. We can investigate angle parking on 16th or Eastern Avenue, within two blocks of this development.

Q: Will onsite parking be on a fee basis. **A:** Yes, we will be charging for the parking spaces. However, there is a decrease in urban parking demand (per capita).

Q: Has the City had other projects like this one? **A:** Two of them in the last five years. One has zero parking and no issues. The second, located within a block of this development was deficient 6 parking spaces; however the renters were told by the owner they could access on-street parking permits, and, since they

cannot, this confusion caused an issue. For this development staff are looking to ensure potential renters know they are not eligible for on-street parking permits.

Committee Comments included, but was not limited to:

- Good concept.
- Like this project and the preservation of market rental housing.
- Suggest installing rolling stalls for bike storage.
- Consider electric bikes - having power assist might be good.
- Opposed to angle parking, it is an intrusion to the public realm.
- This development pushes the boundaries, and if it fails, it is only a small project.
- Cost of building parking stalls at this site would be prohibitive.
- For parking free buildings cities have to enact serious pricing of available on street parking.
- I use car2go and their model is more convenient for young people.
- Our infrastructure (e.g. cycling and transit) has to catch up with this concept.
- Would like to see a wider sidewalk at that section.
- A designated parking space would be needed for a taxi or HandyDART and should not be specifically assigned with time limitation or visitor parking.
- Living across from a building with a parking variance the on-street parking has noticeably increased.
- City should look at the increase of on street parking that happened with the removal of resident exempt parking in the area by the Hospital.

Councillor Keating left the meeting at 8pm

Resolution:

THAT THE Integrated Transportation Committee has reviewed the 1549 St. Georges Avenue Apartment Renovation Project and strongly supports it;

AND THAT The Committee supports the parking variance request given as it will increase the rental supply in the City;

AND THAT the Committee does not support the proposal for on-street angle parking for St. Georges.

In addition the Committee makes the following recommendations:

THAT the City explore a cohesive road pricing strategy and parking regulatory regime change for the immediate neighbourhood, and

THAT City staff look at the potential for laneway parking for this development, and

THAT the Developer explore the optimal car share model for the site; and.

THAT The Developer ensure that access from the rear of the building to the bike storage is barrier free,

AND THAT the City require the Developer to contribute a follow up study of the travel behaviour, vehicle ownership and transportation modes of the tenants post occupancy.

Unanimous

7.0 GREEN NECKLACE RESOLUTION

THAT the Integrated Transportation Committee requests that staff report back to the Committee on what efforts and analysis were undertaken to explore creative parking solutions, or other ideas, which might have enabled a wider path along the Jones section of the Green Necklace.

Unanimous

8.0 Field Trip & Next Meeting

Field Trip – date now August 20th. Timing to be late afternoon, 4pm to 7pm,
The September Meeting will be moved to the 17th.

Ms. Horton left at 8:46pm
Mr. Janjua left at 8:50pm

9.0 CITY PROJECTS

Spirit Trail from Forbes to Carrie Cates Court (along the rail line)

- Mainly completed, working to finalise finishes.

Spirit Trail Park & Tilford Section

- Beginning discussion with Park & Tilford Centre regarding alignment options.

Spirit Trail Squamish Nation

- City is working on a design with the Squamish nation as this is on Squamish Nation land.

- Design includes a tunnel under the boat ramp. Showed the conceptual design for the Squamish Nation greenway connection.

Boulevard Crescent/Lynn Valley Road bike route

- Installed, but not to our satisfaction. Going to repave with East Grand Boulevard and repaint.

OCP

- Passed to proceed to a bylaw by Council. Staff will bring it for first reading July 21st, and for 2nd, 3rd readings and public hearing in September.
- OCP public hearing is September 26th.

West 3rd Street to West 2nd Bike crossing

- Complete and installed – check it out.
- First Cyclist signal head in City of North Vancouver.

Green Necklace at Jones

- Construction – beginning in August.

Parking in Lanes

- We took to Council as an info report, recommending that we would consider it on a case-by-case basis as we move forwards.

East 13th Street – Bike Routes

- 100 block temporary route markings until 1308 Lonsdale redevelops.
- 200 block will be installing separated bike lanes.
- 300-500 blocks shared side by side east bound and shared single file west bound.

Lonsdale Median

- Starting in August for 8 to 10 weeks.
- Includes median reconstruction.
- Three bus budes.
- Corner bulges.
- North Bound and South Bound Left turn at West 3rd.

New Traffic Signals

- 3rd and Queensbury: Construction late summer / early fall – finished by end October.
- Lonsdale and Keith (south) – fall 2014.

Ms. McAlister left at 9:05pm

10.0 Any other Business:

Low Level Road:

- On time and budget for completion end of October 2014.
- West bound traffic probably on the new road late July / Early August.

Regional Transportation Strategy:

- Mayors' Council have submitted a plan.
- The Province is reviewing it and has not formally replied.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11pm.

Melina Scholefield, vice chair

Melina Scholefield, Chair

for Melina

Clare Husk

Clare Husk, Committee Clerk