

City of Chilliwack
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021, 3:30 pm
Held Electronically

Council Members: Councillor Jeff Shields, Chair
Councillor Jason Lum, Vice Chair

TAC Members: Bryden Nelmes, Community Member
Wayne Williams, SD33, Manager of Transportation
Neal Moulton, Area Manager, Fraser Valley South, Ministry of Transportation
Chelsea Cromarty, Community Member
Tanis Hatch, ICBC
Stephen Head, Community Member
Marlon Hall, Chamber of Commerce
Willow Reichelt, SD33 Board, Chair

City Staff Members: Kara Jefford, Manager of Transportation and Drainage
Andrew Pipke, Traffic Technician
Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Rob Ringma, Senior Manager, Government Relations, BC Transit
Jim Ryan, Community Member
Corporal Mike Pfeifer, RCMP, Traffic Section
David Hill, Road Safety Engineer, ICBC (Ex-Officio)
Samantha Piper, Public Safety Specialist
Kevin Pollard, Supervisor of Roads, Transportation & Drainage

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Jeff Shields was Chair and called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm. Chair Shields welcomed Willow Reichelt, Board Chair, School District #33.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Transportation Advisory Committee Agenda for Thursday, June 24,
Seconded (2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved /) That the Minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting held
Seconded (Thursday, April 22, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION / PRESENTATION**5. OLD BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS****Pedestrian Plan – Progress Update**

Kara Jefford, Manager of Transportation and Drainage provided a brief update with respect to the Pedestrian Plan. A soft launch of the Active Transportation Plan is currently available through engagechilliwack.com. There will be a public launch with ads in the Chilliwack Progress, radio ads and a press release the week of June 28, 2021. Letters have been sent to local organizations representing seniors and accessibility groups and staff are starting to collect feedback from stakeholders and the general public.

The consultant retained for the project is making good progress with respect to some of the background mapping information. Staff encouraged the Committee Members to visit the Active Transportation Plan page through the EngageChilliwack.com platform, where there are informative videos on how to use map-based tools to provide feedback.

- Phase 2 - public engagement will go through until July 31, 2021;
- Draft Pedestrian Plan followed by further review of the draft priorities by the Committee;
- Final phase of public engagement
- Completion date by mid-November 2021

6. NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**E-Scooters**

In 2020, the Highway and Traffic Bylaw 2019, No. 4686 was reviewed by the Transportation Advisory Committee which included a portion regarding E-Scooters. This item has been brought back to the Committee for a more in-depth discussion as the Active Transportation Plan engagement proceeds.

Andrew Pipke, Traffic Technician, provided a presentation regarding E-Scooters. The presentation included the following information:

- Definition
- Current Legal Standing in BC / Chilliwack
- BC Pilot Program
- Safety Requirements / Ownership
- Positives
- Challenges
- Case studies (Calgary, Kelowna & Toronto)
- BC Pilot Rules of the Road

There are six communities approved for E-Scooter pilot projects which include Kelowna, Vancouver, Vernon, North Vancouver and West Vancouver.

General Discussion:

Discussion ensued regarding some of the challenges with E-Scooters such as the inability to identify users, licencing, training, liability coverage and enforcement. Concern was expressed with safety issues, particularly with younger riders due to the age requirement in BC (16+). Follow-up discussion ensued with respect to use of E-Scooters on multi-use paths, such as the Vedder Rotary Trail.

6. NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION (continued)

With respect to the inability to identify users, staff noted pilot programs such as in Kelowna and Calgary, have implemented identification codes and GPS trackers on rental scooters which allow for more accountability should an incident occur.

Staff stated the City of Chilliwack has received requests to allow E-Scooter rentals; however, the City of Chilliwack is not participating in the provincial pilot project. It is proposed to wait for the pilot project data from Kelowna and Vancouver to become available for further review. A query was raised with respect to when the pilot project data will be available for public review; staff noted the pilot program is a three-year program; however, collision history and data are provided to the province every two months.

Discussion ensued with respect to the business/tourism aspect as communities vary with respect to more suitable areas to ride E-Scooters. For example, E-Scooters are often ridden along the beachfront walkways. A Transportation Advisory Committee Member, who previously resided and worked in Kelowna, noted there have been issues in that community with multiple near collisions between vehicles and E-Scooters; particularly in the evenings, when individuals are leaving pubs, bars and restaurants.

An enquiry was made with respect to ICBC's requirements; Under the rules for communities participating in the pilot programs, people using electric kick scooters must be 16 years of age or older, wear a helmet and follow the rules of the road as cyclists would. A Driver's License and insurance are not required. Staff noted however; under the City of Chilliwack's Highway and Traffic Bylaw 2019, No. 4686, E-Scooters fall under the category of 'Small Wheeled Transport', and are currently not allowed to operate on the roadway, as such, the user is not required to wear a helmet when operating on private property or a multi-use path. Staff noted the Highway and Traffic Bylaw 2019, No. 4686 can be reviewed regarding further consideration with respect to speed restriction, helmets and safety devices.

The Committee will wait to review the E-Scooter Pilot Program data once it is available to the public to make any further comments.

7. OTHER**8. INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE****1. MOTI Project Update 2021**

Neal Moulton, Area Manager – Fraser Valley South, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Provided an update with respect to the following three projects:

Summer Resurfacing Projects:

1. Chilliwack/Highway 9 Corridor
 - Extensive upgrades are scheduled for Highway 1 at the 'S' turn just east of Annis Road Exit through to Bridal Falls, including the Highway 9 Corridor. This is a complete resurfacing program shoulder to shoulder, additional catch basins, drainage improvements, curb and gutter, signage; and, barriers.

8. INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

2. Columbia Valley Corridor – Cultus Lake
 - Paving will take place in the Cultus Lake Corridor this summer and into early fall. The paving season is noted to be effective as of June 1 to October 31; however, paving work is anticipated to commence in the Columbia Valley area towards the end of August through to early September 2021. Updated information will be provided once available.
3. Yale to Lickman Corridor
 - The majority of the work through this corridor is complete. Safety has been increased exponentially through this corridor by adding a concrete median barrier as opposed to the old wood post and aluminum 'W-rail' that was currently situated in that location.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 3:30 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Councillor Jeff Shields, Chair