

MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 @ 10:00 AM
City Hall Committee Room

PRESENT: Chair, Rob Dickinson, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Councillor Ron Paulsen
SD#70 Trustee, Larry Ransom
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure, Jessica Learn

REGRETS: Deputy Fire Chief, Wes Patterson
RCMP, Manager of Community Policing, Dave Cusson
RCMP, Sgt. Peter Dionne
ICBC, Peggy Gibbs
ICBC, Caroline Robinson
Diversified Transportation, Kathy Deschamps

DELEGATIONS

None

**Action
By**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Larry Ransom brought forward an email from Laurie Morphet at Alberni Elementary School on January 7, 2019 regarding traffic flow concerns at the school.**

The City looked at various concerns adjacent to Alberni Elementary School such as drainage, parking, and improvements to the intersection of Helen St and Arrowsmith Rd and will coordinate works with SD#70 when onsite parking improvements occur.

RD

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. May 18, 2021 email request from Jean-Phillipe Harvey to discuss pick up and drop off traffic at John Howitt School, specifically the intersection of Grieve Rd and Bishop Cres.**

ICBC checked their database and there are no claims for the most recent 5 years of data (2016-2020). City assessment of the intersection identified possible traffic calming improvements such as a table top pedestrian crossing and bulb extensions to narrow the road and make the corner tighter. City also identified a sidewalk at the curb return on the SE corner would provide students a refuge. Further to these ICBC also suggested an in-street crosswalk (flexible sign in the middle of the street) and possible supervision of the crosswalk by the SD#70 when a pedestrian crossing is provided.



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2. July 22, 2021 email request from Mark McLaren to discuss Ship Creek Road traffic noise.

Concerns regarding any modified or malfunctioning exhaust systems resulting in excessive noise requires enforcement. Concerns related to speed requires enforcement. The city and ICBC will consider the use of signage related to engine brakes.

RD



I-65 PLEASE AVOID USE OF ENGINE BRAKES IN URBAN AREAS

The I-65 sign may be used on provincial highways where the use of engine retarding braking ("jake brakes") by commercial vehicle operators creates reoccurring, noise and resulting in public complaints. The text "IN URBAN AREAS" may be deleted if the location is in a rural area or replaced with "FOR NEXT XX km"

3. Forwarded from City Council meeting held September 27, 2021 regarding email request from Randy Teichman to discuss Council's approval to remove the left turn lane at 10th Avenue and Dunbar Street intersection.

Residents requested/suggested a roundabout at 10th Ave and Argyle St before removal of left turn lanes. Consulting engineers hired by the city had suggested the correct process would be some improvements at 10th Ave and Dunbar St but defer the removal of the left turns until 10th Ave and Argyle St has been modified to accept the additional traffic. A review by the city and consulting engineers recommends the following steps:

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- a. A modified SW corner of Anderson/Argyle is required to improve safety and promote safe use of the corner by vehicles and pedestrians, especially when considering any increase in truck traffic
- b. Improvement of grades at Argyle/10th preferably timed with the construction of a roundabout at Argyle/10th.
- c. Prohibit left turn lanes at 10th/Dunbar.

RD

4. October 5, 2021 email request from Jeff Lorenzetti to add three new stop signs to the intersection at Angus St and 7th Ave (NE corner), and two at the intersection of 7th Ave and China Creek Rd.

ICBC checked their database and there are no claims for the most recent 5 years (2016-2020). The intersections also have relatively low traffic volumes compared to the 15 intersections identified as priorities for the city. Installation of stop signs that are not warranted may result in increased incidents with higher risk of severity. Regarding the 7th Ave and Angus St intersection, it is not a priority but when reconstructed, site lines can be improved and the corners curbed to reduce speeds as well as the crossing distance for pedestrians. The crosswalk could also be re-aligned to improve visibility.

5. Forwarded from City Council meeting held October 12, 2021 regarding email request from James Powsey to discuss traffic in the neighbourhood of 3rd Ave, Neill Street and Ship Creek Rd.

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Concerns related to illegal activities require enforcement. Regarding the crosswalk, SD#70 has confirmed the school bus picks up students on the west side of the road in the morning raising the crosswalk as a priority. The intersection will be considered long term for improvements after the Active Transportation Plan is updated to provide additional input on possible solutions such as narrowing the road to accommodate bike lanes, a multi-use path and/or a sidewalk on the west side if appropriate. The end of the two lanes occurring at an intersection without a taper lane is irregular and requires modification. It appears the curb lane on the west side was initially a dedicated access to the disused and blocked off parking lots below the road. A transportation assessment of the area would consider one of the two southbound lanes likely at South Street with consideration of a dedicated left turn at Ship Creek if warranted.

6. Forwarded from City Council meeting held October 12, 2021 regarding email request from Bob Kanngiesser to discuss suggestions to planned upgrades to intersections at Dunbar St and 10th Ave and 10th Ave and Redford St.

See #3 comments above.

Committee members had a general discussion about the proposed improvements to Beaver Creek Road and Highway 4 as well as other areas along the Highway corridor.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING DATES FOR 2022:

January 19, 2022	April 20, 2022
July 20, 2022	October 19, 2022

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION

Council

Tim Pley – CAO

Twyla Slonski – Director of Corporate Services

Rob Dickinson – Director of Engineering & Public Works

Vacant - Streets Superintendent

Scott Smith – Director of Development Services/Deputy CAO

Chris Baker - Manager of Community Safety

Willa Thorpe, Director of Parks, Recreation and Heritage

Sgt. Peter Dionne – RCMP, email agenda to Peter.DIONNE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Wes Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief - Fire Department

Larry Ransom - Trustee, SD 70, email agenda to mlransom@shaw.ca

Caroline Robinson - Road Safety Coordinator, ICBC, email agenda to caroline.robinson@icbc.com

Peggy Gibbs, ICBC, email agenda to margaret.gibbs@icbc.com

Jessica Learn, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure, email agenda to jessica.learn@gov.bc.ca

Kathy Deschamps - Diversified Transportation Ltd., email agenda to kathyd@patransit.pwt.ca

David Wiwchar, The Peak, email agenda to dwiwchar@islandradio.bc.ca