

City of Port Moody
Minutes
Transportation Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Transportation Committee held on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 via Zoom.

Present		Councillor Steve Milani, Chair James Atkinson Yolanda Broderick Alexander Coombes Darquise Desnoyers Andrew Hartline Norbert Haunerland Kathleen Nadalin Nadia Olynyk
Absent		Councillor Meghan Lahti, Vice-Chair Tim Barton (Regrets) Darren Hailes (Regrets) Lori Holdenried (Regrets) Rosemary Kean (Regrets) Jeff McLellan (Regrets)
In Attendance		Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator Geoffrey Keyworth – Transportation Engineer Jeff Moi – General Manager of Engineering and Operations Vincent Traietti – Constable, Port Moody Police Department
	1.	Call to Order
Call to Order	1.1	The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
	2.	Adoption of Minutes
Minutes	2.1	<u>TC22/019</u> Moved, seconded, and CARRIED THAT the minutes of the Transportation Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 be adopted.
	3.	Unfinished Business

Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Walking and Transit) 4.1 Presentation: Geoffrey Keyworth, Transportation Engineer Presentation: Darquise Desnoyers and Nadia Olynyk

To be distributed on-table.

The Transportation Engineer gave a presentation on Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Walking and Transit), and noted the following:

- walkability and accessibility are different, even though there may be an overlap between these concepts;
- walkability depends on community design factors, whereas accessibility is about ability and facilities, and abilities can vary in type and level;
- design considerations should be in place for different spaces to ensure accessibility;
- city bus stops are continuously improved to make them accessible, and improvements for up to five bus stops are included in the budget each year; and
- priorities are determined in partnership with TransLink and Coast Mountain Bus Company, and several funding sources are used.

Darquise Desnoyers and Nadia Olynyk gave a presentation on Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Walking and Transit), and noted the following:

- accessibility needs are varied, and invisible disabilities should be taken into account;
- what is considered as accessible may not be acceptable for people with disabilities;
- several city sidewalks locations are in need of improvement as they are not accessible;
- uneven and improper slopes have been observed on some sidewalks;
- locations with higher ramps could be prioritized for improvement;
- mobility devices have different configurations and operate in different ways;
- ramps need to be designed in a way to allow a flat section for the mobility device to turn onto the sidewalk safely;
- accessibility for crosswalk buttons should be improved;
- traffic islands may be difficult to navigate based on their design;
- crosswalks should be aligned with ramps;
- ramps should be included on all sides of intersections;
- right turns on red from Moray Street onto St. Johns Street should not be allowed;
- parked vehicles and shrubs may prevent the road users from seeing stops signs, so where possible, stop lines should be added;

- sidewalks need to be horizontal instead of diagonal, and bumps should be carefully designed;
- crosswalks without level changes with tactile surfaces and islands on either side of the sidewalks could be explored to improve accessibility;
- utility holes and poles, tree roots, traffic poles, fire hydrants, parked cars, delivery trucks, garbage bins, traffic signposts, charging cables for electric vehicles (EV), and snow piles on sidewalks may create barriers for mobility devices;
- sidewalks need to meet the width requirements to ensure safe navigation of mobility devices;
- winter is particularly challenging when snow is piled up on sidewalks;
- wheelchairs and mobility scooters manoeuvre differently, and this should be considered when making design decisions for accessibility; and
- clearing sidewalks during winter is important for people with accessibility needs and piling snow on sidewalks should not be permitted.

The Committee noted the following:

- Suter Brook Village underground accessible parking may not be suitable for people with mobility devices as they are forced to go into the driving lane to access the sidewalk, and doing so creates visibility issues;
- accessible parking spots outside in Suter Brook Village are often used by people without any accessibility needs, and the number of these parking spots should be increased;
- safety improvements for people with accessibility needs should be prioritized and fast tracked irrespective of budget considerations;
- high safety standards for people driving cars should be in place for pedestrians as well;
- the Committee members' presentation was eye opening and revealed the challenges that people with disabilities face on a regular basis; and
- if right turns on red are going to be prohibited in certain intersections, there needs be appropriate signage, enforcement, and education in place for all road users.

The Transportation Engineer noted the following in response to questions from the Committee:

- the City follows BC's Active Transportation Design Guide Manual standards for ramp grades;
- there is a project underway in Suter Brook Village, including a reconfiguration of Brew Street, and accessible parking spaces will remain;
- Suter Brook Village underground accessible parking may not meet the needs of people with disabilities;

- traffic signals that create challenges in the intersections could be made accessible as early as possible;
- budget is not the barrier preventing the City from improving accessibility;
- separated or combined letdowns are used at many locations the city;
- several design options to improve accessibility on crosswalks could be explored;
- a licence and cord cover requirement could be considered for EV charging extension cords on sidewalks, similar to as was explored by Vancouver and Seattle;
- not every new building come fully equipped with EV chargers for residents; and
- concerns about accessibility improvements on Shoreline Trail can be shared with the Transportation Engineer.

## TC22/020

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Walking and Transit) presentation be received for information and the presenters thanked for their presentation;

AND THAT the Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Walking and Transit) presentation be forwarded to staff for incorporation into their work plans.

4.2 Geoffrey Keyworth, Transportation Engineer

The Transportation Engineer reviewed the Accessibility Training Opportunity with Universal Access Design, and noted the following:

- the company offers different training opportunities, including in person sessions and webinars;
- a small number of participants are allowed in simulation trainings; and
- due to budget restraints, training opportunities could be provided to Council, staff, and Committee members.

The Committee noted that *Curbing Traffic: The Human Case for Fewer Cars in Our Lives* by Melissa and Chris Bruntlett is a good resource for improving understanding about accessibility.

## TC22/021

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED THAT accessibility training with Universal Access Design be provided to the Transportation Committee, Council, and relevant staff.

Accessibility Training Opportunity with Universal Access Design

## 5. Information

Staff Updates

- 5.1 There were no staff updates at this time.
- Information Items
- 5.2 Links:
  - a) Four Myths About Car-Light Cities, Busted
  - b) The Case for Funding Bike Infrastructure
  - c) <u>16 Countries Now Over 10% Plugin Vehicle Share, 6</u> <u>Over 20%</u>
  - d) <u>Empirical Analysis of Mobility Behavior in the Presence</u> of Pigovian Transport Pricing
  - e) <u>Walking Builds the Aging Brain's Structure and Mental</u> <u>Acuity</u>

These items were provided for information only.

- 6. Adjournment
- 6.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

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Councillor Steve Milani, Chair

Esin Gozukara, Committee Coordinator