

Vancouver-UBC Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21st, 2020 18:30-20:00

Meeting held online via join.me web meeting

Attendees: Jeff (Chair), Anthony (moderator), Geneviève, Kay, Mike V, Sarah (new), Tim, Navdeep

(HUB staff), Philippe, Ron, Aidan, Bruce, Clark, Colin, Dan, Eleni, Enzo, Kieran, Michael B,

Mike T, Sam, Stan, Stuart, Suzanne, Shaun, Lucy, Michael A, +5 anonymous (32)

1. Introductions and welcome to new members.

2. Agenda: Approved

3. Minutes from February: Approved (no meeting held in March)

Key Action Items outstanding from last meeting						
1	Everyone	 Please use BikeMaps.org to document hazards, near misses, collisions, bike thefts. Also make sure to report infrastructure issues to 311, @CityOfVancouver on Twitter, or the VanConnect app to have them addressed by the City. You can ask for a call back to ensure your issue has been addressed. Ongoing 				
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2	Anthony	Write up the assessment ride report for the ride at UBC Pending				

- **4.** Announcements (see bikehub.ca updated regularly and our wiki at http://wiki.bikehub.ca)
 - This is our first local committee meeting by web meeting. Some requests/learnings:
 - Please mute your microphone when not speaking, to reduce background noise
 - Anthony will help with moderating and will watch the chat box. Please enter questions there.
 - Please enter your name in the avatar (circle) so that we know who you are (edit profile)
 - Suggestion during the meeting: video can use a lot of bandwidth, so save it for the presenters
 - Suggestion during the meeting: Mute your microphone is not the same as mute your computer. Click on your avatar (circle) to mute your microphone. You must enable your computer audio to use it, otherwise you can dial in by telephone

5. Updates from Working Group Leads.

Contact Jeff (Vancouver@bikehub.ca) if you are interested in joining and/or forming a working group.

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION				
Updates from Working Groups						
Assessment Rides (Jeff and Anthony)	 Assessment rides are reviews of existing or potential bike routes within the City of Vancouver (CoV). Reports are generated and posted on our wiki. Our reports are used to educate municipal officials and provide them with recommendations. Assessment rides at UBC held, report is in progress, other things are taking priority 	Anthony to bring back a draft of UBC Assessment ride report				
Cycling in Parks (Lisa)	 Regular communication ongoing with Park Board staff. Push continues for improvements at Kits Beach Park. Cycling in Stanley Park getting lots of attention. See item 6, below. 					

Arbutus Greenway (Stan)	 Former railway line from the Fraser River through to 1st Ave at Granville St. Easy grade through some very scenic areas with easy access to shops and services. Communicating with CoV AG project office to coordinate review of next steps with issuing of contract for detailed design services for the first two sections 	Stan to schedule a meeting with AG project team
Urban Cargo and Delivery (Sam)	This working group is looking at promoting the adoption of cargo bikes for last km delivery services, focusing on enabling policies as well as infrastructure issues.	
Broadway Subway (Jeff)	Construction updates being received from project office and published through our social media feeds. Upcoming work planned on Arbutus near Broadway relating to utility relocations in preparation for subway station construction. Expect some detours on Arbutus, and on the Greenway.	
East Van Greenway (Clark)	Continuing to monitor CoV progress on a proposed N-S greenway in the NE quadrant.	

6. Deep Dive Topic – Cycling during the Pandemic (Jeff)

- Our major theme of this meeting was cycling during the pandemic. We reviewed efforts so far to reallocate road space for active transportation (which is not the same as closing roads). This has included discussions with the City, Park Board staff, media, and the Vancouver Public Space Network.
- The City created a temporary bidirectional bike lane on Beach leading to Stanley Park. It seems to be working well.
- The city created a <u>Covid 19 Dashboard</u> with metrics and CoV Covid 19 responses to date. There is a section on travel, showing the change in vehicle, walking, and cycling (cycling was up 36% year over year, other modes were all down, on April 21st)
- The Park Board removed most vehicles from roads within Stanley Park, planned for cycling on those roads, and asked people on bikes to avoid the seawall, leaving more room for people walking. People cycling have generally received this initiative well, with lots of positive comments. The City has advised us of 6 recent collisions involving people cycling in the park, relating to a lack of situational awareness, and adherence to road safety rules. HUB Cycling will be using social media channels to reinforce safe cycling messages.
- The Park Board closed Kits Beach parking lots to vehicles and signed them for no cycling. That has just been changed to allow bikes through the south parking lot along the Seaside Bypass route.
- HUB is running a petition to request more road reallocations across Metro Vancouver. Sign here
- Here is a <u>blog post</u> with a GIS model calculating which streets could be closed to create more open space
- We have promoted guiding principles of acting quickly, creating temporary lanes, focusing on known congestion spots, and giving priority to temporary lanes that will also benefit people walking. See the meeting presentation for a list of 15 locations proposed for temporary lane reallocations
- Themes from the discussion at the meeting, with comments in brackets:
 - Support expressed for holding web meetings to keep in contact (we will continue)
 - What has been the hold up in temporary reallocations? (political will, the lack of politicians coming out in support. Please <u>send a note to elected officials</u> to encourage them. Councillor Dominato and Councillor Boyle have both recently come out publicly in support of more road space reallocations)
 - We need to track the volume of users on Beach Ave in the temporary lane (we will ask the Cov)
 - O Support for temporary Stanley Park road changes. Mixed opinions expressed on whether it should be one way or two way on roads that are historically one way, eg Park Drive.
 - The CoV should consider routes near to essential services, eg hospitals
 - Support expressed by Dr. Henry for people getting out walking and riding

- Think about commercial streets given the potential partial reopening of restaurants/etc
- Cycling may continue with increased popularity after partial reopenings, due to people's concerns with transit (physical distancing, reduced service)
- Stimulus funding for cycling infrastructure
- Parked cars in bike lanes on SW Marine Drive due to nearby parking lots being closed
- Need to get safe cycling messages out to those who are new to cycling/infrequent riders
- o Vancouver needs a Big Win (like Oakland, Bogota, Berlin, Milan, Auckland,).
- O What about Kingsway? What about East Van? Cornwall? Commercial Drive?
- This isn't just about recreational space, it is also about transportation. Create a grid right away. Focus on existing bikeways, reduce the vehicles. Use diverters at arterials. Focus on routes south of 4th/10th/etc, not just the downtown peninsula.
- o Remove the PST on e-bikes (note, HUB has and is advocating for this)
- Could bikes be permitted more on Skytrain (lots of room at the moment)
- More 30 km/hr zones (note: this is provincial legislation, requiring the City to post signs every block if the limit is other than 50 km/hr. The City has a program to implement 30 km/hr zones in pilot neighbourhoods (West End, Strathcona) and expand outwards, and met with HUB to provide an update.)

7. Consultations (Jeff)

- See the email attachment or meeting handout for a list of current consultations, links to more information, and opportunities to submit feedback
- Most consultations have stopped due to public distancing issues. The City has put out a survey looking for support for resuming public consultations using alternate channels (web meetings, etc).
- W 3rd and Macdonald has a new cul-de-sac that is bicycle permeable
- The painted cycling and walking lanes in the Plaza of Nations have been redone; thanks to the City and the developer for responding to requests
- 8. Correspondence
- **9. Board Update (Jeff)** no update this month
- 10. Regional Advisory Committee (Jeff) no update this month
- 11. Other Business none

20:00 Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: May 19th, 2020, by web meeting (link will be sent out in advance of the meeting)