



MAILING ADDRESS: Box 47068, RPO City Square Vancouver, BC V5Z 4L6

OFFICE LOCATION: 3 West 3rd Avenue (at Ontario) Vancouver V5Y 3T8

PHONE: 604-558-2002 FAX: 604-648-8975 WWW.VACC.BC.CA

*Metro Vancouver's Cycling Advocates*



## VACC Vancouver/UBC advocacy meeting – Wednesday, October 26, 2011 Meeting Minutes



- 1. Announcement: Aaron D is the new minute taker.**  
(Announcement followed by a ten-minute-long standing ovation.)
- 2. Adoption of September minutes – unanimous.**
- 3. Bike Share Presentation – Aaron Quesnel** (see attached PowerPoint)

Montreal Success story:

- Lots of stations, each with a map of the city (useful for all)
- Excellent maintenance
- Flexible system (buying membership/renting – according to need)
- Affordable
- Bike availability managed by GPS

Main considerations for Vancouver:

- Style of system
- Time allowance
- Hours of operation (24/7?)
- Seasonal availability
- Maintenance schedule
- Pre-existing infrastructure
- Managing availability

For more info on bike sharing, see [bike-sharing.blogspot.com](http://bike-sharing.blogspot.com)

**NOTE:** The newly created **bike-sharing sub-committee** will be meeting at 7pm on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the VACC office (3 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.). Anyone interested in participating should meet there or contact [Brian](#) for info. It is important that we get this ball rolling now with the election coming up. The Vancouver Bike-Share idea has been stalled more than once in the past...

- 4. Committee Activities/Directions** - SKIP, as there are several new Sub-Committees already. However, if anyone has new ideas/concerns please feel free to bring them to the table.



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## 5. Assessment Rides

Comox-Helmcken assessment ride notes sent out by [Heather](#) on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. Please have a look and make any suggestions edits before the notes are passed along to the city.

Ass. Ride notes layout: General recommendations → block-by-block  
\*It is possible to add recommendations even if you did not attend the ride.

SATURDAY! Kent Ave. assessment ride (between Ontario & Boundary): Meet at Canada Line station on Marine Dr. @ 10:00am on Saturday October 28.

Concerns:

- Connections to other bike routes (particularly Ontario & N. Kent)
- Property south of railroad tracks to be appropriated by the city
- Traffic Speed in area
- Impact of multiple developments in area

In future, important to give city reps advance warning of rides so they can attend. Also a good idea to invite reps from other organizations who might be interested (e.g. Translink).

## 6. New Bike Share Sub Committee being formed (see #1)

## 7. Jens – Overview of Major Issues & Potential Actions

UBC is currently working to implement a sustainability program on campus and are implementing a number of changes:

- Reducing automobile traffic, surface parking, street parking
- Reducing road size
- Reducing overall parking stalls from 14,000 to 10,000 (more cuts to come)
- Turning Main Mall and part of University Blvd. into car-free zones
- Improving end-of-trip facilities
- Seeking to gain ownership of Ministry of Transportation-owned roads on campus (Marine, 16<sup>th</sup>, Chancellor, University Blvd.)

A number of issues remain:

a) ACCESS to campus

- Only one “good” route: University Blvd. (links to Off-Broadway route)
- Other routes are tricky, inconvenient or downright dangerous:
  - Pacific Spirit Park: indirect, conflicts with pedestrians
  - 16<sup>th</sup> Ave: Forced top ride between street parking & 70km/hr. traffic



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- SW Marine Dr: "Bike Lane" on shoulder used as "park & ride" area

There is some infrastructure in place, but issues outlined above do not help to entice cyclists.

b) Street Crossings meet minimum standards (not enough time to cross)

c) UBC's land use standards for new developments link bike parking to shower facilities – no more parking can be added unless showers added also.  
- too rigid

d) UBC subsidizes parking for automobiles

#### **Recommendations:**

a) Create a Bicycle Advisory Committee at UBC

- good to have an "in" through the board of governors
- need to create a VACC sub-committee to work on this
- as plans for Broadway corridor connector develop, good to include UBC

b) Deal with access issues – particularly SW Marine

- remove street parking or create bike lane with barrier
- is listed on maps as a bike route, so UBC should live up to this

#### **8. Velo-City Update – Lisa**

VACC is preparing presentation topic abstracts to potentially present at the conference to discuss VACC programs like Street-Wise and Bike to Work Week, but entry fees are high. If anyone has ideas on where the VACC could request sponsorship to send VACC presenters to the conference, please contact [Erin O'Melinn](#). There is also interest in having someone from the advocacy committee present regarding what we do, cycling leadership, etc. If you are interested in discussing the possibility of preparing a Van Committee abstract by the deadline below, contact [Lisa](#).

- Deadline to submit abstract is November 15<sup>th</sup>
- VACC is also considering putting together an "advocacy day" through which our group could connect with other advocacy groups present

#### **9. Response to City's Capital Plan Budget – Lisa**

Based on our calculations, there is only about 1/3 of the funding needed for cycling even just to meet the city's goals (i.e. "Greenest City" etc.).



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- A response was sent by the VACC to the city's Capital Plan Vote but the city didn't increase the draft \$ for cycling
- Need to figure out a strategy for addressing the inadequate City cycling budgeting- possible sub-committee for a long term advocacy approach?
- Can we push for a percentage, rather than a dollar figure?

## **10. City Election Sub-Committee Update – Aaron Q, Aaron D, Jacint**

Questions were sent out to all candidates whose contact info could be found. Response was decent, however, Vision sent a platform “blanket response” (i.e. no individual answers) for mayoral and council candidates. Still lots of good information collected.

Next Steps:

- Organize the information by party/candidate
- Figure out how to present information creatively in a way that will entice readers – if anyone has ideas, please contact [Aaron D](#)
- Reach out through social media (Heather)
- New advocacy member Kerry to join the Sub-Committee. Welcome!

## **11. Bike Light Initiative with VPD – Lisa**

Program to provide lights to cyclists riding without them. 150 sets will be made available at the Bike to Work Week commuter station @ Ontario & 10<sup>th</sup> between 6:00 and 6:30pm on Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ideally lights will be distributed to those most in need! Many thanks to major sponsors, MEC and Point Grey Cycles as well as supporter, Simon's Bike Shop

- A press release for the event is being issued, as the VACC wants this to be a media event
- Good to show cooperation and teamwork between the VACC and the VPD

## **12. Stanley Park Cycling Consultations – Arno**

A VACC submission was sent out and more public consultations are to come. Of concern is the park's policy to discourage cycle commuting through the park.

## **13. Arbutus Corridor – Brian**

The Arbutus Corridor sub-committee needs a chair. Contact [Brian](#) to participate.



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#### **14. BAC/BNSC Update – Gertjan**

Updates:

- Yukon Street bike route to be painted
- BC Parks Way – City is looking for input on how to improve for cyclists
- Bicycle Advisory Committee to the city to disband next month – need a VACC rep when the new committee is formed
- City is currently considering what will happen with Vancouver's viaducts, and is planning to create a committee to consider the issue, Clark Nikolai will be helping represent the VACC.

#### **15. VACC Archives for assessment ride notes, meeting minutes etc.**

Any ideas on how to do this?

Anyone interested in setting up a wiki page like the one used by North Shore VACC?

- Clark and Gertjan to look into getting this going.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Bike to Work Week begins Oct. 31!

- Important to sign up online and log your commutes, as these stats can be used to push for cycling in the city.

Become a VACC member!

- All of the VACC's advocacy work is funded by memberships
- Important to renew if yours has lapsed
- There are great deals and benefits that come with m'ship

The VACC is getting rebranded!

- Any ideas for taglines?