

MINUTES – Delta HUB Committee Meeting

Thursday December 7th, 2017, 7:00pm

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees: Patrick (Chair), Roel, John, Greg, Sandra, Hillary, Phil, Greg, Neil

Regrets: Melanie

2. NEW ITEMS: New items included for discussion

- Outreach from MoTI: Cycling improvements for 2018 (Dec. 1st Letter from Delta HUB)
 - Delta HUB was contacted by the Assistant Area Manager from the Ministry of Transportation (MoTI) to see if we had identified any cycling improvements or enhancements that they should consider for the upcoming year. A response was needed immediately for inclusion/consideration in the next fiscal budget
 - Delta HUB summarized the Provincial jurisdiction items from the Spot Improvement list, and added some new concerns from members; a letter was sent to MoTI on December 1st for their review.
 - The condition of Hwy 10/Ladner Trunk Road is still a concern for many riders, particularly the section at the foot of the hill (near entrance to John Oliver Park). Delta HUB will confirm that/when Delta will be repaving this roadway, as well as the jurisdiction of Hwy 10/Ladner Trunk in its different sections.
 - Several members have had positive responses from contacting the Mainroad contact line (ADD); Delta's service request line is also a helpful way to notify the City about an immediate safety concern or roadway condition (ADD).
 - **Action:** Delta HUB to confirm repaving of Hwy 10/Ladner Trunk and jurisdiction.

- Recap: HUB "All Committees" Workshop (Nov. 30th)
 - Sandra, Roel and Patrick attended a workshop at HUB headquarters in Vancouver. Reps from all regional HUB committees shared advocacy approaches, including:
 - o Postcard campaign from Burnaby HUB (gap noted in cycling network; committee designed postcard with key message; then organized outreach along the "gap" to engage with residents; each postcard was signed/stamped and sent to Burnaby).
 - o Infrastructure tour organized by Langley and Surrey HUB (effort to showcase infrastructure successes in Surrey by arranging a bus tour with Langley engineering decision-makers and elected officials; were provided with a bus by TransLink). Tour has been postponed until Spring 2018.
 - o Proposed 2018 "South of Fraser Bicycle Summit" (Idea by Surrey HUB to connect the communities south of the Fraser)
 - o Best Practises to share with municipalities: HUB Infrastructure Handbook (https://bikehub.ca/sites/default/files/hub_cycling-infra-ideas-cat-2nd_edition.pdf)

- Trans Canada Trail Proposal (Conflict with area farmers)
 - In 2018, Trans Canada Trail begun a consultation process to initiate an extension of the TCT to the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal; to this end, a key piece of the TCT involves using the Boundary Bay Dike Trail.

- The Delta Farmers Institute (DFI) and Delta's Agricultural Advisory Committee have both been made aware of the trail idea, and area farmers have expressed ongoing concerns about additional recreational traffic on the dike (the dike was originally a farm access road, and has gradually become a shared space).
- Central to the farmers' concerns is a lack of understanding that farmers and farm vehicles have priority; parking at access points is also a conflict (96 St, 112 St, etc.)
- While Delta HUB members have not reported many (or any) conflicts with farm vehicles, the farmers themselves have reported incidents – particularly in the summer months. They've noted the limited travel space on the dyke, and the surprise – and danger, occasionally – that can happen when cyclists and farm machinery come into contact.
- Delta's AAC suggested that additional pull-outs be constructed (i.e. widened areas for passing), particularly south of 96 St where there are fewer of them.
- The conflict appears to be exacerbated by Metro Vancouver's plans to further connect regional parks and trails (which Delta HUB supports); however, efforts must be made to incorporate farmers' concerns and improve the awareness and "sharing" of trails such as the Boundary Bay dike.
- **Action:** Delta HUB to connect with DFI and Metro Vancouver regarding any next steps for the Trans Canada Trail, and recreational use along the dike in general.

→ Status: Dedicated bike lanes on 52nd St (12th Ave to Hwy 17, Tsawwassen)

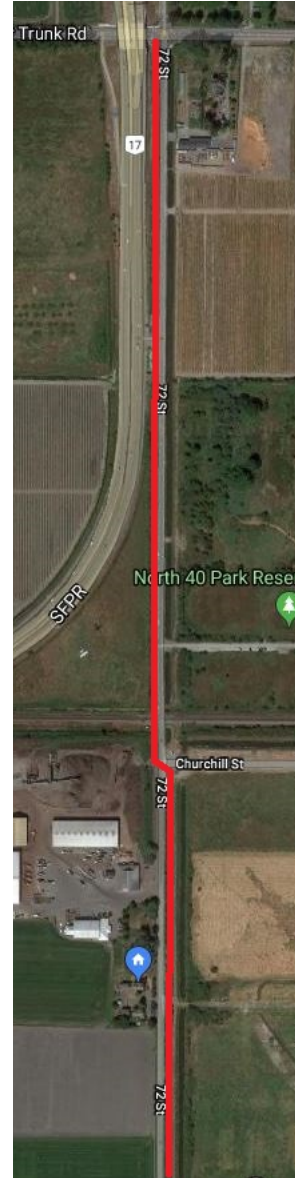
- Once the Metro Vancouver sewer/water project is completed, there was a question about whether the bike routes to be installed on both sides of 52nd, and whether they will be installed all the way to the Hwy 17 intersection.
- Earlier this year, Delta Engineering confirmed that bike lanes will be installed on both north and southbound sections of 52nd St, from 12th Ave to Spyglass.
- At Spyglass, cyclists have the choice of either sharing the road (as they do today) or using the existing multi-use pathway on the west side of 52nd St that will continue north of Highway 17 adjacent to the Mall.
- The bike route will be marked and signed once the construction is complete.

→ Future of 56 St for cycling

- The road allowance along 56 St in Tsawwassen (between 18 Ave and 12 Ave) may have sufficient room for eventual bike lanes.
- With the exception of the westbound lane of 8A Ave in Tsawwassen, Delta's practice is to reserve space in the road allowance and install infrastructure like bike lanes once the pieces can be connected.
- With increased vehicular traffic forecasted (due to Southlands, and the Town Centre redevelopment), the challenge for such infrastructure will be heightened – particularly with competing demands by additional vehicles.
- It will be important for Delta HUB to learn from community members about the priority for bicycle travel along 56 St (and similar routes like Ladner Trunk Rd).
- While the main cycling groups often avoid 56 St (due to traffic), many youth ride their bikes along the sidewalks to get to/from school.
- With more residential projects occurring along 56 St, the corridor may become a more prominent active travel route for those wishing to shop/recreate locally.

→ Priority List for 2018

- Delta HUB members have begun to review the Priority List compiled for 2017, and will be creating a revised list for 2018. This will include a “top 10” priority list, as well as a status report of last year’s items (i.e. completed, underway, outstanding).
- It is felt that River Road West (from Ladner Village to Westham Island/Brunswick Point) should be a top priority for the upcoming year.
- In addition to identifying it as a priority, Delta HUB will consider new, focused advocacy (perhaps adopting approaches taken by other HUB committees). With the municipal election happening in 2018, it would be helpful to have a core project like River Road West on the minds of voters and candidates.
- A new suggestion was identified relating to 72nd St in East Ladner; the road conditions are narrow, busy and unsafe from Churchill St to Ladner Trunk (which was identified in the 2017 priority list); in addition, the road from Churchill south to the Boundary Bay dike is well-used but in very poor condition.
- Delta HUB has had previous communication with Delta and the Ministry of Transportation (MoTI) about the state of the Hwy 17 exit onto 72nd (the exit is mandated, yet a concrete block is obstructing northbound cyclists; in addition, the exit path is not paved, and leads to a narrow, busy roadway (72nd).
- A suggestion was made to create a dedicated cycling facility on 72nd from the Boundary Bay dike to Ladner Trunk (*at right*). Delta, Metro Vancouver and MoTI would all be involved in such an initiative.
- Others, such as the Delta Farmers Institute and Fortis would be consulted as well due to the presence of farming activity, irrigation ditches, and rights-of-way.



→ Tsawwassen Town Centre Redevelopment

- Through discussions with locals (and local stakeholders like the Tsawwassen BIA), forging safer and dedicated cycling connections to the town centre is important.
- Many suburban communities in the Lower Mainland have been implementing a range of tools (including bike lanes, signage, and caution paint) to encourage safe travel to the town centre; the time to engage decision-makers is now.
- It was suggested that a bike route map be embedded into every community plan.
- While this does not exist in the Tsawwassen Area Plan, the recent North Delta Area Plan includes preferred bike routing; this must be monitored to make certain that the municipality is following through on its endorsed vision.
- To be pro-active with Delta (and Century Group), Delta HUB will draft a letter which identifies some ideas and expectations for active travel in the town centre area.
- **Action:** Delta HUB to draft a letter of recommendations and ideas for the Tsawwassen Town Centre Redevelopment.

→ North Delta: 35-story High Rise Proposal (Scott Rd & 75A Ave)

- Delta HUB attended the Nov. 29th Open House for the proposed tower
- The North Delta Area Plan envisions north-south cycling lane running parallel to Scott Road; it also supports east-west connections (including along 75A Ave).
- Last summer, Surrey installed bike lanes on 75A Ave, beginning at Scott Road. The road narrows on the Delta side, and cyclists continuing along 75A in Delta face conflicts with drivers turning west onto 75A in the narrow roadway.
- The current development proposal does not include provisions for cycling (north-south, or east-west); unlike many high-rise towers in Metro Vancouver, the 35-story building does list cycling facilities (i.e. storage locker) as a building amenity either.
- **Action:** Delta HUB to send a letter to the City of Delta with comments about the proposed high rise development at 75A and Scott Road.

3. WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

Safety/Routes

→ Transportation Technical Committee Meeting with Delta Engineering (January)

- Delta HUB will be attending Delta Engineering's January TTC meeting (date TBA)
- The goal is to speak to Delta HUB's identified priorities, and receive follow-ups and feedback from the Engineering Department.
- **Action:** Complete the "refresh" of the Delta HUB Priority List; provide to Delta.

→ Delta HUB Wayfinding Report

- The Wayfinding Report is nearly complete; presently, it requires three examples which showcase where and how wayfinding can be employed for cycling in Delta
- Delta HUB has been in contact with both the Ladner and Tsawwassen Rotary Clubs (as well as the business improvement associations) about a coordinated signage project. A meeting is being considered to discuss a possible Ladner-Tsawwassen route with signage.

Local/Regional Infrastructure

→ Update: HUB "UnGap the Map" list

- Roel participates in HUB's Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), which meets monthly to discuss and coordinate regional cycling priorities
- The "UnGap the Map" project is the main focus of the RAC; it involves a physical map of local/regional gaps, along with a supporting spreadsheet which evaluates and prioritizes individual gaps based on key metrics (i.e. distance, ridership/potential ridership, political will, technical feasibility, etc.)
- In 2017 Delta HUB identified a range of routes that may be considered "gaps" in varying degrees; some are safety gaps in the network (i.e. ferry causeway, 28 Ave between 56 St and 53 St, Arthur Drive north of 44 Ave); others, such as the Boundary Bay dike trail, are categorized as gaps insofar as they lack AAA ("All Ages & Abilities") status.
- Delta HUB will be updating the UnGap list for 2018, and synchronizing these gaps with our Priority List to ensure consistency and focus.
- More information about UnGap the Map: <https://bikehub.ca/get-involved/ungapthemap>

→ North Delta: 84th Ave Roadway Improvements

- As part of Delta's Neighbourhood Road Improvements Program, a section of 84 Ave in North Delta will be gaining marked bike lanes on both sides of the street.
- The location of the improvements is within the "Social Heart" of North Delta, from 112 St (Mackie Library) east towards the North Delta Recreation Centre.
- A map of the proposed improvements can be found online:
[http://www.delta.ca/docs/default-source/community-planning-and-development/84-avenue-\(112-street-to-116-street\)-roadway-and-utility-improvements/preliminary-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=2](http://www.delta.ca/docs/default-source/community-planning-and-development/84-avenue-(112-street-to-116-street)-roadway-and-utility-improvements/preliminary-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=2)

Education/Engagement

→ Outreach from Delta Police: "529 Garage" bicycle theft/registration event

- On Saturday Dec. 16th, Delta Police will be hosting an event for the "529 Garage" bike registration and recovery service. It will be taking place from 2-4pm at Caps South Shore Cycles on Scott Rd, North Delta. They invited Delta HUB to participate.
- 529 Garage is a new web-based program that most municipalities in the Lower Mainland have begun using (*Vancouver reported a 30% decrease in thefts last year since adopting the program).
- More information is available at: <https://project529.com/garage>
- Patrick will attend the event, and welcomes any additional volunteers.

→ TransLink: SWATP Report (Transit and cycling investment in Delta/Richmond/TFN)

- The latest draft of TransLink's South West Area Transport Plan is now available:
https://www.translink.ca/-/media/Documents/plans_and_projects/area_transit_plans/southwest_area/ph2/SWATP-Draft-Plan-Nov-2017.pdf

→ Update from Port of Vancouver: Survey of walkers/cyclists at Brunswick Point

- Delta HUB members were interested in knowing more about a recent survey that had been conducted by Port representatives along Brunswick Point and the TFN breakwater path.
- Patrick received an update at the latest Port Community Liaison Committee (PCLC) meeting about the survey.
- According to the Port, the Recreational Trail Use Study was completed in response to an information request from the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (RBT2) Review Panel. Specifically, they asked that the port provide information on the levels of trail use within the local assessment area, especially the Brunswick Point/Dyke-Great Blue Heron trail, including bird watching.
- As part of the study, surveyors were on site all day during daylight hours, and all trail users were counted. Each party interviewed provided information about the types of activities they undertake on the trail (i.e. walking, biking, bird watching, hunting), frequency of use, where they usually go, and barriers they may face accessing the trail.
- The survey of trail users was designed to gather data on the volume and types of trail use, both in the summer and winter periods, as well as on week days and weekends. Analysis of the results will take into consideration the seasonal constraints related to the timing of the study.
- Once the collection of results is complete, they will be included as a response to the RBT2 Review Panel, and will be posted to the panel registry and shared locally.

4. OTHER

- Protected intersections:
 - <http://www.tcat.ca/general-news/crossing-the-danger-zone-intersections-and-cyclists/>
- City and rural findings in the Greater Victoria Area
 - <https://www.vicnews.com/news/greater-victoria-a-national-leader-in-sustainable-transportation/>
- Delta Optimist carrier now pedaling in style
 - <http://www.delta-optimist.com/living/delta-optimist-carrier-now-pedaling-in-style-1.23120670>

***Next Delta HUB meeting:** Thursday, January 4th, 2018 at Ladner Pioneer Library