

MINUTES – Delta HUB Committee Meeting

Thursday September 7th, 2017, 7:00pm

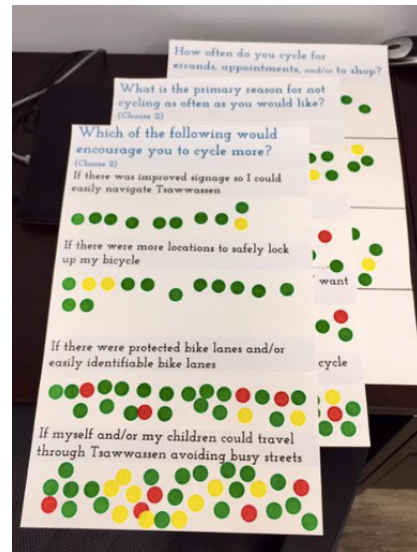
1. INTRODUCTIONS

Patrick (Chair), Bill, Bridget, Karon, John, Roel, Liz, David J., Neil

2. SUMMER DEBRIEF: New items included for discussion

Biking Event: Tsawwassen Community Rides

- Century Group and the Tsawwassen BIA will be hosting a community bike event on Saturday, Sept. 9th. It will be similar to the Southlands Bike-In, but focused on the Tsawwassen Town Centre area. Among others, Delta HUB, Delta Police, and the South Delta Riders will also be involved to engage and support active travel.
- **BOOTH:** Patrick and Bridget will help out at a booth. Delta HUB will provide prizes (bike lights, bells) and Delta Routes Maps. HUB (Vancouver) has a banner that could be used; however, it is currently in storage due to their office move.
- In terms of booth engagement, Karon said that ICBC has quick quizzes they use to test safe driving (using iPads). Various scenarios are tested and a score is provided at the end of the quiz, identifying where improvements may be needed. This could be something that HUB could develop for cycling.
- **SURVEY:** The Tsawwassen BIA developed an interactive survey to ask community members about their cycling habits and preferences (*pictured at right*). Results will be shared with Delta HUB ahead of the next committee meeting.
- **RIDE:** Melanie from Delta HUB will be leading the proposed 13km ride (along with volunteers from South Delta Riders). A route was developed, travelling from the Town Centre Mall to Boundary Bay, Beach Grove, and then back up near the high school (via 16th Ave and 53A St). Topography was kept to a minimum to encourage a diversity of riders.



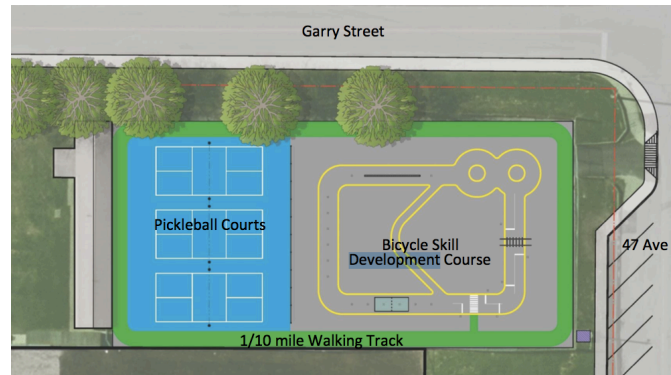
New safety concern from community members: Farm gate at 28 Ave overpass

- David described a problem he and other local riders have encountered with a yellow farm gate that controls access to the 28th Ave overpass. During the summer, he had an accident when the gate opened while he was travelling through the adjacent path; since the gate opens inwards, it narrows the path when it opens, forcing the rider into the vertical sign pole.
- It was noted that the red warning light isn't observable to cyclists during the daytime, and that the gate is used randomly but regularly by motorists.
- When notified, Delta Engineering responded quickly; the location of the access path was moved further away from the gate (~6 feet), and the result works very well for cyclists.



Other items

- **Multi-Use Sport Court, Memorial Park, Ladner:** In August, Delta HUB was invited to the opening of the new multi-use sport court, which now includes a bicycle skill development course (*pictured*).
- Delta HUB is pleased to see this new skill building course for young riders by Delta Parks & Recreation.



- **ICBC - Drive Smart and distracted driving campaign:** Karon provided an overview of this season's back to school, distracted driving and Drive Smart initiatives. She can share the Drive Smart quiz with Delta HUB (for our engagement efforts), which includes key messages for vulnerable road users such as cyclists. ICBC would like to engage with the cycling community to avoid the loss.
- If there are other opportunities unique to cycling in Delta (similar to the Spanish "Rules" poster), we can explore future collaborations to bring some extra focus to an issue..
- **Mainroad survey:** Mainroad has contracts for maintenance of local Provincial highways (including Hwy 17, Hwy 17A, Hwy 99, Hwy 91, and Hwy 10). As a stakeholder, Delta HUB members have been asked by Mainroad for feedback about their maintenance in a short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CQNDBMQ>

3. WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

Safety/Routes

Feedback from Delta - 53A Street Road Review, Tsawwassen

- Delta HUB's suggestions - including the proposed reconfiguration of the intersection at 53A Street and 16 Avenue - was discussed at Delta Engineering's last TTC meeting (Transportation Technical Committee).
- The conclusion was defer any changes to the intersection until the Metro Vancouver Watermain project on 52 Street is significantly completed.
- Delta HUB's main concern is the safety of northbound cyclists on 53A St as they cross the 16th Ave intersection towards the Imperial Village paths. Presently, cyclists have no visibility in that intersection, as motorists travel continuously (with a yield condition).
- Among other suggestions, Delta HUB proposed a new traffic island (potentially with green paint), similar to the nearby road condition at 12th Ave and English Bluff Road.

Green Caution Paint

- Committee members discussed the need for an implementation of green caution paint in Delta, including an education program (much like most other Lower Mainland municipalities have done).
- Delta HUB will continue to advocate for limited or "strategic" locations for green caution paint, to raise motorists' awareness/expectation of vulnerable road users, and contribute to an overall sense of safety.
- Delta may need to establish a policy, as other communities have done, to clarify when/where caution paint should be incorporated into road/intersection design.

Delta HUB Wayfinding Report (*completed)

- Anton completed a draft of the Wayfinding Report, which will be shared shortly with committee members, Delta Engineering, and other stakeholders.
- The objective of the Report is to highlight the importance of wayfinding (signage) to riders and other stakeholders (including BC Ferries, business associations, etc.). Specific locations have also been identified.
- In terms of implementation, Delta HUB has been exploring the idea of signage of key trails with key partners such as the Rotary Clubs and Tsawwassen BIA and LBA. The signage would be aimed at both locals and tourists, looking to travel by bike within - and in between - Tsawwassen and Ladner. A similar approach could be pursued to link Ladner and North Delta.

Local/Regional Infrastructure

Feedback to Delta – Bike racks at transit stops

- Delta HUB continues to assemble an inventory of transit stops where bike racks would complement the active travel habits of residents.
- Outreach will be made to the Delta Farmers Institute (and local greenhouse operators) to confirm the stops that are most important to farm workers (i.e. along Arthur Drive, Matthews Exchange on Hwy 10).
- It was noted that a bike rack was added to the stop at 56th St and 16th Ave in Tsawwassen, which serves farm workers and other area residents.

Update: Priority Item #14 (Westham Island Bridge; repair work by TransLink)

- On Delta HUB's behalf, Delta Engineering sent another request to TransLink for an update regarding the Westham Island Bridge.
- For some time, our committee has been communicating concerns about the gaps between the planks and the deteriorated grid-strip surface.
- **UPDATE:** TransLink contacted Delta HUB directly to confirm that an evaluation of the Bridge's condition was done this summer; they also indicated that a replacement program (for planks with anti-skid material) is now planned and budgeted for next year (2018/2019).
- They highlighted the difficulties in managing periodic closures for the Bridge (*which are necessary due to the narrow width of the facility), given that it is the only point of entry/exit for locals and businesses.
- The news that the repairs are in the budget is very good news, and we appreciate the efforts of Delta and TransLink. Delta HUB will continue to advocate for earlier-than-later repairs with TransLink (to this end, we are compiling cycling accidents that have happened in recent years, which TransLink may not be aware of).

Update: Trans Canada Trail (Proposed connection to BC Ferries Tsawwassen Terminal)

- During the summer, Delta HUB was contacted by Trans Canada Trails about their future plans to connect the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal to the TCT.
- The route will be an evolving one as key trail connections to the Ferry Terminal develop over the next few years (via Tsawwassen Springs, TFN).
- Presently, signage is proposed to inform users of the interim routing (involving, locally, the Boundary Bay dike trail, and 17A Ave, 18 Ave, 52 St, and Hwy 17 in Tsawwassen).
- TCT has been going through the approval process with a range of agencies and stakeholders, including Delta, TFN, and Metro Vancouver. Delta HUB connected TCT reps

with the Delta Farmers Institute to discuss any concerns of the farming community along the Boundary Bay dike trail (which is a priority route for farm vehicles).

Update: Improvements to Tsawwassen trail (Century Square to Imperial Village)

- Delta HUB met with Century Group in June to review the trail/trail connection that runs from Century Square to Imperial Village in Tsawwassen.
- The trail's eastern access point is through private property (Century Group); it then travels along a Right-of-Way (owned by Delta) and ends at a paved Right-of-Way (owned by BC Hydro).
- The trail is maintained and periodically graded with gravel through the volunteer efforts of Tsawwassen Collision (which is a business in the adjacent Century Square).
- Century Group supports the trail for local connectivity, but wished to make it more safe and accessible; they also wanted to highlight to users that they are passing through private property.
- A new bike lane was painted along the access point (from 18th Ave), new signage was added, and an adjustment was made to the garbage bin facility to provide safer access to the trail (and minimize interaction with area businesses).

Update: Deltaport Truck Staging (paving of paths to 64th St)

- Patrick received an update from the Port about the new Truck Staging Facility, which is now under construction at Hwy 17 and Deltaport Way. In the past year, Delta HUB met with Port and MoTI reps to discuss the project, and the removal of an existing cycling path (from Hwy 17A).
- Delta HUB worked with the project team to arrange for the paving of two gravel paths to replace the one that would be removed (Hwy 17 to 28th Ave; and Hwy 17 to 64 St). New signage will also be installed.
- The goal is to separate cyclists from the trucking activity, and encourage the use of 64 St/28Ave rather than navigating truck/vehicular traffic at Deltaport Way and the Hwy 17A-Hwy 17 merge (**these will continue to be options, but signage and pavement are intended to provide a safer alternative*).
- A map of the alternative cycling routing is now available: <https://www.portvancouver.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/2017-08-09-Deltaport-Truck-Staging-alternate-cycling-map.pdf>
- The paving of the 2 paths will be the first deliverables on the project, happening over the next 2 weeks (**UPDATE:** Delta HUB has learned that both paths are now paved).

Education/Engagement

Recap: Participation at Summer Booths (Ladner Village market)

- Delta HUB was grateful to have the chance to join the Delta Chamber of Commerce at their summer Visitor booths. Sandra, Hillary, Phil, and Liz participated at booths at the Ladner Village market.
- For future outreach activities, it was suggested that we might have a small "Delta HUB" sign or banner (which we could fund with our annual budget from HUB Cycling). This could greatly assist with awareness.
- Other ideas include surveys and quizzes with prize giveaways (bells, bike lights, etc)
- The Delta Routes maps were very popular at the booths, and should continue to be made available at the booths.

Summer outreach to Delta HUB

- Delta HUB has been contacted by several local groups and organizations to potentially support related initiatives.
- This includes ongoing discussions with the Tsawwassen BIA to promote biking for local shopping, attract regional cyclists (and others), and improve area conditions/signage.
- We also have upcoming meetings with to explore cycling initiatives with the Delta Kids team and the Tsawwassen Mills shopping centre.

Upcoming: Ride the Road 5-session course at Gray Elementary, North Delta (Sept. 25-29th)

- With the support of TransLink's TravelSmart program, HUB is providing an advanced Ride-the-Road course to grade 6-7 students at Gray Elementary in North Delta.
- The course is a more in-depth course than the Learn2Ride course, which HUB has provided to younger grades at local schools (Holly, Heath).
- The curriculum includes bike maintenance, in-class ground cycling training, rules of the road, and a neighbourhood road ride.
- In addition to Delta Engineering, representatives from Delta Police, Delta Council (Heather King) and Delta School District (Val Windsor) will be participating in different aspects of the course.

Proposed workshop with Delta Mayor & Council

- Delta HUB is looking to have a workshop with Mayor & Council this fall, and is now working on a letter and PowerPoint presentation. Members provided feedback on key areas and approaches to discuss with Delta's leadership.
- We would like to continue building upon our constructive relationship with Delta staff (Engineering, Operations, Parks & Rec), and work towards securing more funding for more improvements (presently, \$50k is spent annually on cycling).
- Suggested improvements would include both fixes and enhancements (i.e. green paint, bike boxes); others would be more strategic and long-term (i.e. River Road West; gradually building out a cohesive, crosstown cycling route in each of Tsawwassen, Ladner and North Delta - particularly when/as changes are happening).
- We would also like to highlight our collaboration successes with other bodies (MoTI, Port, TFN, Fraser Health, etc) and work with Delta to connect the dots, improve safety/education, and encourage healthy choices.

Idea: Delta HUB Newspaper Piece

- One of the guest books at the popular bench along the Boundary Bay dike (between 64th St and 17A Ave) has been stolen (and replaced by the organizer, a community resident). The book's organizer left his name and number, and it was suggested that this might be an interesting cycling-themed story for Delta HUB to contribute to the Optimist.
- Delta HUB will connect with the organizer to learn more about his history with the bench/guest book, and see if there is interest.

4. OTHER

- New link to online Delta Routes Map: <http://delta.ca/parks-recreation/parks-trails/trails-cycling>
- HUB Cycling Annual General Meeting (Sept. 23rd, Coquitlam Library) <https://bikehub.ca/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=556>

- TransLink Southwest Area Transport Plan (Aug 30th meeting):
Patrick and Anton are SWATP committee members, and participated in the most recent advisory meeting. The meeting provided an overview of the results of the recent TransLink survey and public outreach in the southwest area (Delta, TFN, Richmond).
- From the results, it was clear that some of the new transit routes proposed would be pursued by TransLink; likewise, some of the reductions and changes that were proposed would be reconsidered.
- The input on cycling facilities and connections was very positive, and provided TransLink with an incentive to explore further (and invest more).

***Next Delta HUB meeting:** October 5th, 2017 at Ladner Pioneer Library