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HUB - New Westminster
Draft Minutes of Meeting via Zoom: Wednesday April 27, 2022

Present: Brad Barber, Garey Carlson, Andrew Feltham, Gordon Lamont, Andrew Moss, Fulton Tom (Minutes), Robert Wong.

Call to order: 6:35 PM

1. Meeting/Communications

- a) Review of Agenda – Add E-Mobility Draft Strategy and Businesses against Bike Lanes (as part of Uptown Active Transportation Improvements). Approved.
- b) Review of Minutes (March 23, 2022) – Approved.
- c) Social Media Update – No new developments.

2. Advocacy

a) HUB-NW 2021-2022 Annual Priorities – Brad reported on an update from Mike Anderson. The City is occupied by three projects requiring significant public consultation: Agnes Greenway, bike route to New Westminster Secondary School, and 7th Avenue (between 5th Street and 8th Street). The City anticipates connecting the London/Dublin Greenway to the corner of 8th Street and 8th Avenue in 2022 and widening a multi-user path in Moody Park that connects to 9th Street in 2023. HUB-NW will consider updating its 5-year plan later this year. It is struggling with staff shortages.

b) Uptown Active Transportation Improvements – The City received pushback from businesses regarding its plan to remove parking from 6th Street (see <https://www.newwestrecord.ca/local-news/uptown-new-west-biz-group-concerned-about-removal-of-parking-on-sixth-street-5283654/>). Shane distributed articles about the benefits of bike lanes to businesses in an email prior to the meeting. Garey has not drafted a letter with HUB-NW recommendations yet but will include information about the benefits of bike lanes to businesses.

Action: Fulton will draft a letter to the New Westminster Record about the benefits of the bike lanes to students, businesses and user of Mercer Stadium.

c) Memorialization Park/Former NWSS Grounds – Garey drafted a letter regarding the Memorialization Park but members agreed to hold off sending the letter. Mike Anderson anticipates a connection between the London/Dublin Greenway and NWSS. No action is required at this time.

d) New Pattullo Bridge – Bridge construction has narrowed the Central Valley Greenway and cyclists are being asked to yield to pedestrians until the end of 2022. HUB is surveying members about concerns that the type of security fencing chosen for the Pattullo Bridge can cause strobing effects.

Action: Brad will ask Shane and Heidi to highlight HUB's survey on HUB-NW's social media. Garey will ask Evan Hammer of HUB about a common platform that cyclists can use to report concerns with cycling infrastructure (as well as a case about a not-at-fault cyclist sued by ICBC to cover damages to a motor vehicle).

Brad recommends reviewing one's home insurance policy in relation to coverage of cyclists.

e) Letters of Support for the City of New Westminster Funding Requests – Garey wrote letters of support for the funding requests for updates to the cycling network and cycling/walking improvements by the new aquatic centre. Subsequently, the City discovered that it did not qualify for funding for the improvements by the new aquatic centre.

f) Stewardson Way (5th Avenue/14th Street) Improvements – No new developments.

Action: Brad will ask Mike for an update re Stewardson Way.

g) Agnes Greenway Update – Construction is expected to start in May and end in October 2022. It is still unclear what the City will do about the bike ramp by Douglas College at the west end of the route.

h) City of New Westminster AAA Network Expediting – Urban Systems invited HUB-NW to attend a virtual community engagement (on Thursday April 27) about the program, which includes many items on HUB-NW's priorities list. Members were concerned that the AAA aspect would be expensive and/or require significant public consultation.

i) Proposed Development @ 616 – 640 Sixth Street (Waffle House) – Pooni Group will include substantial bike parking (500 spots) in the development. Members were concerned that motor vehicles will stop on the bike lane for pick up and drop off of passengers.

l) E-Mobility Draft Strategy – The City is surveying the public about its E-Mobility Draft Strategy (see <https://www.beheardnewwest.ca/electric-mobility-strategy>), which also concerns e-bike users.

3. Activities

a) Go by Bike Week Spring (May 30 – June 5) – Vice-Principal Greg Patton was looking at liability issues regarding a community station at NWSS. Fulton will plan at least one community station (by the 22nd Street SkyTrain Station).

Action: Fulton will contact Greg about a community station and Robert will get copies of the new Tri-Cities bike map for distribution during Go by Bike Week. Garey will contact Cathy Acuna of HUB about getting more Metro Vancouver bike maps for bike shops.

4. Next Meeting – Wednesday May 25 at 6:30 pm – The next meeting will be held virtually.

Some members favour in-person meetings while others prefer virtual meetings. The library's meeting rooms are available only until 7:30 pm (because the library closes at 8 pm). HUB-NW would like to hold a hybrid in June starting at 6 pm.

Adjourned: 7:52 PM