

HUB - New Westminster  
Draft Minutes of Hybrid Meeting in Discord and the Ash Street Room  
of New Westminster Public Library (Main Branch)  
Wednesday April 19, 2023

Present: Brad Barber, Jaqueline Brower, Rob Dewar (left at 6:32), Tammy Dewar (left at 6:32), Andrew Feltham (online, left at 7:30), Trudi Goels (online), Shane Griffin, Heidi Hizsa, Jonathan Mak (online), Andrew Moss, Eden Rose, Fulton Tom (Minutes), Alexander Van Houten and Robert Wong

Guest: Mayor Patrick Johnstone (left at 7:09)

Call to order: 6:08 PM

1. Meeting Openers

a) Welcoming newcomers & introductions

b) Check-In:

c) Review of Agenda & Minutes from Last Meeting – Review of Agenda. Add NWSS Environment Club's Climate Action Conference to the agenda. Approved.

Review of Minutes. Approved.

d) Special Guest: Mayor Patrick Johnstone and member of the Mayors Council on Regional Transportation

Council approved the Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) in October 2022. Mayor Johnstone expects the ATNP to be added to the 5-year capital plan in the first or second quarter of this fiscal year. There is \$5 million in the 1-year capital budget for active transportation and eventually \$30 million will be needed for greenways and Great Streets. Once the ATNP is included in the capital plan, the City will apply for grants to fund it.

The ATNP is modeled after one in Victoria, BC. Mayor Lisa Helps recommended getting the plan in the 5-year capital plan. Whether building a single short bike lane or many long ones generates the same level of opposition.

The goal of a Vision Zero strategy is zero road deaths and zero road injuries. Oslo had no pedestrian deaths for two years. The City does not currently get involved in the case of pedestrian deaths. The Mayor will work with Engineering on the Vision Zero Task Force to prevent deaths and injuries. In a response to a question by Shane, the Mayor indicated that vehicles parking illegally on bike lanes should be a consideration of Vision Zero.

Mayor Johnstone will be TransLink's representative at the National Active Transportation Summit.

A 10% road reallocation is a major component of the City's Seven Bold Steps. The City will need to define this goal (eg 10% of all surfaces or 10% of road lanes). Turning road lanes into rapid bus lanes are an example of this road reallocation.

The previous Council including Councillor Johnstone promised bike lanes and was building them prior to the most recent municipal election and Mayor Johnstone and most of his team's candidates were elected (or re-elected).

New Westminster earned over \$20 million worth of low carbon fuel credits from selling electricity to SkyTrain that it can use to fund active transportation projects.

Mayor Johnstone encouraged HUB-NW to contribute to the City's efforts by doing and providing research that supports bike lanes.

Alexander is concerned with the absence of bike parking for guests in and around multi-unit buildings (including his). Mayor Johnstone noted that end-of-trip infrastructure is challenging because bike parking, especially for new types of bicycles, is only required for new buildings. Heidi noted that the City's Contact Us webpage at <https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/online-forms/contact-us> can be used to request bicycle racks on public property.

Mayor Johnstone indicated that reallocating road space on Royal Avenue would be challenging and a tunnel to connect Highway 1 to the new Pattullo Bridge would be too expensive and not usable by transport trucks.

The City has funds for a feasibility study of a greenway to connect Sapperton Landing Park and Pier Park. The fire at Pier Park complicated the project and the City has been seeking Metro Vancouver's support for the project. However, the project is not anticipated in the medium term.

The City is also trying to raise funds for a feasibility study into the replacement of the train bridge between Port Royal and the waterfront. This bridge is used in the transport of a majority of vehicles coming from Asia.

TransLink owns the land at Stewardson Way and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue where the narrow portion of the BC Parkway is located. Mayor Johnstone noted that TransLink would look bad if a death occurred as a result of someone falling into traffic (which happened in the pedestrian death on East Columbia Street). Slowing traffic along Stewardson Way to 30 km/hr is difficult since motor vehicles already travel well above the posted speed limit. One option for East Columbia Street is to prohibit trucks from using the curb lane.

While Shane wants the sidewalk on the Queensborough Bridge widened, there is no interest in the City or the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to refurbish the bridge.

Brad is concerned that Carnarvon Street between 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street (adjacent to the New Westminster SkyTrain Station) is not a part of the ATNP. Redevelopment of Columbia Street may improve cyclist access to New Westminster SkyTrain Station.

Shane is concerned that the design of some speed bumps on private property causes his tricycle to bottom out and damages the drive train.

The Agnes Street Greenway took a long time to build and is the gold standard of bike infrastructure. Other bike lanes will not be built to the same standard but some will use extruded curbs.

The City will do Cool Streets again in the summer of 2023.

Mayor Johnstone encouraged people to email him and thanked members for supporting the City's efforts to increase bikeways. He also emphasized that bikeways are critical to meeting climate goals.

## 2. Advocacy

a) 2023 Priority – Awareness, Understanding & Support of ATNP – HUB-NW has adopted awareness, understanding & support of the Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) as its single priority. Members have been reading and discussing the plan at reading parties. The document is dense and thorough.

Brad encouraged the City to implement quick fixes in 2023 since the ATP's implementation starts in 2024. Heidi suggested individuals raise issues outside of the ATNP with Mike Anderson and include the issues in the ATNP Braid Dump document at [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rBEwpRoM9d\\_J19mWApblzGcMjR5IgFOx2BM21ihvn\\_M/edit#heading=h.motikmktpoz](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rBEwpRoM9d_J19mWApblzGcMjR5IgFOx2BM21ihvn_M/edit#heading=h.motikmktpoz)

b) tēmәәwtx<sup>w</sup> Active User Entrance & Crosstown Greenway – The Walkers' Caucus has written a letter raising issues with the site amenities for pedestrians and cyclists.

Action: On behalf of HUB-NW, Heidi will endorse the letter written by the Walkers' Caucus.

c) Ungap the Map Priority List – Shane has accessed the Ungap the Map priority items and made some updates. He suggests inspection rides to evaluate other items.

d) Bike Parking – There was insufficient time to discuss this item.

e) Snow Management Letter – There was insufficient time to discuss this item.

f) HUB SD40 Bike Friendly Buildings Report – There was insufficient time to discuss this item.

## 3. Activities

a) ATNP Reading Party #3 – The next ATNP Reading Party is [Sunday May 7](#) at 10 am at 422 Fader Street.

b) Earth Day Ride (Saturday April 22) – The family bike ride will begin at the concession stand in Queens Park at 11 am.

c) Hyack Parade (Saturday May 27) – HUB-NW will participate in the parade.

d) Go by Bike Week (Monday May 29 - Sunday June 4) – Due to already planned celebration stations at NWSS and Royal Columbian Hospital, HUB-NW will not organize a station.

e) ParticipACTION Community Bike Month - Planning of activities continues.

f) Social Event with City Councilors Update/Planning – There was insufficient time to discuss this item.

g) NWSS Environment Club's Climate Action Conference (Tuesday May 16 & Wednesday May 17) – Ella Durning, member of the NWSS Environment Club has invited HUB-NW to give a 15 - 20 minute presentation and a 60-minute workshop for 30 students. Andrew encouraged HUB-NW to participate to highlight its role in getting bike lanes to the NWSS and to promote the Go by Bike Week event at NWSS.

Adjourned: 7:41 pm

Next Hybrid Meeting: Wednesday May 17 at 6 pm virtually on Discord and in the Ash Street Room of the New Westminster Public Library