

HUB Richmond/YVR Committee: *Meeting Minutes*

Thursday, May 13, 2021 • 7:00-8:30 PM

Attendees: Anna Chow, Cat Rey, Cedric Lin, Derek Williams, Donna Kwan, Erik Frebald, Yvonne

LINKS:

[Meeting Agenda](#)

ACTION ITEMS:

Everyone: please review Updated Richmond LC Action Plan 2021

Cat: take information from tonight, make revisions, and finalize the action plan; send to Cedric to send to committee, and send to Shareen once approved by our committee; send email to Anna with map of infrastructure gaps in Richmond.

Donna: make a document of event ideas she wants to do and bring to the meeting next month.

1. Welcome & Introductions Attended

- Check-in - name, pronouns and a short bit about how you got into cycling.
- Call to order for May 13 Agenda - any additions/omissions?

Everyone: no additions/omissions.

2. Advocacy Opportunities/Barriers

- Involving schools into cycling.
- Signs directing to bike paths in Richmond.
- Promoting HUB through signs and ads.

3. Review & Approval of Minutes for Virtual Meeting held April 8, 2021

- [Minutes](#) for April 8, 2021 meeting

4. Items for Discussion

- Richmond LC Action Plan 2021
 - Updated Richmond LC Action Plan 2021 viewable [here](#)
 - Has the Richmond LC Action Plan 2021 been revised and finalized?

Cat: We need to get an action plan started and finalized, but we don't want to omit any objectives until they have been dealt with. (Objective 2) Considered done, but we should still form connections through bike rides with councillors and stakeholders. (Objective 4) Leave it for Stephen to deal with. (Objective

5) Many people don't use the greenways because it is too slow and too many people, dogs, and children. We can look at what we can do for events after COVID-19 protocols are reduced and plan for that. Looking forward to virtual events is a good bet. I want the committee and community to be aware of the SD38 scholarship ride, and think it will be good for us to go next year as a committee once the COVID-19 situation improves.

Derek: (Objective 1) We need to find what are our objectives and what we want to get done for the action plan: whether it be if we want to get more people to ride bikes or a website for safe riding routes. We need the school to advocate for kids riding to school, since parents often are against their kids biking to school. (Objective 2) The City of Richmond wants any questions to be directed to Joan. The City has been very supportive of HUB cycling and recognizes that we are here. I would like the RATC committee and HUB to work together. However, since we are an advocacy group, we can push to other limits. We can consider this objective done. (Objective 3) I think we want a route and something to connect to other bike routes; councillors think that having a greenway is all good, but we need to take them down to some poorly-designed cycling infrastructure. I had planned to do something like this with Stephen but COVID-19 prevented this. (Objective 4) Stephen said he would do the VanProp and I can help out. (Objective 5) We need to show them other things than greenways since Richmond greenways do not take anyone anywhere. However, the new River Parkway is an improvement step. We need someone to know how to properly write a letter to the City of Richmond and give them a pat in the back. We need to thank the City but leave it so as to not make them think they perfected it. We can take photos of cycling infrastructure like the River Parkway, restriping of Railway Ave/Granville Ave/Steveston Hwy, and dileantors on Granville Ave. I agree with Donna about having more events. The issue with the Bus to Bike Week concept is that we need school and parents' support.

Donna: (Objective 2) We can just cc all stakeholders, councillors, and Joan in a letter when we send a letter to the City. (Objective 5) I will draft and send a letter to the City of Richmond and send it to Richmond News. Cedric can help me. Letter should always say that there is room for improvement. Since COVID-19 has restricted many possibilities for events, we need to think virtual. Virtual rides are just riding with no destination and you can donate money online. Hopefully, we can draft and send a short letter to raise PR for the awareness of cycling and HUB Cycling—I think we need to do more PR on our own. We could possibly do an event in Spring, Summer, and Fall. Doors open event is super simple: we have different venues that are open, it's free with your bike and the route is all planned. I would love to do rides to show people the community gardens with the Richmond Food Security Society. Bus to Bike Week could be one of our events, but there is not enough support from the community and we would need to get PAC involved. Within the confines of liability, school staff are quite constricted—field trips are rare because of liability. If the initiative comes from PAC, it may be easier as school staff know they have support.

Yvonne: I think we should include that there is non new North to South cycling route going through Richmond—we can add it into the letter.

Erik: I have noticed that there is too much polarisation in Richmond between motorists and cyclists. A cycling-friendly environment can work much better when everyone acknowledges that I can drive on some days and bike some days; there is no need for political leaning. Has anyone done something like a Bus to Bike Week in Richmond? It works well on a community-planned route and students bike to a “bus stop” and others would join in on the “bus.” Eventually the whole mass of students will arrive at school together. School coordination will be needed to help facilitate this event.

Everyone: Objective 2 is not to be moved to our 2021 Action Plan and we will be leaving Objective 3 in the Action Plan until the pandemic has settled.

- TransLink onramp to southbound Highway 99
 - Any updates?

Cat: We can leave this for Stephen to do.

Derek and Donna: Oak St Bridge does not lead to anywhere, and it is dangerous and not safe. Better alternatives are Arthur Laing Bridge or Cambie St.

- Draft business case for [Great Blue Heron Way](#)
 - D.Grigg, Infrastructure Planner for the GBHW seeking feedback from Richmond LC on business ecase.
 - Email text from D.Grigg to Stephen available [here](#)

Derek: Ruth Adams is with this group in Tsawwassen and wants to connect the Tsawwassen First Nations area to the North Shore, a route from the Canada/U.S. Border to the North Shore for walking, hiking, and cycling. David Grigg has contacted me and we cycled around Richmond, trying to work out barriers in our city’s routes. They would like to present their case to a group of people so that more people understand what the project is about. We, as a committee, can hear about them and let them into one of our meetings, but it is ultimately up to the committee, if this is something we would like to do. Joan Caravan has invited this group to join the RATC meeting in June. Grigg’s team is aiming for the same goals as our committee: AAA routes through Richmond with proper protected bike lanes for all ages and abilities. The Border-to-North Shore Path follows the same route that the First Nations would have taken back before roads were constructed. I will send contact email addresses to Cat to arrange a session with this group.

Donna: I have ridden some of the routes going to the Bird Sanctuary in Delta and I think the project is a great idea. They have a really beautiful First Nations Heron logo that resembles a bike path.

Everyone: We should invite Grigg and his team to talk about the project.

- George Massey Crossing Project
 - Updates - Anna and Cat to provide some information after meeting with Jeff Leigh

Anna: Jeff from HUB Cycling Vancouver/UBC Local Committee gave us a presentation on Monday, May 10th. There is a map that shows the comfort levels of various bike riders. One of our main goals is to make a crossing through the George Massey tunnel—we talked about building a bridge but due to high winds in the winter, a bridge may not be a safe option. We also thought of having two tunnels (one southbound and one northbound) only for bikes. We also looked into having a bike route from Canada Lin down to Shell Road.

Cat: A bike route running under Oak Street Bridge and cutting out and coming into Shell Road. We would like to ride the routes from the map that Jeff sent to us to get an idea of the routes.

Derek: I went to meet with Urban Systems regarding the MoT infrastructure gaps. MoT has almost zero infrastructure in Richmond that works. Big main routes should get everyone by bike to the Canada/U.S Border, ferries, and airports. Each municipality will have its own infrastructure and want to get it all joined together. The current objective is to get stars on their maps to identify gaps. When MoT gets the money, they figure out what routes to get done. South of the George Massey Tunnel is an infrastructure gap and we should be getting a new tunnel sometime this century. If you want to go to the ferries, you need to go down HWY 17, so MoT needs to provide infrastructure with the City of Delta to get a safe route. If anyone in the committee wants to send info to Urban Systems, just go to the previously-sent meeting invite and contact Urban Systems about the gap(s). When more people notify them about a gap, they know it's not just one person who is experiencing it. Urban Systems is hired to make a map of the infrastructure gaps and give them to the MoT. In the month of June, the City of Richmond is open to ideas for anything relating to cycling such as infrastructure gaps—the gaps will be compiled into something called the State of Cycling to Richmond (Joan will be giving more info on that).

Cat: For the George Massey Tunnel, you could carry your bike onto the bus and not try to figure out the shuttle. Anna sent out an email asking everyone about infrastructure gaps they would like the MoT to know about, but I do not believe anyone replied with suggestions.

Anna: We, as a committee, need more community engagement and processes similar to designs of projects.

- Protocols for emails/correspondence regarding committee business.
- PR/Social Media - What this looks like and a PR/Social media person.

5. City of Richmond News / RATC

- City looking into how to allow rental electric scooters to operate in Richmond.
- Railway Ave: Re-striping
- Granville Ave: Protection
- Go By Bike in Richmond
- Infrastructure Sub Committee update: answers to questions from Yvonne, left turn red lights and some info on the Great Blue Heron Way.

Derek: Electric scooters are illegal in Richmond on public roads, with the Motor Vehicle Act looking into it. Companies want to bring in electric scooters. However, as shown in Europe, electric scooters cause many issues. The City of Richmond has narrowed down to two companies to put in electric scooters for people to rent. It is up to the companies on how they look after and implement the scooters. Companies need to be responsible for maintenance, speed, where the scooters can go, and City of Richmond rules and regulations. They are also not to be ridden on sidewalks and in shopping malls, but can be allowed on bike lanes and roads. As far as I know, they are trying to get electric scooters in by Summer 2021. A test trial will be run around central Richmond. Electric scooters are meant for short trips to available docking stations. E-bikes you ride (an electric bike); e-scooter you use a throttle (an electric kick scooter). Joan Caravan agrees that Minoru Blvd will have green paint to help designate bike areas, and Granville Ave is no longer a designated bike lane because of TAC requirements on road width requirements.

Yvonne: I would like more people to know that a green box is a bike shared area, and if drivers are more courteous, I think more people would be riding. Green paint for cycling infrastructure is part of a bike lane.

6. Assessment Rides and Reports

- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person assessment rides have been postponed indefinitely
- Possible virtual tour: Woodward's Road from Railway Greenway to Parkside Trail. Oak St. Bridge virtual assessment ride - see below for link.

7. #UnGapTheMap Updates

- Gap 619: Shell Road - Westminster to River Drive has been adopted. Is anyone familiar with this gap and able to tell the committee more about it?

8. HUB Cycling Notices and Upcoming Events

- Go By Bike Week - May 31st to June 6th. Bike to School Week also runs May 31st to June 4th.

9. New/Other Business

- 2021 Virtual Richmond Scholarship Ride - Saturday, May 29th
 - See attached poster for more information.
- Cat has a new email address for committee business - life.with.byke@gmail.com
- Bike Friendly Business Consulting Services - Cat and Derek.
- Land acknowledgement at beginning of future meetings/included in agenda and minutes.

10. Next meeting:

June 10, 2021, 7:00pm - 8:30pm via Zoom. If you have items for the agenda, please email richmond@bikehub.ca.