



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF TRANSIT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022, STARTING AT 1:00 P.M.

Remote Meeting  
Held via Zoom

PRESENT	Mtgs YTD	
Council Representative and Chair, J. Ford	3	
Whistler Transit Ltd., J.C. Gomez	2	
BC Transit, Senior Manager Government Relations, R. Ringma	3	
RMOW GM Infrastructure Services, J. Hallisey	3	
RMOW TDM Coordinator, E. DaSanto	3	
Recording Secretary, D. Taveira	3	
GUESTS		
BC Transit, Senior Transit Planner, B. Bullivant (alternate)	3	
Whistler Transit Ltd, C. Selfridge (alternate)	2	
RMOW Communication, C. Van Leeuwen	1	

### CALL TO ORDER

The Transit Management Advisory Committee *recognized The Resort Municipality of Whistler is grateful to be on the shared, unceded territory of the Lil'wat People, known in their language as Lil'wat7úl, and the Squamish People, known in their language as Skwxwú7mesh. We respect and commit to a deep consideration of their history, culture, stewardship and voice.*

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by B. Bullivant  
Seconded by J. Hallisey

**That** Transit Management Advisory Committee adopt the TMAC Committee Agenda of August 31, 2022

CARRIED

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by R. Ringma  
Seconded by J. Ford

**That** Transit Management Advisory Committee defer the adoption the regular Transit Management Advisory Committee Minutes of Monday, June 06, 2022 to following meeting in September 2022.

CARRIED

## PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Report to Council for September 6, 2022 RMOV staff reviewed presentation with TMAC that will be part of the September 6, 2022 Regular meeting of Council regarding the final Transit Future Action Plan (TFAP) for Whistler and the 2023/24/- 2025/26 Expansion Memorandum of Understanding between the RMOV and BC Transit.

### *Highlights:*

- The TFAP report is the product of a scheduled update of the Sea to Sky Whistler Transit Future Plan, original adopted by Council in 2015.
  - Whistler TFAP is an update of the Whistler chapter.
  - update was launched in 2019
  - delayed due to COVID
  - draft Whistler TFAP was brought to Council in September 2021
  - delayed again due to the transit strike
  - now we are ready to move it forward.
- Listed stakeholders that were ask to review the draft TFAP in autumn 2021, their comments and resulting revisions to the plan
- Requesting Council authorization to have BC Transit ask the Province for the expansion based on the recommendations from the draft Transit Future Action Plan. These are the same 5,000 hours that were requested in September 2021.
  - Route 10 Valley Express improvements and related improvements in Routes 20 and 30. (3000 hours)
  - Expand seasonality to ensure each season operated for the typical duration that existed prior to the pandemic (2000 hours).
- Transit ridership reviewed
  - preliminary look at ridership recovery since transit service restarted in June after the transit strike indicates it is at or above summer 2019

### Discussion and questions:

- Do preliminary ridership numbers for summer 2022 include the manual counts from the Lost Lake Shuttle?
  - Need to add Lost Lake Shuttle counts for year to year transit ridership comparisons
  - Also need separate Lost Lake Shuttle only counts
- BC Transit indicated that the preliminary ridership numbers post-strike in Whistler are higher than in Squamish. Whistler also has significantly more service than Squamish.
- Does BC Transit have any formal plans to review the effects of free transit in Pemberton, Whistler and Squamish including answering the question ... Is it free transit or barrier free access/convenience that customers prefer?
  - Not at this time

- BC Transit would look at the existing ridership numbers, using exiting weekly ridership data pre and post-paid ridership
- There should also be a comparison to previous summer weekends and weekdays

**Action 1:**

*BC Transit will review existing ridership trends, transit pass sales revenue and Customer Satisfaction Surveys and share results with TMAC.*

**Action 2:**

*RMOW staff to include updates on the following in the September 6<sup>th</sup> presentation to Council:*

- *Rapid Transit Network Study- TFAP- Hwy 99 priority study that MOTI is leading*
  - *Electronic Fare Collection System – Dates not confirmed. Current schedule shows summer 2023 for Whistler.*
  - *Digital on Demand (DOD) – BC Transit completed the feasibility study report and will be piloting DOD in Kelowna and*
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Highway 99 Transit  
Priority Study

A discussion regarding the Ministry of Transportation and Highways (MOTI) led Highway 99 Transit Priority Study and update on the TFAP recommended Rapid Transit Network Study.

- The MoTI hosted an on-line study kick-off meeting on August 19 for the Highway 99 Transit Priority Study
  - discuss the approach and key objectives for the study
  - the study areas was defined as Function Junction to Lorimer Road
    - RMOW staff requested that the study area be extended north of Whistler Village to Highway 99 at Emerald Drive
  - BC Transit and RMOW believe this study will include the goals and objectives of the Rapid Transit Network Study recommended in the Whistler TFAP
- Phase 1 includes reviewing the existing traffic and transit performance within the study area
  - Existing data to be reviewed include mapping, historical traffic counts, local transit service, ridership, interregional commercial bus information and Tom Tom data.
  - The RMOW has shared the Brio Traffic Counter data with the consultant
  - BC Transit will share ridership data when asked
- Future phases will bring group back together with some options, an evaluation and then a final implementation plan and priority.
- Timeline for the study is August 2022 to June 2023.

**Action 3:**

*RMOW staff will provide the consultant and MOTI with the TAG Transportation Action Monitoring reports.*

Winter 2022/23  
Service

BC Transit updated TMAC on winter 2022/23 service based on service optimization recommendations followed by a discussion including questions

related to the September 6<sup>th</sup> service change which includes service optimization recommendations for spring/summer/fall service.

- RMOW Roads staff are installing new bus stop signs for the September 6<sup>th</sup> Route 10 Route Deviation Pilot Project. The new temporary bus stop on Village Gate Boulevard may have an asphalt slab to improve winter snow clearing. lo.

**Action 4:**

*BC Transit to explore the possibility of reallocating the \$50,000 in the 2022/2023 AOA towards the design of a permanent bus stop on Village Gate Blvd and report back to TMAC.*

- At the southbound bus stop on Highway 99 and Whistler Village (code 130000), would it be possible for the Route 20s to stop after the last Route 10 if there is a person standing at that stop that miss the last Route 10 of the day?
  - Yes, Whistler Transit Ltd can put a note in the driver's paddle
  - However, the Route 10 Pilot Project deviation into the Village will address this concern as passengers can now stand at the new Route 10 stop and easily walk to the Village Gate Bus shelter if they see a Route 20, 21, 25 or 20X that they want to catch

**Action 5:**

*As of September 1, 2022, Whistler Transit Ltd will ask drivers of the 20s leaving the Village from 7:10pm to 7:30pm to stop and pick up any passengers at stop 130000 on Highway 99 that may have missed the last southbound Route 10 of the day.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Transit Infrastructure Updates:

- VGB Bus Shelter- Taking longer than planned due to supply chain issues. The glass was delayed and will arrive next week, outstanding stone work but almost completed and already functional.
- New Farebox (UMO) implementation in Whistler: already addressed as first topic of meeting

30 km/hr speed limits and transit schedule reliability discussion:

- Whistler Transit Ltd is concerned with adherence to the schedule on the Routes 5, 20 and 32 due to the new 30 km/hr speed limits

**Action 6:**

Whistler Transit Ltd and BC Transit to bring specific areas of concern regarding the 30 km/hr speed limit to the next TMAC meeting for discussion.

**Action 7:**

BC Transit will have the BC Transit Schedulers pull information from the HASTUS program.

- 2022-23 High School Bus Pass Program information has been circulated to the Whistler high schools prioritizing Grade 8 passes.
- RMOW staff have worked with Whistler Blackcomb staff so that the Transit Loyalty Program Sale has added discounts for Club Shred members.
- There will be free transit in Whistler on Municipal Election Day – Saturday, October 15, 2022
- Next TMAC meeting will be in September

**MOTION TO TERMINATE**

Moved by J. Hallisey  
Seconded by R. Ringma

**That** the Transit Management Advisory Committee meeting of Wednesday, August 31, 2022 be terminated at 2:16 p.m.

CARRIED

Chair, J Ford

Recording Secretary, D. Taveira