



MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
WORKSHOP 8
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017, STARTING AT 1:00 P.M.**

**In the Flute Room
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC, V0N 1B4**

PRESENT:

Chair, RMOW Mayor, N. Wilhelm-Morden,
RMOW Councillor, A. Janyk
RMOW Councillor, S. Anderson
Citizen-at-Large, B. Murray
Citizen-at-Large, J. Sobieniak
Citizen-at-Large, C. Doak
Citizen-at-Large, S. Pass
RMOW – CAO, M. Furey
Whistler Blackcomb – VP Information Technology, M. Sedgwick
Tourism Whistler – VP Market Development & Sales, K. Goodwin
Whistler Chamber of Commerce – GM, The Whistler Experience, M. Facundo
BC Transit, Senior Regional Transit Manager, L. Trotter (*by phone*)
MOTI – Operations Manager, Howe sound and Sunshine Coast, D. Legault
RMOW – General Manager Infrastructure Services, J. Hallisey
Recording Secretary & RMOW – TDM Planner, E. DalSanto

GUESTS:

Whistler Centre for Sustainability – Planning and Engagement, D. Wilson

FACILITATOR:

Whistler Centre for Sustainability – Executive Director, C. Ho

REGRETS:

RMOW – GM of Resort Experience, J. Jansen

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Anderson

Seconded by S. Pass

That the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) adopt the agenda of Monday, February 27, 2017 as circulated.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. Janyk

Seconded by K. Goodwin

That the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) adopt Minutes of Thursday, January 5, 2017 TAG workshop as circulated.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Transportation Today
Presentation

Update on Winter Actions:

Highway 99 Efficiencies:

- RMOW and MoTI staff reviewed and updated Highway 99 traffic signal timing plans in November. Changes were made in December to further prioritize Highway 99 traffic during peak periods.
- MoTI staff confirmed that with the current traffic signals, programming a “Green Wave” from Function to the Village is not possible, however, this is being considered for future traffic signal purchases.
- There were snow clearing issues on Highway 99 at the beginning of winter. MoTI worked with their highway maintenance contractors to resolve those performance issues.
- On Saturday February 25, 2017, MoTI announced safety upgrades to Highway 99 at Lions Bay. The press release will be circulated with the minutes. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TRAN0041-000405>

Transit Improvements:

- For winter 2016/2017, service was added on routes that were over-capacity the last winter, such as Staff Housing.
- RMOW and BC Transit staff are currently reviewing ridership and routing of the Valley Connector as well as the Village Shuttle routes to look for efficiencies to be implemented next winter.
- RMOW and BC Transit are continuing to work towards a fleet expansion in 2018/2019 – sooner if vehicles become available.

Peak Day Operation Plan:

- RMOW has continued to work with Tourism Whistler, Whistler Blackcomb and other partners to promote publically accessible parking stalls, transit and highway coach travel to, from and within Whistler.
- A winter pilot project of manual control of Highway 99 intersections on Sunday or holiday Monday afternoons (from 2-7pm) was in place from January 2 to February 26, 2017. The cost was approximately \$5,700 per day. Results were mixed. During the four hour period that the flaggers were at the signals, up to 100 more vehicles passed the traffic counter.

Better Parking Management

- As recommended in the 2016 Parking Study, the maximum time limit for Gateway Loop parking was reduced from 2 hours to 1 hour and enforcement of RMOW controlled parking was increased including overnight parking in Day Lots 1-5.
- Whistler Blackcomb staff are investigating temporary changeable message boards with parking information for Highway 99 for summer. Due to operational issues, it was not possible for winter.
- RMOW staff are investing setting up an automatic “car counter” and message board for Conference Centre underground.

D. Wilson arrived at 1:20 p.m.

Preferred Transportation Modes

- Gateway Loop project was retendered and a contract was awarded. Full details are available in the report #17-015 to Council dated February 21, 2017, circulated with the agenda package.

- Whistler Blackcomb is providing parking for ZipCar vehicles at Glacier Staff Housing.
- The RMOW has added the section of Valley Trail from Meadow Park Sports Centre to Nesters/Mons through new underpass to the winter ploughing route to encourage non-motorized commuting.

2017 Transportation Actions Engagement Summary Report Discussion:

D. Wilson presented an overview of the feedback received at the January 17, 2017 Transportation Community Forum (over 200 people attended) as well as the results of the on-line line survey (530 respondents).

General themes and observations:

- Majority of Forum and survey participants supported or strongly supported all of the draft short-term 2017 actions.
- Highway 99 Efficiencies received the most comments, perhaps indicating people's thinking that changes to the highway would be most effective in improving transportation. It was also the first question in the survey.
- Although overall support for parking management actions was lower, it received the least amount of 'not support,' and the greatest amount of 'neutral.'
- Lots of cross-Strategy comments, with most support and suggestions for improving/increasing free transit, widening the highway and improving intersections.

L. Trotter left at 1:57 p.m.

The draft Whistler Transportation Action Plan Summary of Engagement circulated with the minutes will be revised based on TAG's comments and then posted on TAG page on www.whistler.ca.

D. Wilson left at 2:02 p.m.

RMOW have extended the Whistler Centre for Sustainability's contract from supporting the Transportation Community Engagement to provide support for TAG through 2017.

The TAG Terms of Reference state that the "recommendations of the TAG shall be made by **consensus** of members in attendance at a meeting, provided a quorum is present at the meeting. If **consensus** cannot be reached, a majority opinion will form the recommendation of the Transportation Advisory Group. Dissenting views will be noted and presented alongside the recommendation."

Consensus is defined as "general agreement" – i.e. "I can live with that", "I agree to support the decision in the best interest of the whole".

Having heard the summary of feedback from the community, TAG members reviewed the 2017 Transportation Actions.

C.Ho presented the revised transportation goals and asked for a consensus. It was agreed that the goals should not be numbered, and bullets be used instead to indicate they are not listed in any order. It was agreed that the words 'car' and 'private automobile' would be used consistently.

ACTION: E. DalSanto to revise final wording of goals for TAG's adoption at next meeting.

TAG reviewed the short term actions that included revisions from community feedback. The feedback was submitted and will be incorporated for the final draft action plan.

TAG had a short break from 3:10 p.m to 3:20 p.m.

K. Goodwin left at 3:10 p.m.

The key conclusion of the 2016 Parking Study is that there is not adequate availability in most parking facilities on peak and near-peak days. TAG members had an opportunity to review the proposed actions from the 2016 Parking Study and provided many ideas for improving the plan, but there wasn't enough time to finish the discussion.

M. Furey returned to the meeting at 3:35.

Furthermore, TAG requested more information on phasing the recommendations as well as the cost implications of various recommendations.

ACTION: E. DalSanto will attempt to arrange a one hour session with TAG in March solely to review Parking.

- Discussion of the Community Transportation Initiative Fund and the review of the preliminary Medium and Long-Term Action Plan were deferred to the April meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Noise and safety
concerns in
Cheakamus Crossing

A letter from a group of Cheakamus Crossing residents addressed to TAG regarding noise and other concerns related to the bus stop in front of the HI Whistler dated January 17, 2017 was circulated with the TAG agenda package. Staff forwarded this letter to the Transit Management Advisory Committee for review and consideration at their February 20, 2017 meeting. No action is required by TAG.

OTHER BUSINESS/UPDATES

Whistler Blackcomb
Master Development
Agreements

- Whistler Blackcomb signed an agreement with the Province on Friday, February 24, 2017 to renew the Whistler Blackcomb Master Development Agreements. The approved plans can be found at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/natural-resource-use/resort-development/proposed-approved-resort-master-plans/list-of-approved-plans/>
- BC Transit is hosting public open houses across the Sea to Sky region from Thursday March 2 through Sunday March 5, 2017. Information can be found at www.bctransit.com/seatosky.
- The RMOW is hosting a 2017 Budget public open house on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at MY Arts Centre.

Sea to Sky Regional
Transit Study

RMOW Budget
OpenHouse

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Next Meeting

The next TAG meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2017. Staff will attempt to schedule a one hour session specifically to discuss an implementation plan for the 2016 Parking Study recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by S. Anderson

That Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) adjourn the Monday, February 27, 2017 TAG workshop at 4:05 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: N. Wilhelm-Morden

RECORDING SECRETARY: E. DalSanto