



MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
WORKSHOP 4
MONDAY JULY 11, 2016, STARTING AT 9:00 a.m.**

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

PRESENT:

Nancy Wilhelm-Morden, RMOW Mayor - Chair
Andrée Janyk, RMOW Councillor
Steve Anderson, RMOW Councillor
Bill Murray, Citizen-at-Large
Janusz Sobieniak, Citizen-at-Large
Ben Smith, Citizen-at-Large
Mike Furey, RMOW – CAO
Mark Sedgwick, WB – VP Information Technology
Karen Goodwin, Tourism Whistler – VP Market Development & Sales
Mecki Facundo, Whistler Chamber of Commerce – Manager, Whistler Experience
Matthew Boyd, BC Transit – Regional Planning Work Lead
Don Legault, MOTI – A/Operations Manager, Howe sound and Sunshine Coast
James Hallisey, RMOW – General Manager Infrastructure Services
Emma DalSanto, RMOW – TDM Planner & Recording Secretary

GUESTS:

Scott Pass, Transit Management Advisory Committee, Citizen-at-Large
Paula Smith, BC Transit *alternate*
Jesse Morwood, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) *alternate*
Linda Glenday, District of Squamish – CAO

REGRETS:

Jan Jansen, RMOW – GM of Resort Experience

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

*Moved by Andrée Janyk
Seconded by Steve Anderson
That the Agenda of the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) of July 12, 2016
be adopted as circulated.*

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

*Moved by Bill Murray
Seconded by Andrée Janyk
That the Minutes of June 9, 2016 of the Transportation Advisory Group
(TAG) be adopted as circulated.*

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Transportation Today
Presentation

Canada Day Traffic Issues – Summary:

RMOW staff presented highway traffic data from the Canada Day Weekend (Thursday June 29 through Sunday July 3, 2016) and compared it to February 2016 and August 2015 traffic data. It was noted that vehicle volumes at the Brio traffic counter are trending higher than 2015 which was higher than any other year. Both weekend and weekday northbound and southbound vehicle counts at the Brio traffic counter are significantly higher than at the Alice Lake traffic counter suggesting many vehicles trips are generated within Whistler.

Transit 101 – Whistler Transit System:

BC Transit Staff, Matthew Boyd, BC Transit Regional Planning Work Lead and Paula Smith, BC Transit Regional Transit Manager, presented an overview of transit planning in Whistler. Topics included:

- introduction to the BC Transit regional transit system partnership
- general transit planning principles review
- the Whistler Transit System network, seasonality and performance
- the recently adopted Sea to Sky Transit Future Plan including the recommendations for local, regional and interregional transit

ACTION: Staff will circulate the link to the Sea to Sky Transit Future Plan and the TCRP Synthesis 101 report which outlines the results of making transit fare-free in Resort Communities in the US with the minutes.

Transportation Options – YVR to Whistler:

Karen Goodwin, VP Marketing Development & Sales for Tourism Whistler presented a review of customer experience within the transportation sector for both arrivals and departures from the Vancouver international airport (YVR) or downtown Vancouver to Whistler.

TAG discussed that BC Transit include information from the Tourism Whistler report in their upcoming Sea to Sky Transit Corridor Study. There was also discussion regarding the recommendations and the potential overlapping recommendations with the BC Transit study specifically related to lobbying the Passenger Transportation Board (PTB). Tourism Whistler's focus is on the challenges/limitations non-exclusive transportation providers face and the impacts on the customer experience. BC Transit is more focused on commuters. Coordinated lobbying efforts by Tourism Whistler, BC Transit and regional partners to the PTB should be considered.

Transportation
Tomorrow Exercise

Economic Partnership Initiative (EPI) Summary:

Ted Battiston, RMOW. Director, Corporate, Economic & Environmental Services, presented a high-level overview of the Economic Partnership Initiative, how it relates to transportation planning and the 2016 Updated Summary of Key Findings and Economic Planning Report that will be considered by Council at the July 12, 2016 regular meeting of Council.

ACTION: Staff will email the link to the updated copy of the 2016 report and a link to the presentation to Council of July 12, 2016.

Whistler Community Forum Comment Summary:

RMOW staff presented the categories of transportation related comments received at the June 15, 2016 Community Forum and circulated a document including all transportation related comments for TAG members to consider.

ACTION: Staff will circulate an electronic version of comments with the minutes.

2016 Summer Saturdays Pilot Project:

RMOW staff presented a concept of a summer Saturdays transportation pilot project that was developed from suggestions received at the June 15, 2016 Community Forum as well as a review of the 2016 traffic volumes and Canada Day long weekend issues. The objective of the pilot would be to improve Customer Experience this summer for visitors, locals and commuting employees on Saturdays (our busiest traffic day) from the August long weekend to Labour Day. The project would be incentive based with a strong focus on Communication and the "Know Before You Go" messaging. The pilot would include free transit to 6pm (or all service day) as well as additional transit service between Cheakamus Crossing and the Village from 7ish am to 5ish pm.

TAG members saw both an opportunity and a risk of asking people to change their behaviour every 7th day or five consecutive Saturdays. There was a discussion about providing additional parking in the community. TAG members suggested that the pilot should have a strong evaluation component and that it should be communicated that we were testing potential long-term solutions. TAG would like to see the results of this initiative presented in the fall.

Correspondence:

Moved by Janusz Sobieniak

Seconded by Ben Smith

Train service from
North Vancouver and
Prince George

That correspondence from Mayor Lampman dated March 7, 2016, regarding train service from North Vancouver to Prince George be deferred to the next TAG meeting.

CARRIED

Updates and Other
Business

Council is revising the Terms of Reference for Transit Management Advisory Committee (TMAC) to move the transportation planning function out of TMAC to the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG). This will include inviting the current Citizens-at-large that sit on the TMAC to TAG.

Next Meeting

The next TAG meeting will be scheduled mid-September 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Steve Anderson

That Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) adjourns the July 11, 2016 regular TAG meeting at 12:10 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Nancy Wilhelm-Morden