

# WELCOME

## Whistler 2028 Transportation Action Plan Information Session

September 18, 2018

Agenda	
4:00 – 4:45	Gallery walk of transportation posters
4:45 – 5:00	Presentation of transportation outcomes and long-term plan
5:00 – 5:30	Gallery walk continued
5:30 – 5:45	Presentation of 2018 summer monitoring results
6:00 – 6:30	Gallery walk continued

### Purpose

- To inform the community about the outcomes of the transportation actions implemented over the last two years
- To present to the community the long-term transportation action plan

### Next Steps

- Staff report to Council on **October 2, 2018** to present the **Whistler 2018 Transportation Action Plan – Final Draft**



# WHISTLER TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN

## What is it?

The 2028 Transportation Action Plan identifies the community's vision and goals for transportation to, from, and around Whistler, and the long-term strategies and actions for moving toward our vision and goals.

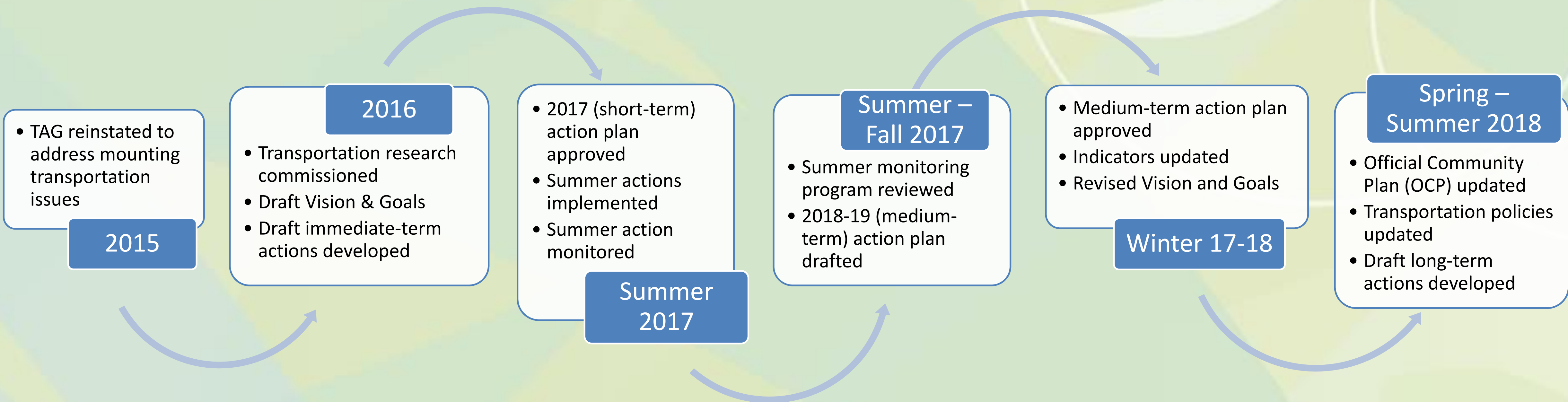
## Why do we need it?

Whistler has been growing in population – permanent residents as well as visitors. With this growth comes traffic challenges. A short-term action plan was adopted in 2017 to address immediate challenges. The medium (2018-2019) and long-term action plans proactively identify strategies and actions that will continue improving the transportation system so that it works for everyone.

Residents, employees and visitors will be able to travel around Whistler more easily with improved highway flow, enhanced transit services, better cycling facilities, and vehicle parking when needed. This will enable us to maintain and enhance visitor satisfaction, allow more efficient movement of goods and services, and ensure continued business improvement for our community.



# ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS





# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP

## What is TAG?

The Transportation Advisory Group is a select committee of RMOW Council, and provides advice and recommendations regarding the assessment of, planning for, and implementation of strategic options to resolve transportation related issues affecting the resort community.

## Membership

### VOTING

- Mayor of Whistler
- Two Councilors
- RMOW Chief Administrative Officer
- One representative Whistler-Blackcomb
- One representative Tourism Whistler
- One representative Whistler Chamber of Commerce
- Four Citizens-at-Large

### NON-VOTING (staff technical expertise)

- One representative BC Transit
- One representative Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- General Manager of Infrastructure Services
- General Manager of Resort Experience
- Transportation Demand Management Coordinator



# VISION

Whistler's Transportation System efficiently and affordably moves people and products to, from and within Whistler while delivering a high quality experience and minimizing impacts on natural areas.

## GOALS

1. Provide a quality travel experience for all visitors, employees and residents, and promote a culture of safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.
2. Integrate the transportation system with land use planning to minimize the need for travel by motor vehicle.
3. Minimize greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions created by the transportation system.
4. Support the increased use of preferred modes for all travel purposes to reduce dependence on private automobiles.
5. Ensure that the transportation system cost-effectively meets and anticipates the resort community's future needs and population growth.
6. Ensure the resiliency of Whistler's transportation system by providing viable alternative road, railway, water and air transport routes to, from and within the resort community.
7. Ensure that the transportation system respects Whistler's natural environment, minimizes climate impacts and improves the liveability of the resort community.



# HIGHWAY 99 EFFICIENCIES

## 2017 ACTIONS AND RESULTS

### Actions

1. Complete accident investigation assessment.
2. Undertake highway intersection investigation.
3. Undertake RMOW - Highway 99 Capacity Review (by province).

### Results

- Refined programing of Hwy traffic signals from Function through Lorimer Rd.
- Accident investigation assessment complete.

## 2018-19 ACTIONS

1. Implement capacity, intersection and signal improvements on Hwy 99 in Whistler.
2. Complete accident investigation assessment and implement Highway Road Closure Protocol recommendations.
3. Work with Ministry of Transportation and Highways (MOTI) to implement higher levels of maintenance especially related to active transportation.



# TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS

## 2017 ACTIONS AND RESULTS

### Action

1. Free transit and more service on summer weekends and holiday Mondays.
2. Additional service hours where needed most.
3. Utilize parking revenue to help reduce the cost of transit passes.
4. Reduce cost of monthly transit passes.
5. Expanded Family Travel Program.

### Results

- Transit ridership increased 77% on summer weekends; 9% increase on weekdays.
- Transit service increased year-round with additional buses and additional service hours in winter.
- Monthly transit passes reduced from \$65 to \$50/month (\$42/month with 12-month Spirit Transit Pass).

## 2018-19 ACTIONS

1. Work with BC Transit to establish high-quality transit service connecting Whistler with Pemberton/Mt. Currie and Squamish/Metro Vancouver.
2. Work with MOTI to develop a transit queue jumper lane as a pilot project.
3. Continue to offer free transit on summer and holiday weekends.
4. Implement real time bus tracker app.
5. Continue to explore additional funding sources for transit.
6. Plan for transit service and fleet expansion.



# BETTER PARKING MANAGEMENT

## 2017 ACTIONS AND RESULTS

### Action

1. Implement pilot project to utilize changeable message boards with parking info on Highway 99.
2. Improve availability of parking through pricing and improved transit service.
3. Implement manual control of parking lot access.
4. Increase enforcement, including overnight parking regulations.
5. Test “car counter” and message board for Conference Centre underground.

### Results

- Improved parking availability in Whistler Village in both summer 2017 and winter 2017/18.
- Improved signage and static parking availability information.
- Improved parking payment mechanisms.

## 2018-19 ACTIONS

1. Monitor Improving Parking Availability Strategy and make any required changes.
2. Develop and implement carpool incentive program.
3. Coordinated publically accessible parking stall information on a single Whistler parking app.
4. Implement pilot project to utilize changeable message boards with parking info on Highway 99 and for Conference Centre underground parking.
5. Introduce multiple day parking passes.



# PREFERRED TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

## 2017 ACTIONS AND RESULTS

### Action

1. Complete Gateway Loop upgrade.
2. Support car-share offerings.
3. Continue to improve Valley Trail linkages.
4. Provide secure bike parking for events, weekends and at Farmers' Market throughout summer.
5. Pilot a carpool parking pass.

### Results

- Gateway Loop construction nearly complete.
- New Valley Trail linking Alpine Meadows to the Village maintained during winter.
- Bike valet service well used at Farmers' Market and Olympic Plaza but not well used at Whistler Public Library plaza.
- Carpool parking pass introduced.

## 2018-19 ACTIONS

1. Expand secure bicycle parking offerings in Whistler Village.
2. Improve bicycle signage on Highway 99.
3. Work with businesses to identify locations for needed sidewalks.
4. Support private sector to provide electric bikes.
5. Complete Gateway Loop upgrade.
6. Support car-share offerings.
7. Continue to improve Valley Trail linkages



# OTHER TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES

## 2017 ACTIONS AND RESULTS

### Action

1. Communications to promote alternative parking locations.
2. Work with YVR to improve access to Whistler airport transfers.
3. Refine Commercial Bus Parking options

### Results

1. Better information available on website for visitors, residents and employees.
2. Better signs and high profile at YVR for Whistler shuttle services to increase passenger transfers by bus.
3. Formalized Commercial Bus Parking in Lot 4 with appropriate fee and fine structure

## 2018-19 ACTIONS

1. Explore peak time carpooling strategies.
2. Partner with businesses and organizations to increase active transportation use.
3. Work with Whistler Blackcomb to develop and offer a “Whistler Card” to visitors as a combo pass that includes transportation to, from, and around Whistler.
4. Develop and implement a marketing campaign to encourage people to leave their cars at home.



# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

**Goal 1: Provide a quality travel experience for all visitors, employees and residents, and promote a culture of safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.**

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Continue to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists on Highway 99 and municipal streets.
- ✓ Work with MOTI to implement recommendations from Highway 99 Capacity Review.
- ✓ Reduce speed limit on Hwy 99 to 60 km/hour throughout Whistler.
- ✓ Construct road links and/or Valley Trail links between neighbourhoods
- ✓ Improve safety of road crossings and of any construction projects.
- ✓ Develop policy regarding use of bicycles, e-bikes and other self-powered vehicles.
- ✓ Address gaps in the Valley Trail network.
- ✓ Provide additional secure bike parking.
- ✓ Develop communications and signage to prioritize preferred modes.
- ✓ Identify and secure multi-modal transportation hub location.
- ✓ Improve accessibility of transportation infrastructure and transit services.
- ✓ Improve the arrival in Whistler experience by burying overhead power and communication lines at Village Gate Blvd.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Goal 2: Integrate the transportation system with land use planning to minimize the need for travel by motor vehicle.

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Identify locations to purchase lands for public access rights-of-way.
- ✓ Establish process for residents to request the Valley Trail in their neighbourhood.
- ✓ Continue developing Valley Trail to fill gaps in network.
- ✓ Improve pedestrian connections in neighbourhoods and to bus stops.
- ✓ Encourage appropriate businesses to locate near existing and future residential developments.
- ✓ Include requirements regarding proximity to the Village or to transit for all new resident-restricted housing.
- ✓ Require new developments in proximity to ski runs to provide ski in/out trails where feasible.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Goal 3: Minimize greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions created by the transportation system.

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Support BC Transit to transition the fleet to electric transit vehicles.
- ✓ Add re-charging infrastructure to Day Lots 1-5, Creekside and other day parking lots.
- ✓ Encourage private stratas and other privately owned parking lots to provide recharge locations for electric vehicles and bicycles.
- ✓ Include electric charging stations when planning new developments.
- ✓ Accelerate the introduction of electric vehicles in Whistler.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Goal 4: Support the increased use of preferred modes for all travel purposes to reduce dependence on private automobiles.

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Upgrade and develop safe pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure.
- ✓ Maintain the Valley Trail for year-round active transportation
  - Maintain existing cross-country skiing in winter
  - Enhance winter walking and cycling networks
- ✓ Develop a secure, end-of-trip facilities for employees commuting by bike to work in the Village, Nesters and Creekside areas.
- ✓ Encourage and/or incentivize large employers to provide facilities for bicycle commuters, as well as carpool and transit incentives.
- ✓ Continue to work with Whistler Blackcomb to develop and offer a combination transportation and pass (ski, bike, sight-seeing) product.
- ✓ Continue to work with BC Transit and regional partners to develop and implement a regional transit system.
- ✓ Continue to strategically expand transit service on the core transit network.
- ✓ Introduce express bus service along the highway (without route deviations into neighbourhoods).
- ✓ Investigate more flexible and convenient options for payment of transit fares.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

**Goal 5: Ensure that the transportation system cost-effectively meets and anticipates the resort community's future needs and population growth.**

## ACTIONS

- ✓ Implement pay parking in Whistler Blackcomb parking lots (portion of revenues to go towards enhancing local transit options).
- ✓ Continue to review and adjust parking prices to maintain adequate parking availability.
- ✓ Introduce other types of parking passes and payment methods.
- ✓ Plan for one or more satellite parking areas with bus services to the ski lifts and Whistler Village.
- ✓ Promote use of preferred modes of travel with resort visitors through product packages.
- ✓ Develop and implement a social marking initiative to drive the use of preferred modes.
- ✓ Develop 5-year budget to continue to allocate parking revenues to enhance transit.
- ✓ Continue to provide free transit in Whistler on summer weekends.
- ✓ Encourage resort partners to offer stay and play packages that encourage use of public transportation.
- ✓ Explore the introduction of regulations restricting the movement of goods to off-peak hours.
- ✓ Research how “mobility as a service” can be utilized in Whistler.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Goal 6: Ensure the resiliency of Whistler's transportation system by providing viable alternative road, railway, water and air transport routes to, from and within the resort community.

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Continue to encourage the provincial government and private sector to pursue the return of higher-volume, affordable and more frequent passenger rail service to Whistler and to Lillooet.
- ✓ Identify potential land for future rail opportunities.
- ✓ Support the existing heliport and float plane locations, but discourage any additional locations or expansion of service levels.
- ✓ Implement the actions from the Sea-to-Sky Multi-Modal Evacuation Plan.





# LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

**Goal 7: Ensure that the transportation system respects Whistler's natural environment, minimizes climate impacts and improves the livability of the resort community.**

## ACTIONS:

- ✓ Ensure proposed transportation improvement options are selected in a manner that minimizes environmental, GHG and climate impacts.
- ✓ Within municipal boundaries, work with Transport Canada to develop a limit to the number of helicopter/aircraft flights and define flight paths to minimize impacts on residential areas.
- ✓ Work with federal and provincial transportation regulators to reduce carbon emissions.
- ✓ Continue to prohibit the use of self-propelled motorized vehicles in parks and in pedestrian areas.
- ✓ Increase education and enforcement of anti-idling bylaw.
- ✓ Incorporate climate adaptation measures when rehabilitating, improving or constructing new transportation infrastructure and facilities.
- ✓ Introduce neighbourhood traffic calming measures when required.
- ✓ Review and develop a policy for reducing minimum number of required parking spaces.
- ✓ Re-purpose existing village parking to other purposes that support preferred modes of transportation where appropriate.

