

**AGENDA**  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**  
~~Committee Room 1~~ Committee Room 2 and via Microsoft Teams  
Saanich Municipal Hall, 770 Vernon Ave  
**Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.**

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*The District of Saanich lies within the territories of the lək'wəŋən peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the W̱ SÁNEĆ peoples represented by the Tsartlip, Pauquachin, Tsawout, Tseycum and Malahat Nations.*

*We are committed to celebrating the rich diversity of people in our community. We are guided by the principle that embracing diversity enriches the lives of all people. We all share the responsibility for creating an equitable and inclusive community and for addressing discrimination in all forms.*

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**1. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

- Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Update

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- May 23, 2024
- June 27, 2024

**3. WALLACE DRIVE ROAD SAFETY**

**4. E-BIKE INCENTIVE PROGRAM UPDATE**

- Glenys Verhulst, Sustainability Specialist

**5. ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION INCENTIVES**

\* Adjournment \*

Next meeting: October 24, 2024

To ensure a quorum, please contact Colton Whittaker at 250-475-5494 ext. 3642 or colton.whittaker@saanich.ca if you are unable to attend.

**MINUTES**  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room 2 and via MS Teams  
770 Vernon Avenue  
Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 4:03 p.m.

Present: Councillor Teale Phelps-Bondaroff (Chair), Will Bowen, Rachel Corder (4:04), Janine Konkel (via Teams), Parker Little, Colin Stepney, and Alexandre Beaubien

Staff: Troy McKay, Manager of Transportation & Development (via Teams); Megan Squires, Senior Transportation Planner (via Teams); and Colton Whittaker, Committee Clerk

Guests: Doug Cripps, Staff Sergeant, Traffic Safety Unit and Mark Prill, Sergeant, Traffic Safety Unit

Regrets: Liam Peta, Trevor Barry

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**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**MOVED by W. Bowen and Seconded by C. Stepney: "That the Minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held April 25, 2024 be adopted as circulated"**

**CARRIED**

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

The Chair welcomed committee members, and the following was noted:

- Council recently approved a motion asking the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to lobby the Provincial Government to provide free transit for youth.
- Council also expressed interest in a motion regarding free transit for seniors, this will be discussed on June 10, 2024.
- Montreal implemented free transit for residents over the age of 65, resulting in a 15-20% increase in ridership.
- The UBCM motions regarding Intersection Safety Cameras, Traffic Count Systems, Noise Cameras, and the E-Bike Rebate Program will be discussed at the Council meeting on June 10, 2024.
- The Senior Transportation Planner informed the committee of suggested amendments to the UBCM resolution regarding Intersection Safety Cameras.

**UBCM Resolution - Intersection Safety Camera Process Transparency**

**MOVED by C. Stepney and Seconded by P. Little "That the Transportation Advisory Committee endorse the suggested amendments by the Senior Transportation Planner to the UBCM resolution regarding Intersection Safety Cameras, thereby updating the motion as follows:**

**WHEREAS the process for local governments to request installation of new intersection safety cameras (ISC) is not well known and there is no clear process regarding decision making and timelines about future ISCs, and as a result, municipalities are not able to**

**identify new locations and/or secure additional ISCs;**

**AND WHEREAS ISCs have proven to be an efficient and effective deterrent to ensure compliance with speed and traffic regulations, which exist to ensure road safety and help achieve Vision Zero:**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the Province to develop a more transparent process for municipalities to be involved in the identification and installation of new intersection safety cameras (ISC)."**

**CARRIED**

### **SAANICH POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY**

Saanich Police gave a presentation (PowerPoint on file), and the following was noted in response to questions and during committee discussion:

- Crash analysts with the Saanich Police compile reports on serious accidents, identifying contributing factors such as road design. These reports are then submitted to District of Saanich staff for further evaluation and action.
- Distracted driving remains a persistent problem, with Police catching impaired drivers daily.
- A large percentage of drivers dispute tickets.
- To issue a ticket, a license plate number is required. Additionally, a description of the driver is helpful.
- Having dashcam footage or at least two witnesses can significantly simplify the process of issuing tickets. Ensuring the dashcam footage has a correct date and time stamp is very important.
- Traffic enforcement may be implemented on regional trails in the future.
- Police actively patrol the Galloping Goose Trail to ensure compliance with vehicle regulations.
- Speed board data is published to the Saanich Police Department website.
- Police receive numerous complaints, including those regarding drivers going under the speed limit.
- Police prioritize education over enforcement.
- Police prioritize enforcement in areas with the highest traffic accidents.
- School zones are consistently monitored for traffic violations, particularly in September and throughout the year. Despite these efforts, the issue of motorists passing school busses persists.
- Other countries have school busses equipped with automated systems that issue tickets to drivers who illegally pass them.
- In the UK and USA there are mobile applications for citizens to report traffic violations. With a picture or video capture, citizens can submit evidence directly to law enforcement.
- An app of this nature may be worth exploring in the future.
- Residents of Saanich have the ability to record videos of any illegal activities they witness, save the footage, and report it directly to the Police.
- Parking enforcement falls under the jurisdiction of the Bylaw Department.
- It would be appreciated to hear from the Bylaw department on the topic of parking enforcement.
- Saanich has seen significant improvements in infrastructure and layout, including the addition of bike lanes. Police have noted minimal issues resulting from these changes.
- Delivery drivers obstructing bike lanes and roadways poses a hazard for all road users.
- Police do not run campaigns targeting illegal vehicle modifications; however, they do respond to complaints.

- Police prioritize addressing impaired driving, distracted driving, and other significant violations over minor infractions.
- Law enforcement prioritizes tackling illegal activities, often delegating the responsibility of issuing parking tickets to Bylaw officers.
- Instances of illegal racing have declined over the past 10-15 years.
- Police prioritize promoting cycling safety through education over enforcement, emphasizing the importance of wearing helmets, using lights, and observing other safety measures while cycling.
- The Integrated Road Safety Unit (IRSU), a branch of CRD and BC Highway Patrol, composed of municipal officers and RCMP, solely enforces traffic laws across CRD.

\*\*\*The Staff Sergeant and Sergeant from the Traffic Safety Unit left the meeting at 5:10 p.m. \*\*\*

\*\*\*The Senior Transportation Planner left the meeting at 5:11 p.m. \*\*\*

### **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

The Manager of Transportation & Development gave a verbal update, and the following was noted in response to questions and during committee discussion:

- Staff will be exploring options on reducing the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) implementation timeline by half. They will present their findings to Council in the Fall.
- The Road Safety Action Plan (RSAP) will be presented to Council by the end of August.
- There will be significant financial considerations with halving the implementation timeframe for the ATP. Council will receive this information and make a final decision.
- Both the ATP and RSAP will be reviewed every five years to ensure they remain aligned with the evolving needs of the community.
- Staff are currently exploring new and innovative ways to reduce costs and still meet the needs of the community.
- The Traffic Calming Policy will be presented to the Committee in the Fall before it goes to Council.

### **E-SCOOTERS AND ELECTRIC MOTOR SIZE**

The committee had a roundtable discussion regarding E-Scooters and Electric Motor Size. The following was noted during committee discussion:

- Saanich is currently participating in a regional E-Scooter pilot project.
- Numerous e-scooters available for online purchase have motors designed to go faster than local speed limits.
- It is the responsibility of the operator to ensure compliance with speed limits.
- The committee could consider advocating for stricter federal regulations to limit the influx of electric motors that fail to comply with local speed limits.
- Increasing education and implementing clear signage along trails could encourage riders to adjust their speed according to conditions and adhere to designated speed limits.
- The max speed permitted on CRD trails is 32km/hr.
- Cars are made with engines capable of exceeding prescribed speed limits.
- E-scooter and e-bike riders lack sufficient protective gear compared to car drivers who benefit from advanced safety features such as airbags.
- Licensing e-bikes and e-scooters has proven ineffective globally due to their widespread availability and sheer numbers. These vehicles operate in diverse environments such as trails, parks, and roads, making licensing and enforcement extremely challenging.

- Incentive programs offering rewards for completing education could enhance learning about safety. These incentives might include funds for purchasing new equipment or even a new bike.
- Education is important for Saanich's successful transition to active transportation.

\*\*\*The Manager of Transportation & Development left the meeting at 5:44 p.m. \*\*\*

- Combining different modes of transportation with cars may increase the risk of accidents.
- The Active Transportation Plan (ATP) emphasizes the need for a cultural shift in society to accommodate and adapt to the increasing variety of new transportation modes.
- Pedestrians might feel unsafe on trails because they are unsure of the speeds at which e-bikes and e-scooters can travel.
- Shared infrastructure presents challenges for various transportation modes.
- A working group could be beneficial to explore ideas for active transportation safety education incentive programs.

**MOVED by R. Corder and Seconded by C. Stepney “That the Transportation Advisory Committee create a working group to explore active transportation safety education incentive programs”**

**CARRIED**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion from C. Stepney the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date will be on June 27, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

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Councillor Teale Phelps-Bondaroff, Chair I  
hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

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Colton Whittaker, Committee Clerk

**MINUTES**  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room 2 and via MS Teams  
770 Vernon Avenue  
Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 4:10 p.m.

Present: Councillor Teale Phelps-Bondaroff (Chair), Will Bowen and Colin Stepney

Staff: Megan Squires, Senior Transportation Planner; Dean Ridley, Supervisor of Bylaw and Licensing Services; and Colton Whittaker, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Rachel Corder, Parker Little, Liam Peta, Janine Konkol, Trevor Barry and Alexandre Beaubien

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Due to lack of quorum, no motions were passed.

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

The Chair welcomed committee members, and the following was noted:

- The June 10th Council meeting saw several Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) resolutions brought forward by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).
- UBCM resolutions relating to traffic count systems improvements, intersection safety camera (ISC) transparency, additional ISC's at high-risk intersections, and free transit for seniors and youth were all passed by Council.
- Numerous other municipalities have shown support for the youth and senior free transportation resolutions.
- Council recently approved the second phase of the Speed Limit Establishment Policy.
- Visible speed limit signs are necessary for enforcing laws.
- The Committee may explore the Traffic Calming Policy in the fall.
- Additional signage may be necessary in accordance with the Speed Limit Establishment Policy.

**BYLAW DEPARTMENT ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY**

The committee had a roundtable discussion with the Supervisor of Bylaw and Licensing Services, and the following was noted:

- The Bylaw Department handles tasks such as bylaw enforcement, business licensing, and parking enforcement.
- The Bylaw Department plays a significant role in the community by ensuring public safety and maintaining community standards.
- Bylaw officers operate in accordance with Bylaw Enforcement policies.
- The Bylaw Department consists of three full-time parking enforcement officers, five full-time bylaw enforcement officers, one part-time bylaw enforcement officer, one full-time business license officer, and four bylaw clerks.
- Parking Enforcement officers work between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week.
- Other Bylaw officers work during regular business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- There have not been any formal considerations to implement a graveyard shift for Bylaw Officers. Discussions have highlighted significant concerns regarding safety, retention, and other factors that would need to be carefully addressed.

- When considering hiring a new officer, decisions depend on policy directives, workload assessments, and the availability of resources, all guided by input from senior staff and the Mayor and Council.
- For immediate concerns outside of working hours, such as those related to health, safety, and the environment, the police should be contacted. If the issue is not urgent, it could be documented and sent to the Bylaw Department for follow-up during regular working hours.
- Officers may occasionally work overtime or start early to address issues such as illegal overnight parking.
- Members of the public can submit photos to the Bylaw Department, who can then take action based on the information provided. Matters involving moving violations or criminal offenses are directed to the Police.
- Actions taken by Bylaw may include speaking with the individual, towing vehicles, or issuing fines. Bylaw generally aims to educate individuals before resorting to enforcement actions.
- The Bylaw Enforcement Policy, established in 2018, outlines the priorities and response levels for enforcement actions.
- Creating and implementing a reporting app for residents would require evaluating factors such as implementation costs, political support, community reception, privacy concerns, potential impacts, and more.
- Health, safety, and environmental concerns and infractions are of the highest priority.
- Vehicles in bike lanes are viewed as a health and safety concern.
- Bylaw officers can only address mass violations within their capacity. They gather information about the nature of the violation, consider its history, and determine appropriate actions such as education, warnings, issuing tickets, or seeking court orders, as necessary.
- Repeat situations receive escalated enforcement. Enforcing mass violations, such as those involving delivery drivers in bike lanes, can be challenging.
- Education regarding infractions effectively prevents most people from committing future infractions. A small percentage of people receive tickets, and an even smaller percentage may face court orders.
- The Bylaw Department monitors hot spots and collaborates with Engineering on parking-related issues.
- The majority of complaints are from Saanich residents or people that work in Saanich.
- The Bylaw Department has a dispute resolution process where a screening officer analyzes each case and decides whether a ticket should stand or if it can be converted to a warning or educational lesson.
- Signs in the community help members of the public stay aware of local bylaws.
- While the Bylaw Department does not receive many calls about illegally parked car share vehicles, when they do, they can contact the respective company to arrange for it to be moved.
- Enforcing resident-only parking signs poses significant challenges for enforcement staff and often requires extensive investigation.
- Addressing people sleeping in their cars presents a growing challenge that requires a balanced and compassionate approach. Each situation is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- The Bylaw Department ensures that everyone receives the appropriate warnings and education to understand and comply with the Bylaw Enforcement Policy.

\*\*\*The Supervisor of Bylaw and Licensing Services exited the meeting at 5:11 p.m.\*\*\*

## **ACTION LIST**

The committee had a roundtable discussion about the Action List and the following was noted:

- Discussions regarding logistics and drop-offs are paused, however, community members are encouraged to report illegally parked vehicles to the Bylaw Department.

- The Road Safety Action Plan (RSAP) examines slip lanes and lanes designated for right turns.
- A Council motion regarding noise cameras has been withdrawn from the strategic planning process and is not currently being explored by Council.
- Driver education is explored in the RSAP.
- It is unclear if shared lane markings serve a purpose that improves road safety.
- Currently, there is not a significant focus on hydrogen vehicles. The committee may explore the topic of alternative energy sources for vehicles at a later date.
- Saanich's snow clearing policy is an evolving topic and may be reviewed during the Winter.
- The committee may consider discussions about amending the *Motor Vehicle Act* (MVA) to allow cyclists to perform an 'Idaho Stop' in the future. An 'Idaho Stop' permits cyclists to treat stop signs as yield signs and red lights as stop signs.
- Topics for future discussion may include prioritizing active transportation on trails, clarifying crosswalk requirements for cyclists, and exploring ways to remove taxes on active transportation equipment.
- Saanich's new bike lane sweeper, Curby, effectively clears and maintains bike lanes for active transportation users.
- The Quadra McKenzie Study (QMS) may be presented to the committee in the Fall.
- As of June 3, 2024, drivers must keep a minimum of distance of one metre on roads with speed limits of 50 km/h or less and one-and-a-half metres on roads with speed limits of 51 km/h or more when passing vulnerable road users.
- The committee would appreciate an update on Saanich's e-bike incentive program in the Fall.
- The committee will discuss parking demand management and school safety when more members are present for a comprehensive discussion.
- The committee would appreciate hearing about Saanich's future plans for curb plunking, a practice that involves installing concrete barriers along roads to buffer and protect bike lanes from car traffic.
- Bike lane usage and monitoring may be discussed in the Fall.
- An updated Action List will be distributed to members for their information and future discussion.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date will be on September 26, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

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Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Colton Whittaker, Committee Clerk