TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

An Open meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. on **Thursday, 2020 January 23** at 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:	Councillor Dan Johnston, Chair Councillor Paul McDonell, Vice Chair Councillor James Wang, Member Mr. Leaf Alifu, Citizens' Representative Trustee Christine Cunningham, Burnaby Board of Education Ms. Grace Lai, Citizens' Representative Mr. Saeed Nasiryan Sr., Citizens' Representative Ms. Sue Tench, Citizens' Representative
ABSENT:	Ms. Lindy McQueen, Citizens' Representative Mr. Cory Redekop, Burnaby Board of Trade
ADVISORY ORGANIZATION:	Mr. Shamsuddin Chowdhury, District Parent Advisory Council Mr. Ken Robb, Burnaby HUB Mr. Tom Webster, ICBC
STAFF:	Mr. Doug Louie, Assistant Director Engineering, Transportation Services Mr. Stu Ramsey, Manager, Transportation Planning Sgt. Dwayne Beckerleg, RCMP Cpl. Tony Bernard, RCMP Ms. Eva Prior, Administrative Officer

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Chair, Councillor Dan Johnston, recognized the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ and Sḵwx̱wú7mesh speaking peoples, and extended appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this shared territory.

The Chair welcomed Mr. Shamsuddin Chowdhury as the new District Parent Advisory Council representative, and Sergeant Beckerleg and Corporal Bernard of the Burnaby RCMP Traffic Team.

2. MINUTES

a) Minutes of the Open meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee held on 2019 October 30

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MCDONELL
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the minutes of the Traffic Safety Committee Open meeting held on 2019 October 30 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. DELEGATIONS

a) Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST)
Re: Pedestrian Safety Research Project
Speakers: Janette McIntosh, BEST, and
Muhammed Qureshi, Researcher, Simon Fraser University

Ms. Janette McIntosh, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST), and **Mr. Muhammed Qureshi**, Researcher Simon Fraser University (SFU), appeared before the Committee presenting on the *Stakeholders Wheelability and Walkability Audit in Neighbourhoods (SWAN) – Vision Zero Pilot Project 2019*, a pedestrian safety research project, conducted at six locations in Burnaby.

The speaker informed the Committee that the pilot project was funded by the Fraser Health Authority Vision Zero Community Grants. BEST acted as project lead, with participation from SFU Gerontology, Fraser Health Authority, City of Burnaby, Voices of Burnaby Seniors (VOBS), Citizens Accessibility Advisory Group and Immigrant Services Society of BC.

Ms. McIntosh advised that the strategy behind the project is to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries among all road users, and to ensure safe, healthy, equitable mobility for every segment of the population.

SWAN Vision Zero audits were conducted at six locations over the period of 2019 April to October. The locations and observations included:

- **Metrotown – North**, 4 routes, 24 participants, 2019 April 17
  - **Key observations**: narrow sidewalks; driveways across sidewalks; raised concrete due to tree roots; poor signage and hazards in construction areas; poor curb cuts.
  - **Quick Fixes:** adapted SWAN tool; Crosswalk at Kemp; Kingsborough curb cut design for 2020; adjust light signal timing.

- **Metrotown – South**, 3 routes, 18 participants, 2019 June 11
  - **Key observations**: mixed use, community in transition; is it safe at night?; pay parking outside of residence with seniors; old walkways; poor curb cuts; raised concrete due to tree roots.
  - **Quick Fixes:** revised demographics form; repaint intersection lines; crosswalk at Frederick Street; request that TransLink pave path near Maywood Community School
- **Edmonds**, 3 routes, 18 participants, 2019 July 08
  - **Key observations**: high foot traffic areas with inadequate crossings; empty lot hazards; old sidewalks and uneven footing; safe at night?
  - **Quick Fixes**: more traffic calming; pedestrian crossings, and round-abouts.
- **Edmonds**, 3 routes, 25 participants, 2019 July 22
  - **Key observations**: high speed and high volume of traffic on Edmonds Avenue; good new light crossings; community engagement.
  - **Quick Fixes**: new intersection at Canada Way; adjust light signal timing.
- **Lougheed Town Centre**, 1 routes, 5 participants, 2019 August 27
  - **Key observations**: dangerous crossing at Lougheed and Austin; dangerous 'porkchop' (traffic control island); disappearing bicycle lane; narrow walkways.
  - **Quick Fixes**: phase out 'porkchops'; address highway speed.
- **Lougheed Town Centre**, 3 routes, 20 participants, 2019 October 17
  - **Key observations**: poor accessibility; narrow and uneven walkways; dangerous for pedestrians on North Road.
  - **Quick Fixes**: Cameron Complex - SkyTrain Station walkway; trim lip on Austin Avenue walkway.

In conclusion, the speakers requested that the City;

- Implement the 'Quick Fixes' identified in the audit;
- Adopt a Vision Zero approach; and
- Utilize the SWAN tool for future City-initiated neighbourhood accessibility audits.

Ms. McIntosh invited Council and the members of the Committee to attend the Vision Zero Grant Symposium being held on 2020 February 10, 9:00 a.m., at the BC Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver.

The Committee thanked the delegation for their informative presentation.

b) Residents of Crescent Heights
Re: Traffic Calming at 16th Avenue and Mulberry Place
Speaker: David Harvey

Mr. David Harvey, resident of Crescent Heights, appeared before the Committee requesting the installation of traffic calming measures at 16th Avenue and Mulberry Place.

Mr. Harvey stated that due to poor visibility and speeding traffic on 16th Avenue, residents exiting Crescent Heights experience near misses on a regular basis. A serious accident transpired recently, prompting a petition letter to the City.

The speaker advised that vehicles traveling eastbound on 16th Avenue, prior to the 8800 block, have exited a 30 km/h school and park zone and begin descending downhill, all contributing to increased vehicular speeds as they approach the 8800 block of 16th Avenue. The exit from Crescent Heights has a short sightline to both the east and west which is compounded by a concave curve, thereby reducing the visibility of east and westbound traffic on 16th Avenue.

In conclusion, the speaker requested that stop signs be installed on 16th Avenue, at Mulberry Place, to mitigate the risk to residents exiting Crescent Heights.

Staff advised that the City will undertake to install an updated hidden driveway sign, work with property owners to clear obstructing vegetation and extend the parking clearance to allow for clearer sightlines. Staff informed the delegation that the installation of speed humps or stop signs would not be appropriate at this location.

4. PRESENTATION

a) ICBC Pedestrian Safety Campaign
Presenter: Tom Webster, Road Safety and Community Coordinator, ICBC

Mr. Tom Webster, ICBC Road Safety and Community Coordinator, provided the Committee with an overview of the 2019 Pedestrian Safety Campaign held October 17th to November 15th.

Mr. Webster advised that ICBC conducts a pedestrian safety campaign every year in October as weather and visibility worsens. The speaker advised that on average, 57 pedestrians are killed and 2,700 pedestrians are injured every year in B.C. Statistically, 1 in 5 people killed in car crashes in B.C. are pedestrians, with a spike in fatalities occurring in the fall and winter months due shorter daylight hours and rainy fall and winter weather.

The speaker informed the Committee that 76% of pedestrian injuries and fatalities occur in intersections. The top contributing factors are driver distraction, drivers failing to yield to the right of way of pedestrians, weather, and pedestrians

jaywalking. The City of Burnaby had 23 pedestrian fatalities between 2010 and 2019.

Mr. Webster provided the following safety tips for pedestrians:

- Right and left turning vehicles pose a significant risk for pedestrians;
- Often drivers are focused on looking for gaps in traffic and might not be aware of pedestrians approaching or entering the intersection (crosswalks);
- Pedestrians should shoulder check frequently when crossing and ensure that drivers are aware of them; and
- Electric Powered Vehicles can be almost silent, pedestrians should not rely on hearing alone.

The following pedestrian safety initiatives have been implemented:

- **Pedestrian Safety Campaign**
  - ICBC conducts a pedestrian safety campaign every year through advertising, social media and community volunteers/stakeholders. Events are coordinated with RCMP, post-secondary institutions and community groups who bring awareness through the distribution of safety tip cards and reflectors.
- **Road Improvements**
  - As part of the road improvement program, ICBC partners with municipalities and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on projects that support infrastructure to keep pedestrians safe. These include pedestrian crosswalks, sidewalks, countdown timers at intersections and pedestrian activated flashing crosswalks. Since 1990, ICBC has invested $150 million in over 6,500 road improvement projects and studies across B.C.
- **Intersection Safety Cameras**
  - The Intersection Safety Camera program, first introduced in 1999, is a partnership between the provincial government, ICBC and police. 140 cameras have been installed at the highest-risk intersections in 26 communities in B.C.

Mr. Alifu left the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and returned at 7:14 p.m.

The Committee thanked Mr. Webster for his presentation and ICBC's pedestrian safety initiatives.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Correspondence from Craig and Debbie Reid Re: Safety Concerns Regarding Multi-use Paths

Correspondence was received from Craig and Debbie Reid raising safety concerns regarding multi-use pathways, specifically for the Broadway Upgrade Project.

The writers advised that speed differentials exist between pedestrians and cyclist and are increasing exponentially with the increased use of electric bikes. Multi-use paths intersect driveways, lane ways and cross streets which increase the risk zones for collisions with motor vehicles.

The writers suggested that separated cycling lanes on both sides of Broadway, from Cliff Avenue to Underhill Avenue, would safely connect part of the Lakes Bikeway route to the Burnaby Mountain Urban Trail.

Staff advised that the project has undergone a public consultation phase and the majority of respondents/residents are in support of the proposed urban trail design. The scope of work for this project has been determined by the areas of construction undertaken by Fortis, which is along Broadway, terminating at Bainbridge.

Arising from discussion, the Committee requested information regarding the public consultation phase for this project.

Councillor Wang left the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and returned at 7:50 p.m.

Staff undertook to provide this information to the Committee.

b) Correspondence from Carmen Morgan
Re: Pedestrian Safety Concerns at Victory Street and Royal Oak Avenue

Correspondence was received from Ms. Carmen Morgan regarding pedestrian safety concerns at Victory Street and Royal Oak Avenue.

Ms. Morgan has advised that the crosswalk has poor visibility in the evenings, making visibility of pedestrians difficult. The writer has requested that either a crosswalk with flashing lights be installed, or relocation of the crosswalk to a safer location.

Staff advised that they have communicated with the RCMP regarding motorists not yielding to pedestrians at this crosswalk. Staff will add this location for consideration of the installation of flashing beacons. In the short term, the City will install pedestrian crosswalk signs on the centre median to help enhance driver compliance.

c) Correspondence from Residents of Crescent Heights
Re: Request for Traffic Calming at 16th Avenue and Mulberry Place

Correspondence and a petition letter was received from residents of Crescent Heights requesting traffic calming measures.

The petition letter was signed by 56 residents, and read as follows:

'We the undersigned residents of the Crescent Heights townhouse complex, present this petition to request installation of appropriate traffic calming measures at the intersection of the entrance into our complex (hidden driveway) across from Mulberry Place and 16th Avenue. A recent serious accident at the intersection and the regular near misses highlight the serious danger posed by speed and the eastbound blind intersection at all times of day and night which are exacerbated by traffic congestion particularly during rush hour,

Traffic calming will improve the quality of life for residents by forcing slower speeds for vehicles and increasing the safety of all road users, especially children, seniors, disabled persons, and those walking or cycling.'

This item was discussed under item 3(b) on the agenda.

6. REPORTS

a) Report from the Director Engineering
2020 Local Area Service Program for Speed Humps

The Director of Engineering submitted a report reviewing applications for the 2020 speed hump program and recommending streets that should proceed to the Local Area Service Program (LASP) process.

The following seven applications meet the general guidelines for the program:

- Dundas Street - 3900 block;
- Cambridge Street – 4200 block;
- Forest Drive - 4000 block;
- Fairlawn Drive - 4800 block;
- 15th Avenue - 7600-7800 block;
- Meadowood Park; and
- 16th Avenue - 7300-7400 block.

The Director Engineering recommended:

1. THAT the Traffic Safety Committee recommend that Council advance the requested speed humps, as discussed and recommended in this report, to the 2020 Local Area Service Program process.

2. THAT the Traffic Safety Committee recommend that Council send a copy of this report to the residents who requested speed humps as part of the 2020 Local Area Service Program.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MCDONELL
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the recommendations of the Director Engineering be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Report from the Director Engineering
2020 Traffic Safety Initiatives

The Director Engineering submitted a report providing a summation of traffic safety initiatives being implemented in 2020.

The Director Engineering recommended:

1. THAT the Traffic Safety Committee receive this report for information.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MCDONELL
SECONDED BY MR. NASIRYAN SR.

THAT the recommendation of the Director Engineering be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business brought forward at this time.

6. INQUIRIES

There were no inquiries brought forward at this time.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MCDONELL
SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM

THAT the Open meeting do now adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Open Committee meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Eva Prior
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Councillor Dan Johnston
CHAIR