

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2017 May 24

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 15000 20
Reference: Healthy Communities

**SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BC HEALTHY LIVING ALLIANCE –
COMMUNITIES ON THE MOVE**

At its meeting on 2017 March 28, the Planning and Development Committee considered correspondence from the BC Healthy Living Alliance requesting Council to sign its “Communities on the Move” declaration. The correspondence was referred to staff for further information.

The BC Healthy Living Alliance, formed in 2003, is an alliance of larger health-related organizations that have come together with a mission to improve the health of British Columbians. Its voting members include larger health-related non-profit societies such as the BC Lung Association, BC Pediatric Society, Canadian Cancer Society, BC Healthy Communities as well as the BC Recreation and Parks Association and the Union of BC Municipalities. Its non-voting members are government-related bodies who serve in an advisory role and include the five Provincial health authorities (including Fraser Health), Doctors of BC and the Public Health Agency of Canada/BC and Yukon Branch.

The Communities on the Move declaration includes a call for significant provincial investments in transit, active transportation planning and facilities, support for rural transportation, and measures to improve safety and enhance access among vulnerable populations. The Alliance states that its ultimate goal is to convince provincial decision-makers to put in place the necessary funding and policy supports for a robust, active and public transportation system that serves all British Columbians. Among a range of actions, it calls for the Province to:

- **Invest in a Provincial Active Transportation Strategy** (\$100M per year over the next 10 years to support local cycling and walking infrastructure with a larger provincial network; creation of an Active Transportation unit within the Ministry of Transportation; investment in Active School Travel Planning).

CHAIR AND MEMBERS

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Communities on the Move

2017 May 24..... Page 2

- **Invest in Transit** (full implementation of the BC Transit Strategic Plan 2030; capital funding and secure, predictable regional revenue tools for the full implementation of the TransLink Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision).
- **Commit to Equity** (transit accessibility and affordability for people with disabilities; equitable distribution of funding by geographies and transportation modes).
- **Consider Regional Needs** (rural transportation needs; winter city guidelines; support for alternative funding mechanisms for Metro Vancouver's Mayors' Council).
- **Commit to Safety** (initiatives to create safer streets and eliminate fatalities and serious injuries).

The declaration is *attached* and is available in full at <https://www.bchealthyliving.ca/sign-our-communities-on-the-move-declaration/>. To date, 80 organizations, including a number of local governments, have signed the declaration and are listed on the website.

The declaration aligns with Burnaby's economic, social and environmental sustainability strategies, the Burnaby Transportation Plan, and the mutual benefits derived from a triple bottom line approach to transportation. By signing the declaration, the City would indicate its support for a holistic approach to transportation planning in the province. Signing the declaration would not commit the City to any additional transportation-related expenditures outside of those within its own capital and operating plans and budgets.



Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM:sa

Attachment

cc: City Manager
City Clerk



COMMUNITIES ON THE MOVE DECLARATION: CREATING SMART, FAIR AND HEALTHY TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR ALL BC COMMUNITIES

VISION

We envision that in 10 years, across BC - in communities small and large, it will be easy, safe and enjoyable to get around, whether by walking, biking, ride-sharing, by public transit or in a wheelchair. We want to see the provincial government making progressive investments that support active, connected and healthy communities.

This vision is guided by the following VALUES:

- Healthy Communities: Safe biking and walking routes, good street design and regular transit should be available to all British Columbians so that it's easy to be active and healthy. This can also make it easier for people to be socially connected which is important for good mental health.
- Mobility for All: A range of transportation options should be available to all British Columbians – including those who live in smaller communities, and vulnerable groups such as children, older adults and those with disabilities or low incomes, as well as non-drivers – so that everyone can have access to education, employment, shopping, healthcare, recreation, cultural events and social connections.
- Clean Air and Environment: Public transit and active modes of transportation should be available to all British Columbians as these can reduce local air pollution and carbon emissions that contribute to climate change.
- Economic Opportunities and Cost Savings: Active and public transportation facilities are smart investments as they can stimulate local business and tourism in communities of all sizes. These investments can also control rising healthcare costs because regular physical activity keeps people healthier and out of the healthcare system.
- Consideration of Community Needs: All BC communities should have a range of convenient, affordable transportation options that are tailored to their context – whether urban or remote, dense or dispersed, small or suburban.
- Safety for All Road Users: The design and rules of the road should ensure that all British Columbians can arrive at their destination safely.

How do we get there?

- **A Provincial Active Transportation Strategy**

- Invest \$100M per year over the next 10 years to support the development of local cycling and walking infrastructure within a larger provincial network. Prioritize the completion of connected cycling and walking transportation networks.
- Develop an Active Transportation unit within the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to provide professional planning and policy expertise at the provincial level.
- Invest in Active School Travel Planning and standardized cycling education for healthy, active children.

- **Investment in Transit**

- Invest in the full implementation of the BC Transit Strategic Plan 2030 and local governments' 'Transit Future Plans' to grow transit service and meet local needs.
- Ensure a fair share of capital funding and secure, predictable revenue tools for the full implementation of the TransLink Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision.
- Continue and expand the universal bus pass (UPASS) program to students and employees of post-secondary institutions.
- Invest in public transportation systems that serve small, rural, remote and isolated communities such as the use of school buses and bus services that feed into regional centres.

- **Commitment to Equity**

- Ensure transit accessibility for people on disability assistance by increasing the affordability of transit passes.
- Improve handyDART service to meet demand and to expand accessibility to evenings, Sundays and holidays.
- Ensure funding is allocated geographically and equitably across the province. Recognize infrastructure deficits for pedestrian, cycling and transit modes as well as limitations faced by rural, remote, geographically isolated and small communities as part of funding criteria.

- **Consideration of Regional Needs**

- Work with local governments to establish a Rural Transportation Strategy. Develop and invest in innovative community transportation systems, ride-sharing, tele-services and telecommuting options that can serve rural and remote British Columbians.
- Develop and support the implementation of Winter City Guidelines that give residents the opportunity to be active all year long. This should include operational measures such as snow-clearing for active transportation networks and improved winter road maintenance.
- Support the Metro Vancouver Mayor's Council to pursue alternative funding mechanisms.

- **Commitment to Safety**

- Support the BC Road Safety Strategy Vision Zero: work with partners to create safer streets and to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries on the roads of BC. Speed limits should be reduced and strictly enforced, including through the use of cameras and other proven safety measures.
- Prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and those in wheelchairs and mobility devices.