



## TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

**Council Chamber, City Hall**

**4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC**

- PRESENT:**
- Councillor Dan Johnston, Chair *(participated electronically)*
  - Councillor James Wang, Vice Chair
  - Councillor Joe Keithley, Member *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Cory Redekop, Burnaby Board of Trade *(participated electronically)*
  - Trustee Gary Wong, Burnaby Board of Education *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Leaf Alifu, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
  - Ms. Grace Lai, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Saeed Michael Nasiryan Sr., Resident Representative
  - Ms. Lindy McQueen, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Ken Robb, Burnaby HUB *(participated electronically)*
- ABSENT:**
- Ms. Sue Tench, Resident Representative
  - Mr. Shams Chowdhury, District Parent Advisory Council
  - Mr. Tom Webster, ICBC
- STAFF:**
- Mr. Doug Louie, Assistant Director Engineering, Transportation Services *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Stu Ramsey, Manager, Transportation Planning *(participated electronically)*
  - Mr. Moudud Hasan, Transportation Services *(participated electronically)*
  - Sgt. Thane Royce, RCMP Burnaby Detachment
  - Ms. Kathryn Matts, Administrative Officer
  - Ms. Lynne Axford, Administrative Officer
  - Mr. Ken Tam, IT Support Supervisor
  - Mr. Paul Dhaliwal, IT Support

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the Open Committee meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and conducted the roll call.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following members participated electronically: Councillor Johnston, Chair, Councillor Keithley, Mr. Redekop, Trustee Wong, Mr. Alifu, Ms. Lai, Ms. McQueen, and Mr. Robb.

For the benefit of those participating electronically, the Administrative Officer confirmed the following staff in attendance: Doug Louie, Stu Ramsey, Moudad Hasan, Sgt. Royce, Kathryn Matts, Ken Tam, and Paul Dhaliwal.

The Chair, Councillor Johnson, recognized the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and extended appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

## **2. MINUTES**

### **2.1 Minutes of the Traffic Safety Committee Open meeting held on 2021 January 27**

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KEITHLEY  
SECONDED BY MS. LINDY MCQUEEN

THAT the minutes of the Traffic Safety Committee Open meeting held on 2021 Jan 27 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **3. DELEGATION**

### **3.1 Burnaby Through Traffic (X-ref. Item 4.1)**

**Speaker: Mr. Peter Cech**

Mr. Peter Cech appeared before the Committee regarding safety concerns due to commuter traffic in North Burnaby residential neighbourhoods.

The speaker requested that the City address rush hour commuter traffic which is bypassing Hastings Street by re-routing through the Capitol Hill and Heights neighbourhoods. Mr. Cech advised that residents have few options to counter the traffic issues in their neighbourhoods due to the absence of a comprehensive approach and no visible enforcement.

The speaker requested that staff install barriers along Penzance Drive at; North Gamma and North Beta Avenues, in an effort to reduce through traffic in North Burnaby neighbourhoods.

The Chair requested that questions from the Committee be held until the staff presentation had been heard.

**Mr. Doug Louie, Assistant Director Engineer** in response to Mr. Cech's concerns, provided a presentation outlining the historical changes in traffic patterns that have taken place over the years.

Mr. Louie noted, when the Cassiar Connector opened in 1992, shortcutting traffic was reduced by about 50% along Cambridge and Eton. In 1993, Vancouver prohibited left turn access from eastbound McGill off-ramp into the "Bridgeview" tunnel during the p.m. peak period. The years between 1994-1997, all local unregulated intersections in Burnaby were changed to stop controlled intersections. In 1999, public consultations on a traffic diversion plan (*street closures and diverters along Boundary Rd*), showed strong opposition. As a result, the consultations led to the declassification of both Oxford and Eton Street from Local Collector to Local Residential. A second comprehensive review and public consultation process was initiated in 2009 in response to ongoing traffic concerns. The specific proposal for road closures at Beta/Penzance and at Gamma/Penzance was not supported by 67% of respondents.

Mr. Louie advised that future plans along Empire Drive (Hastings to Cambridge) include;

- Traffic calming with curb bulges, sidewalk, urban trail and street lighting.
- Closure of Empire Drive at Hastings to eliminate a direct route from Hastings into the community.

The speaker advised that traffic conditions in North Burnaby have improved dramatically since the 1980's beginning with the Cassiar Connector. These measures have helped to calm traffic, especially within the last 10 years, with similar changes planned in the future.

In addition, past consultations (1982, 1991, and 2009) have consistently indicated that the majority of residents do not favour diversionary traffic interventions such as road closures or barriers.

In closing, Mr. Louie explained that data collected on Cambridge between Beta and Gamma show that traffic conditions have improved significantly, and that shortcutting traffic is not a problem.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **4.1 Memorandum from the Acting Deputy City Clerk Re: Burnaby Through Traffic (X-ref. Item 3.1)**

A memorandum was received from the Acting Deputy City Clerk advising that Burnaby City Council at its Open meeting held on 2021 March 08, heard a

delegation from Mr. Peter Cech regarding Burnaby Through Traffic and referred this information to the Traffic Safety Committee.

## 5. **REPORTS**

### 5.1 **Report from the Director of Engineering - Re: Traffic Safety Initiatives**

The Director of Engineering submitted a report to inform the Committee about various traffic safety initiatives being implemented in 2021.

The Director of Engineering recommends:

1. THAT the Committee receive this report for information.

MOVED BY MR. ALIFU LEAF

SECONDED BY MS. GRACE LAI

THAT the recommendation of the Director Engineering be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 5.2 **Report from the Director of Engineering - Re: Royal Oak Avenue and Laurel Street**

The Director of Engineering submitted a report to recommend safety improvements at the intersection of Royal Oak Avenue and Laurel Street.

The Director of Engineering recommends:

1. THAT the Committee recommend that Council endorse modifications to the intersection of Royal Oak Avenue and Laurel Street, as outlined in this report to address traffic safety issues.
2. THAT the Committee recommend that Council send a copy of this report to Ms. Jacqueline Chan for information.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KEITHLEY

THAT the recommendations of the Director Engineering be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**Glare from Street Signs on Deer Lake Parkway**

Ms. McQueen raised concerns regarding the sun's glare coming from street signs installed on Deer Lake Parkway in the vicinity of Shadbolt Centre for the Arts. Ms. McQueen has suggested that consideration be given to adding a covering that would dull the reflection.

Councillor Johnston, Chair, on behalf of the Committee, congratulated Doug Louie on his pending retirement, and thanked him for his support and the work he has done on behalf of our city.

**7. INQUIRIES**

There were no inquiries brought forward at this time.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, the Open Committee meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

---

Councillor Dan Johnston,  
CHAIR

---

Ms. Lynne Axford,  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER