

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

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Minutes of the Council Workshop of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 7:22 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2012 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor R. Walton
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor R. Hicks
Councillor M. Little
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn
Councillor L. Muri
Councillor A. Nixon

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Ms. N. Deveaux, General Manager – Finance & Technology
Mr. S. Ono, Acting General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. C. Grant, Manager – Corporate Planning & Projects
Ms. S. Haid, Manager – Sustainable Community Development
Ms. E. Geddes, Section Manager – Transportation
Ms. C. Rucci, Social Planner
Ms. C. Walker, Chief Bylaw Officer
Ms. L. Simkin, Administrative & Information and Privacy Coordinator
Ms. A. Kim, Transportation Planning Technologist
Ms. S. Berardo, Confidential Council Clerk

1. Opening by the Mayor

Mayor Walton welcomed members of the public and staff to the meeting.

With the consent of Council, Mayor Walton altered the agenda as follows:

4. Domestic Chickens – A Discussion and Exploration of Next Steps

File No. 13.6640.20/003.000

Report: Cristina Rucci, Social Planner

Ms. Cristina Rucci, Social Planner, provided further information following a recent delegation by the Council of Canadian Liberated Urban Chicken Klub (CLUCK).

Ms. Rucci indicated that the benefits to owning backyard chickens include:

- Healthier and tastier eggs;
- Chickens are natural composters;
- Chickens make good pets and are very loyal to their keepers;
- Education; and,
- Environmental sustainability and community building.

Following the delegation made by CLUCK, on-line petitions were received by Council as well as a letter which

outlined a number of concerns regarding the keeping of backyard chickens in the District of North Vancouver. The most significant concerns were regarding:

- Conflict with dangerous wildlife;
- Risk of avian influenza and salmonella;
- Noise and odour;
- Increased staff costs around enforcement; and,
- Humane treatment of hens.

Council Discussion:

- Spoke in support of developing a comprehensive food policy;
- Commented that there is not a demand in the community to pioneer this project;
- Expressed concern that hens are an attractant to dangerous wildlife;
- Commented that we are not an agricultural community;
- Suggested that the keeping of chickens should be enforced on a complaint basis;
- Requested that a member from CLUCK start a co-op as a pilot project; and,
- Suggested that we focus on educating the community.

Recessed at 8:08 pm and reconvened at 8:12 pm

2. Bicycle Master Plan Update

File No.

Memo: Erica Geddes, Section Manager - Transportation

Ms. Annie Kim, Transportation Planning Technologist, provided an update on the Bicycle Master Plan. Since December 2010, District staff have been consulting with residents and cyclists to update the 2006 North Vancouver Bicycle Master Plan and have had two open houses, an online survey, and public review of the draft plan. Since the 2006 Bicycle Master Plan, a significant portion of high priority cycling projects have been completed. The new plan includes refined goals and routes, including off-road routes like the Spirit Trail to accommodate a range of users.

The importance of having a Bicycle Master Plan includes:

- Providing a more complete cycling network that is safe and efficient for both recreational and commuter cyclists;
- Providing strategies to improve environment, public health, safety, and equity;
- Allowing the District to leverage partner funding from TransLink and the Provincial government;
- Identifying cost-effective infrastructure investments when compared to investments in other modes of transportation, and generates more health and environment benefits; and,
- Increased safety for all modes of transportation.

Cycling is an important component of the District's transportation network and further cycling infrastructure improvements would help improve liveability, health, environment, and reduce future municipal transportation expenditures. After consulting with the public two goals were identified: strengthen community connections and support a sustainable transportation system.

Goal #1 – Strengthen Community Connections

- Establish a bicycle network that will provide safe logical routes to serve cyclists of various ages and comfort level. The draft plan update proposed off-road routes to better accommodate younger or newer cyclists.

Goal #2 – Support a Sustainable Transportation System

- Increase the number of people who regularly use cycling as a means of travelling, to encourage

physical activity, and reduce air pollution.

The final report will be completed in the summer of 2012 and staff plan to seek endorsement of the Bicycle Master Plan update from both District and City Councils in early fall 2012.

Council Discussion:

- Commented that people will not ride unless they feel safe;
- Requested looking into shared lanes and providing examples of how this would work;
- Suggested placing bike storage lockers throughout the District, especially for people riding their bikes to Phibbs Exchange;
- Commented on the positive impact cycling has on the health of the community;
- Commented that the District has to improve the safety of main roads connecting to bridge-heads;
- Suggested focusing on the safety of main collector routes;
- Suggested providing short-cuts to major city centers;
- Requested looking into the cost of green painting;
- Requested providing clear directional signs for cyclists; and,
- Suggested a continuous bike lane on Marine Drive.

3. East Keith Road – Evaluation of Bus Bays

File No. 16.8450.30/027.000

Memo: Erica Geddes, Section Manager - Transportation

Council discussed the option of maintaining two west-bound lanes on East Keith Road or one west-bound lane with a dedicated bicycle lane. Council expressed concern with eliminating a lane on a major arterial road, especially with the start of the Lower Level Road project in the City of North Vancouver. Council requested that this item be revisited after the completion of the Lower Level Road project and maintain the existing layout.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Confidential Council Clerk