

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Click on icon to view complete council meeting:



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2015 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Acting Mayor L. Muri
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor M. Bond (7:02 pm)
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor R. Hicks (7:02 pm)
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn

Absent: Mayor R. Walton

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Ms. C. Grant, General Manager – Corporate Services
Mr. G. Joyce, Acting General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Mr. D. Milburn, Deputy General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Mr. D. Desrochers, Manager – Engineering Projects & Development Services
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. J. Paton, Manager – Development Planning
Ms. E. Geddes, Section Manager – Transportation
Ms. T. Smith, Project Manager – External Projects
Mr. E. Wilhelm, Planner
Ms. C. Archer, Confidential Council Clerk

Also in

Attendance: Mr. Jason Jardine, Parsons Consulting
Ms. Dragana Mitic, City of North Vancouver
Mr. Norm Wong, District of West Vancouver

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. June 22, 2015 Committee of the Whole Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN

SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM

THAT the agenda for the June 22, 2015 Committee of the Whole be adopted as circulated, including the addition of any items listed in the agenda addendum.

CARRIED

Absent for Vote: Councillors BOND and HICKS

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. May 25, 2015 Committee of the Whole

**MOVED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN
SECONDED by Councillor HANSON**

THAT the minutes of the May 25, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

Absent for Vote: Councillors BOND and HICKS

Councillors BOND and HICKS arrived at this point in the proceedings.

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. Highway 1 Operations Review

File No. 16.8620.20/053.000

Mr. Jason Jardine, Parson Consulting, consultants to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, provided an update on a study of Highway 1 Operations from Lynn Valley Road to Willingdon Avenue, highlighting that:

- The study examined 10 interchanges and their on/off ramps as they influence congestion, with a closer focus on interchanges from Hastings Street to Lynn Valley Road;
- Data was collected from the counter on the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge and supplemented with population, employment and building permit information;
- Daily traffic growth over 10 years was slightly less than North Shore population growth;
- There has been an increase in the number of workers commuting to the North Shore;
- Seasonal data showed that off-peak (non-rush hour) traffic is higher in the summer months;
- Traffic on the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge is often near or over capacity weekdays from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm;
- As the bridge reaches capacity, peak traffic time spreads earlier and later;
- There has been much higher growth in the pm peak period than in the am peak period;
- Key choke points, such as the weave between the Fern Street on ramp and Main Street off ramp, determine how much traffic can cross the bridge;
- North Shore interchanges were designed and built over 50 years ago and do not meet current best practices; and,
- Potential mitigation measures include implementing the planned Lower Lynn and Mountain Highway interchange improvements and changes to configurations on the south side of the bridge.

Public Input:

Mr. Corrie Kost:

- Suggested requesting traffic information from TomTom;
- Noted that heavy vehicle traffic has a significant impact on the bridge; and,
- Opined that while there is no fee for using roadways and bridges, gas taxes are a fair system of taxation for road use.

Resident of North Vancouver:

- Commented that if the growth trend indicated in the study continues, local people who use the highway to cross the North Shore will be forced onto local roads, which are not being improved and will become more congested.

3.2. Amendments to the Sign Bylaw

File No. 08.3227.14/000.000

Mr. Erik Wilhelm, Planner, gave a presentation on possible amendments to the Sign Bylaw highlighting that:

- Council had directed staff to report back with a general discussion of signage after denying variances to the Sign Bylaw for the Seylynn development;
- Initial research has been completed focusing on real estate signs, banners, construction signs and construction hoarding signs; and,
- Staff consulted with developers, real estate companies and other municipalities.

Mr. Wilhelm provided examples of different signs that are and are not permitted in the District and an overview of possible changes to the Sign Bylaw.

Council discussion ensued:

- Staff clarified that sandwich board signs are not permitted under the existing Sign Bylaw and that an updated Sign Bylaw would provide clarification;
- Staff noted enforcement for sandwich board signs is on a complaint basis and may result in seizure, but no fines;
- Staff noted there is loose language in the current Sign Bylaw about 'portable signs' – individual businesses would be allowed one sign, but may not block pedestrian traffic;
- Staff advised that it is not possible to cover all possibilities, so would advise applying for a variance if the size or type of sign does not fall clearly within the Sign Bylaw;
- Council queried if staff considered restricting construction signs to town centres;
- Council commented that open house signs are up and down in a matter of hours and construction signs are up for much longer, and they should therefore be treated differently;
- Council queried how long construction signs may be displayed and if there are clear guidelines about when signs may be posted and when they must be removed; and,
- Staff clarified that sign companies usually contact the District for information and permitting under the Sign Bylaw, not developers.

Council requested that information be given to developers with specific information on sign regulations and fines. Staff confirmed that developers are made aware of the Sign Bylaw during the Development Permit process.

Public Input:

Mr. Corrie Kost:

- Noted that developers were consulted about possible amendments to the Sign Bylaw, but the public was not;

- Queried how the District might regulate ads projected onto buildings; and
- Commented that people walking around with sandwich board signs are a distraction.

Council requested information on how many complaints have been received regarding sandwich board signs.

MOVED by Councillor BOND
SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM
THAT the presentation of the Planner be received.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5. RISE AND REPORT

MOVED by Councillor BOND
SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM
THAT the June 22, 2015 Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED
(8:34 pm)

Mayor

Municipal Clerk