

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** Meeting  
Monday, June 23, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.  
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Alastair Bryson, Chair  
Mayor Mar, Councillors Garrison, Graham, King, Mason and Thompson  
Gary C. Nason, Administrator  
Sara C. Ribeiro, Municipal Clerk  
Hope V. Burns, Director of Planning & Building Services  
Nirmal Bhattacharya, Municipal Engineer

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**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

807.08            MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GRAHAM  
                      NO SECONDER  
                      *That the Agenda for the Public Works & Transportation Committee Meeting held on June 23, 2008, be approved as amended.*  
                      CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Thompson noted the late item of correspondence from S Stroud of 7088 Wallace Drive dated June 21, 2008, that should be considered in conjunction with Item No. 2, "BC Transit Service".

**1. Status / Update – Integrated Storm Water Management (ISMP) Project**

The Administrator noted the attendance of the consultants to provide an update on the ISMP project.

Mr. Dave Jackson, WorleyParsons Komex Consultants, overviewed the Creeks & Communities workshops held in the fall, meetings with the Steering Committee, and the Open House. He noted the consultation that has occurred with the First Nation Bands in Central Saanich. Mr. Jackson overviewed the data collection and analysis from fieldwork conducted and from the flow monitoring stations. He advised the flow monitoring stations were installed in the fall and have provided useful data through the winter months. He noted the Steering Committee would meet in the fall, which would be followed by at least one more Open House. After that, a report will be prepared for Council. At that time, the consulting team will prepare and present the final report.

Ms. Cori Barraclough, Aqua-Tex Scientific, overviewed the fieldwork on the ecology of creeks in Central Saanich. She advised the photo-monitoring has been conducted by volunteers and noted appreciation for those efforts. She briefly spoke to the Creeks & Communities workshops that were held and well attended. The purpose of those workshops was to teach people who creeks and wetlands work. Ms. Barraclough noted meetings with community members to discuss bird habitats. Over the next couple of months, strategies will be researched to restore the creeks.

A discussion occurred between Committee and the consultants responded to questions. It was noted that the final report would provide policy recommendations that provide a broad perspective approach with a variety of options.

The consultants were thanked for their presentation.

**2. BC Transit Service**

- a) Correspondence from Mr. J. Creviston (previously received at the March 17, 2008, Regular Council Meeting)
- b) Correspondence from Mr. D Wilson (previously received at the April 7, 2008, Regular Council Meeting)
- c) Correspondence dated February 26, 2008, from Mr. M. Davis of BC Transit addressed to the Municipal Engineer entitled "Brentwood Bay Transit Service"
- d) Correspondence from Ms. S. Stroud of 7088 Wallace Drive dated June 21, 2008

The Administrator introduced this matter and overviewed the materials presented

to Committee.

Mr. Mike Davis, BC Transit, spoke to his correspondence in the Agenda package pertaining to bus service in Central Saanich. In particular, the level of bus service in Brentwood Bay and the safety of operations in that area.

A discussion occurred between Committee and Mr. Davis and Staff responded to questions.

Mr. John Creviston, 866 Verdier Avenue, spoke to his correspondence, noting the current transit service does not meet the needs of the community.

Mr. David Wilson, 1287 Verdier Avenue, spoke to his correspondence, noting residents need to be advised and included in transit service changes. He advised during off-peak times, bus service has been reduced by 50% and that as a result in that reduction; residents are not being encouraged to utilize transit service. He suggested a partnership between BC Transit, the District, and the residents.

Ms. Sue Stroud, 7088 Wallace Drive, spoke to her correspondence. She suggested the service reduction due to safety concerns is not legitimate as the Brentwood loop ran for a number of years without accident. She urged BC Transit to reinstate or re-examine Route #75.

Mr. Dustin Creviston, 866 Verdier Avenue, spoke to his frustration with the lack of bus service in Brentwood Bay. He noted residents would like to use transit, it just is not available for them.

A resident of Tanner Ridge spoke to her experiences with transit, noting residents are unhappy with current service levels.

Ms. Lois Acker, Alta Vista Place, noted she has attempted to complain to BC Transit about lack of service but has never received a response. She would like an increase in service so she can take transit to work.

A resident of Central Saanich noted she has been a transit user every day for the last three years and she has seen an increase in the amount of people taking transit yet service levels are decreasing. She urged BC Transit to improve the number and frequency of buses in Central Saanich.

Mr. Tony Peard, 806 Delamere, noted only one dangerous corner on the Brentwood bus loop at Brentwood Drive and Marchant Road.

Ms. Deborah Rasnick, 1165 Lucille Drive, spoke to the need for available and accessible transit. She advised partnerships need to be formed with BC Transit and the bus users. Ms. Rasnick referenced the draft Community Energy Plan and comprehensive SmartGrowth principles.

A discussion occurred between Committee, in particular, representation on the Transit Commission.

Mr. Wilson noted the use of community buses and that large buses were used mostly for express routes. He expressed frustration with the increase in fees but decrease in service. He suggested BC Transit examine its long-term plan for Central Saanich.

A discussion occurred between Committee.

808.08            MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GRAHAM  
                      NO SECONDER  
                      *That it be recommended to Council*

*That correspondence be written to both the Minister of Transportation and to the Victoria Regional Transit Commission:*

- 1. Outlining the nature of the concerns which have been expressed by the letter writers and other speakers at this evening's Committee Meeting, including specific examples of service inadequacies in*

*Central Saanich where possible;*  
2. *Reaffirming once again Council's displeasure over Central Saanich's lack of representation on the Transit Commission and requesting that the composition of the Commission be appropriately restructured so as to ensure that representation from Sidney, North Saanich, and Central Saanich rotates equitably and on a timely basis; and,*  
3. *A copy of the correspondence be forwarded to both the Premier and to the District's MLA, with a meeting to be requested with the MLA to further discuss this issue.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

809.08            MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON  
NO SECONDER  
*That it be recommended to Council*

*That at the July 7, 2008, Special (Open) Council Meeting, Council give further consideration to the possible recommendation and establishment of a joint BC Transit / District of Central Saanich / Local Resident Advisory Committee to address transit related issues in the community.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chair thanked Mr. Davis and the public for the discussion on transit levels.

Mr. Davis noted he looks forward to working with the District and residents.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*On motion, the Public Works & Transportation Committee Meeting held on June 23, 2008, adjourned at 8:40 p.m.*

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Councillor Alastair Bryson  
Chair

Recorded By:    Sara C. Ribeiro  
                          Municipal Clerk