

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2006 at 7:05 pm
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

PRESENT: Councillor Alastair Bryson, Chair
Mayor Jack Mar
Councillors: Garrison, King, and Mason
Gary C. Nason, Administrator
Trish Flanders, Municipal Clerk
Hope V. Burns, Director of Planning and Building Services
Nirmal Bhattacharya, Municipal Engineer

ABSENT: Councillors Graham and Thompson

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The Administrator, Mr. Gary C. Nason, noted the addition to the agenda of the following late items:

- Correspondence from the Central Saanich Transit Working Group; and
- Email correspondence from Minjung Kwon, 765 Harding Lane;

521.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
NO SECONDER

That the Agenda for the Public Works & Transportation Committee Meeting held on April 24, 2006 be approved as amended.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. BC Transit Re: Fall 2006 Detailed Service Plan

- a) Email correspondence dated March 29, 2006 from Mike Davis, Manager of Planning & Scheduling – BC Transit Re: Fall 2006 Detailed Service Plan;
- b) Correspondence received April 24, 2006 from the Central Saanich Transit Working Group; and
- c) Email correspondence dated April 24, 2006 from Minjung Kwon, 765 Harding Lane.

Mr. Mike Davis, Manager of Planning & Scheduling – BC Transit, gave an informational presentation on the proposed Fall 2006 Detailed Service Plan, and advised that there are several significant proposed changes to the transit service in the community, as follows:

- the No. 75 Central Saanich bus route will be extended to Saanichton to provide improved connections between North Saanich/Sidney to the Brentwood Bay and Keating Cross Road areas, with this change to become effective in June prior to the summer tourist season. In Saanichton, connection can be made with the No. 70 Pat Bay Highway bus route. Not all trips will continue to downtown - in the off-peak period, the No. 75 bus route will run between the Royal Oak Transit Exchange and Saanichton. Passengers can travel between Royal Oak and downtown via the No. 6, 30, 31 or 70 bus routes;
- the No. 82 bus route will be revised to improve service to the Saanich Peninsula Hospital, with this route to terminate in Saanichton (instead of Brentwood) and operate between Saanichton and Sidney via Mt. Newton Cross Road and Lochside Drive;
- the No. 70 and No. 72 schedules will be combined in to one route to provide a consistent service every 10 minutes from downtown Victoria to Swartz Bay during rush hours;

A lengthy question and answer session took place.

The Chair then opened the floor for comments from the letter writers.

Mr. David Wilson, #42 – 1287 Verdier Avenue

- advised that he has worked with BC Transit, Councillor King and Mr. Stephen Moyse over the past several years;
- expressed concern with the proposed connections for the Brentwood, Saanichton, Victoria Airport and Tanner Ridge areas, and suggested that direct connections would be most beneficial;

- suggested that BC Transit implement a direct transit route along Keating Cross Road and Tanner Road;
- stated that local transit service at certain times of the day can be very slow, and suggested that the No. 75 be utilized as an express bus;
- advised that he would like to see the Central Saanich Transit Working Group meet with BC Transit and discuss the concerns of people who regularly use the transit system as they know what services would be most beneficial to the community;
- thanked BC Transit and advised that he would like to discuss further improvements to the transit service in Central Saanich.

It was noted that Ms. Minjung Kwon was not in attendance at the meeting to address her correspondence.

Ms. Sue Stroud, #105 – 7088 Wallace Drive

- thanked BC Transit for the proposed changes to the transit service;
- expressed concern with the proposed transfer in Saanichton in order to get to the hospital, and stated that senior citizens and sick people will not appreciate having to transfer to another bus;
- advised that the Sunday morning transit schedule makes it difficult for people trying to get downtown as there are too many transfers and long waits between buses;
- questioned why the Easter Monday bus service operates on a Saturday schedule, and advised that many citizens who work in the downtown core do not make it to work on time because of this reduced schedule;
- asked that the weekend service to Tseycum be implemented.

Councillor King referred to the previous transit priorities which were endorsed by Council in January 2004, and suggested that a further letter be forwarded to the Victoria Regional Transit Commission citing the eleven priorities as recommended by the Central Saanich Transit Working Group.

Following a brief discussion, it was

522.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GARRISON
 NO SECONDER
 That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the "Fall 2006 Detailed Service Plan" submitted by BC Transit together with the presentation from Mr. Mike Davis, Manager of Planning & Scheduling, be received, and the eleven transit priorities as listed in the correspondence submitted by the Central Saanich Transit Working Group be forwarded to the Victoria Regional Transit Commission for requested consideration of implementation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion, the Public Works & Transportation Committee Meeting held on April 24, 2006 adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Recorded By: Trish Flanders
 Municipal Clerk