

A Workshop of the Municipal Council of the City of Kelowna was held in Knox Mountain Meeting Room No. 4a, 1435 Water Street, Kelowna, B.C., on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Council members in attendance: Mayor Sharon Shepherd, Kevin Craig, Charlie Hodge, Graeme James\*, Angela Reid, and Luke Stack.

Absent: Councillors Andre Blanleil, Robert Hobson, Michele Rule

Staff members in attendance were: City Manager, Ron Mattiussi\*; Deputy City Clerk, Karen Needham; GM, Community Sustainability, Jim Paterson; Director, Policy and Planning, Signe Bagh; Policy & Planning Manager, Gary Stephen; Director, Regional Services, Ron Westlake; Transportation Demand Supervisor, Jerry Dombowsky; Director, Financial Services; Keith Grayston Council Recording Secretary; Arlene McClelland.

Guests: Graeme Masterston, BC Transit Director, Planning; Michelle Orfield, BC Transit, Senior Urban Transportation Planner; Steve Harvard, BC Transit, Regional Transit Manager; Dave Colquhoun, Contract Planner, Regional Services.

(\* denotes partial attendance)

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shepherd called the Workshop to order at 1:05 p.m.

# 2. WORKSHOP

Staff:

- Noted that this workshop is being held as part of the OCP. This is an advanced meeting on Rapid Bus Project Funding. Staff will report to Council on Phase 2 in June or July.
- Identified the three phases of presentations as noted on the Agenda.
- Seeking Council feedback.

Received information regarding role of public transit and keys to success; regional transit vision; land use (Official Community Plan) and transit directions.

City Manager entered the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Councillor James entered the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Council:

- Suggested that a Google map application be provided to transit users to assist with which routes to take.
- Mayor Shepherd clarified that the 2005 Transit Plan including the Rutland Town Centre has now changed.
- Mayor Shepherd commented that the City has received comments regarding the end point destination, UBCO or the Airport, and about a disconnect from the Airport to UBCO.
- Confirmed that UBCO student population has not been factored in the plan.

Staff:

- Advised that there is a Google map application and have been working with BC Transit on the project for the last year. The Google application should be available to the public after the summer.
- Advised that the intention is to provide real time scheduling but that may not happen in the first phase.

- Displayed the 2010-2030 graphic of density. A minimum density of 37 dwelling units per ha. is required to support frequent bus service. To obtain the threshold level it can be achieved with 4 to 5 storeys.

Received information regarding BC Transit's 25 Year Transit Master Plan; Rapidbus Project update and funding the Transit Plan from BC Transit's Planning Director.

Council:

- Mayor Shepherd commented that there is a problem with the timetable and drivers meeting the schedule.
- Inquired if there are strategies to encourage transit use, including demographics of use and if there were any special considerations to encourage seniors to use transit.
- Suggested an 'Oyster Card' system that can be recharged on line noting it would require an IT platform.
- Mayor Shepherd would like assurance and dates for implementation of the RapidBus system.
- Mayor Shepherd expressed concern that the Highway 97/McCurdy Road bus stop is not safe and asked how it could be enhanced. Will bring this issue forward at the Chamber of Commerce meeting with MLA's.

City Manager:

- Canada Lands holding are different than Railway. Confirmed that the land on the railway side of Highway 97 and McCurdy Road is owned by the railway.

Council:

- Inquired about potential Park 'n' Ride locations. Mayor Shepherd confirmed that the exchange at the H2O Facility is ready.
- Mayor Shepherd cautioned that there will not be massive growth at UBC-O.
- Inquired if the hours of bus service will be extended.
- Inquired about the timing of the transit center.
- Need to be informed when the Open Houses are being hosted.
- Inquired if Handi-Dart service analysis was being done.
- Confirmed there is transit to Kelowna Flight Craft.
- Would like the financial cost vision broken down to show exact costs to the City. There is not enough detail for municipality.

City Manager:

- Would like to see the results of the late hour bus service pilot project(i.e. Victoria)
- Concerned with seeing the regional focus in the transit plan vision and questions if it is scalable and would like to see the vision broken down to show exact costs to the City.
- Main interest is in the City of Kelowna, including North-South service to meet new demand.

Graeme Masterton, BC Transit:

- Highway 97 service is still in place. At various stations shelters are needed.
- To change public perception of transit there needs to be a fast, easy and reliable system in place. Remove the thought of taking a bus and all that needs to be known is that it arrives every 12 minutes.
- Seniors should be provided with a different bus system geared for their needs.
- Currently in the process of researching a 'smart card' that would be implemented province wide.
- In September there will be RapidBus service from UBCO to Queensway. Will start prior to or just after Labour Day.
  - o Phase 2 - 2011
  - o Phase 3 - 2012
- To enhance the McCurdy Road bus stop would require funding to fix it which is a challenge. We have run out of land to make it safe and were unable to attain land

on CN railway side of Highway 97 and McCurdy Road. If the bus stop is moved there will be a disconnect on the other side.

- North/South corridor is an area BC Transit would like to expand.
- The service span BC Transit will look into is from 6:00 a.m. or 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. FTN service helps and will cover the majority. Service after 9:00 or 10:00 pm becomes quite expensive. Need to debate this matter as we move forward.
- Report to Commission on U-Vic pilot program will be out soon.
- The Master Plan is a vision with all components, what to do in each area and how to connect West Kelowna and Lake Country. In the Fall we want to show the breakout of each portion to each municipality and make sure network in City matches the needs.

The meeting recessed for a 5 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 3:36 p.m.

**Council:**

- Mayor Shepherd commented that Rutland has been approved for development and frustrating that it has not yet proceeded.
- Councillor Reid commented that there is willingness from URBA to make investment in improvements in the area.

**Staff:**

- Compared the Rutland Town Center to the South Pandosy Town Center ten years ago. The City took the lead with the South Pandosy area and suggested the City take the lead and make an investment in the Rutland Town Centre.
- Would like to promote a private mixed use project. There are now tax incentives available that could assist with the leverage of private investment. This may be required to get development moving.

The next Workshop is on May 20, 2010.

3. TERMINATION

The Workshop was declared terminated at 4:11 p.m.

Certified Correct:

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Mayor

/acm

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Deputy City Clerk