

**City of Kelowna  
Regular Council Meeting  
AGENDA**



Monday, February 24, 2014  
2:00 pm  
Knox Mountain Meeting Room (#4A)  
City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Pages

1. Call to Order
2. Confirmation of Minutes 3 - 5  
Regular AM Meeting - February 17, 2014
3. Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public  
THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1) (e), (f) and (g) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:
  - Acquisition, Disposition, or Expropriation, of Land or Improvements;
  - Law Enforcement; and
  - Litigation.
4. Adjourn to Closed Session
5. Reconvene Open Session
6. Reports
  - 6.1 Proposed Queensway Transit Exchange Improvements - 2014 30 m 6 - 10  
  
To update Council on the planned improvements to the Queensway Transit Exchange that are advancing to implementation in 2014.
7. Issues Arising from Correspondence & Community Concerns
  - 7.1 Deputy Mayor Given, re: Issues Arising from Correspondence 30 m

## 8. Termination



## City of Kelowna Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 17, 2014  
 Location: Knox Mountain Meeting Room (#4A)  
 City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Council Members Present: Deputy Mayor Gail Given and Councillors Colin Basran, Andre Blanleil, Maxine DeHart, Robert Hobson, Luke Stack and Gerry Zimmermann

Council Members Absent: Mayor Walter Gray and Councillor Mohini Singh

Staff Present: City Manager, Ron Mattiussi; Deputy City Manager, Paul Macklem; Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate, Doug Gilchrist; City Clerk, Stephen Fleming and Council Recording Secretary, Sandi Horning

(\* denotes partial attendance)

### 1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Given called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved By Councillor Stack/Seconded By Councillor DeHart

R087/14/02/17 THAT the Minutes of the Regular AM Meeting of February 4, 2014 be confirmed as circulated.

Carried

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1. SILGA Resolutions

City Clerk:

- Provided background information and advised that staff does not have any Resolutions to bring forward for Council's consideration.

City Manager:

- Clarified the recent media story regarding water quality.

City Clerk:

- Advised that Communications and Parks staff is dealing with the issue.
- Advised that Kelowna is hosting the 2016 SILGA Convention.
- Inquired if anyone wanted to put forward their name to be on the SILGA Executive as Kelowna is hosting SILGA in 2016.

Council:

- Requested that staff advise the SILGA Executive that the 2014-2017 Council should make this decision.

#### 3.2. Regional District of Central Okanagan's Request for Expression of Interest - 911 Call Centre

Deputy City Manager:

- Advised that the Regional District of Central Okanagan has issued a Request for Expression of Interest with respect to a 9-1-1 Call Answering Service Provider.
- Advised that the Kelowna Fire Department would like to respond to the Request for Expression of Interest and inquired if Council would support the Kelowna Fire Department making a submission.

Moved By Councillor Zimmermann/Seconded By Councillor Hobson

R088/14/02/17 THAT Council supports the Kelowna Fire Department responding with an Expression of Interest to the Regional District of Central Okanagan's Request for Expression of Interest No. RF14-120 with respect to the 9-1-1 Call Answering Service Provider.

Carried

#### 3.3. Councillor Stack, re: Okanagan Men's Sheds

Councillor Stack:

- Distributed a handout regarding the 'Okanagan Men's Sheds' and provided background information regarding the group.
- Advised that the group has approached him to inquire whether or not the City has a facility that could be used by them in exchange for labour.

Council:

- Discussed the merits and challenges of these types of requests.

Moved By Councillor Stack/Seconded By Councillor Blanleil

I089/14/02/17 THAT Council receives, for information, the request from the Okanagan Men's Shed;

AND THAT Council directs staff to explore the options available and report back to Council.

Carried

**3.4. Councillor Blanleil, re: Parking Issues in the Sunset Drive Area**

Council Blanleil:

- Expressed a concern that parking meters installed along Sunset Drive are in a residential area rather than the commercial area.
- Expressed a concern that there are a lot of residents that park on the street due to a lack of residential parking in the area.

City Manager:

- Will have staff report back to Council regarding the Parking Management Strategy for the Sunset Drive area.

**4. Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public**

Moved By Councillor Zimmermann/Seconded By Councillor Stack

R090/14/02/17 THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1) (a) and (k) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Position Appointment;
- Provision of a Municipal Service.

Carried

**5. Adjourn to Closed Session**

The meeting adjourned to a closed session 11:25 a.m.

**6. Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting reconvened to an open session at 12:17 p.m.

**7. Issues Arising from Correspondence & Community Concerns**

**7.1. Deputy Mayor Given, re: Issues Arising from Correspondence**

Deputy Mayor Given:

- Advised that she did not have anything specific to raise with Council.

**8. Termination**

The meeting was terminated at 12:17 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Mayor Given

/slh



\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

# Report to Council



**Date:** 2/19/2014  
**File:** 1850-40  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Ron Westlake, Director, Regional Services  
**Subject:** Proposed Queensway Transit Exchange Improvements - 2014

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receive the report of the Director, Regional Services dated February 19, 2014 for information.

## **Purpose:**

To update Council on planned improvements to the Queensway transit exchange that are advancing to implementation in 2014.

## **Background:**

The City is participating in a project to implement Rapid Bus service from the District of West Kelowna to the UBC Okanagan campus. Phase 1 of this project included new RapidBus stations along Hwy 97 and frequent service between Queensway in Downtown Kelowna to UBC Okanagan and was complete in 2010. Since implementation of the first phase we've had a 10 per cent increase in bus use in Kelowna overall.

Phase 2 (extending service to Westbank town centre) and Phase 3 (completing infrastructure in Kelowna) are scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2014.

The RapidBus project includes development of key transit infrastructure projects in the District of West Kelowna, the Westbank First Nation and Kelowna. One of the projects involves upgrading and expanding the existing Queensway transit exchange to accommodate the new RapidBus service.

Staff provided a presentation to Council in 2012 with a concept for upgrading the transit exchange and Queensway road layout. That concept has gone through a number of revisions through stakeholder consultations and is now considered ready for implementation. With the pace of growth in the downtown and with introduction of rapid bus service, it has become increasingly important to strengthen our transit infrastructure to provide a viable

alternative to the automobile and to reduce demand for parking. Timing is now critical to complete the Queensway improvements in time for the fall school service starts and to comply with funding partner requirements.

### Queensway Transit Exchange History

The existing Queensway transit exchange was constructed in 1998. It serves as the main hub for the Kelowna Regional Transit system. Not only does it serve the many residents and employees in the downtown, it also allows easy transfer between each of the nine routes that use it. The original design concept included a building structure on the centre island but funding was not available in 1998 to complete that component.

The existing transit exchange primarily uses the block of Queensway between Pandosy and Ellis streets. It was designed as an exclusive transit operating facility with a centre island as a pedestrian waiting area and for easy transfer between buses. In recent years the exchange was expanded into the block immediately west of Pandosy Street with a bus stop serving two routes provided on the north side fronting City Hall.

### Consultation on Queensway Exchange Improvements

A number of long-range planning initiatives, including the recently adopted Downtown Plan, the 2030 Official Community Plan and the Transit Future Plan, were developed through extensive public consultation processes informing the public on future development and priorities in this area.

In conjunction with the RapidBus project, Regional Services staff have collaborated with other departments and external stakeholders to consider options for expanding and upgrading the Queensway exchange. A decision was made to retain the existing exchange as it functions well and was designed for a long-term use with specific construction materials (eg. concrete road surface). There is no room however for expansion in the existing exchange and the area most suitable for expansion is the block of Queensway west of Pandosy. Consensus was reached by the funding partners to upgrade the existing Queensway exchange in two ways:

1. Modify the existing block of Queensway between Pandosy Street and Water Street
2. Provide structures to house security personnel and drivers' washrooms and improve shelter for transit users.

The preferred option would accommodate efficient and functional transit operations, provide for safe interaction of transit, pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles, minimize parking loss, minimize adjacent property impact and deliver on the goals of the downtown plan (ie. Make downtown more pedestrian friendly, increase activity downtown and increase sense of safety.)

### Communications

A communications plan is in place to inform stakeholders and the community of the design and construction schedule for Queensway. Ongoing communications throughout the summer will keep the public updated on traffic changes. With other construction projects planned throughout the city that will affect transit operations, we will be working closely with BC Transit on a communications/information plan to keep riders informed this summer.

## Proposed Queensway Modification - Pandosy Street to Water Street

BC Transit officials have advised that they would like the **new RapidBus station** stops to be away from the existing centre island to better accommodate special infrastructure treatments such as raised platforms (for level boardings) and shelters. This can be done best in the block west of Pandosy Street. This block must also be upgraded to allow for safe, efficient and convenient use by pedestrians, cyclists, public transit and private automobiles.

The RapidBus service will traverse west through the expanded Queensway exchange. Both East and Westbound buses will require some form of a controlled access onto Water Street to allow them to easily connect to Hwy 97. Eastbound buses can connect to Hwy 97 at Ellis Street either through the exchange or by another parallel route (ie. Leon Ave).

While no changes are proposed to the existing block between Ellis and Pandosy streets, the block between Pandosy and Water streets will be completely reconstructed. Wider sidewalks are proposed and parking will need to be modified to accommodate the transit facilities. These improvements will require the use of 320 square meters of land on the southside of the City Hall property. A roundabout at the Queensway and Water Street intersection will provide simple access control that is feasible for transit operations, improves safety for cyclists and pedestrians with shorter crossing distances and reduces vehicle speeds.

Other improvements proposed include new bus stops furnished with RapidBus branded shelters, high platforms for level boarding and way finding signage and passenger information. Pedestrian crossing locations and corridors will be clearly marked in consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Existing onstreet parking would be impacted by any of the options for improving the transit facility. While the transit service at this location should have a significant effect on reducing parking demand in the future, the project team recognizes the current importance of parking and this proposed concept has the least impact on parking and locates all of the parking next to the businesses on the south side of the block. Currently, there are 47 parking spaces on Queensway between Pandosy and Water streets. With the proposed improvement, there will be 31 stalls on this block at completion of the project.

## Proposed Structures for Queensway Exchange

As mentioned above, the project team identified the need for three building structures within the project. They were:

- Increased shelter for the transit users waiting on the existing island;
- Washrooms for the drivers; &
- Office space for security personnel and transit supervisors.

Provision will be made for public washrooms to be added at a later date as funding comes available. In the interim, patrons will continue to be directed to the Stuart Park public washrooms.

The project manager retained a specialized architectural firm to work with key internal department staff to plan the visual or urban design of the Queensway corridor. Through a



number of workshops, a combined building for the drivers' washrooms and security offices is proposed on the north side of Queensway immediately west of the Museum building.

For the island, the architects in consultation with the funding partners and City stakeholder departments, developed a concept for a roof structure covering most of the existing island that will enhance the area aesthetically. In combination with wind deflectors, the structure will provide shelter from rain, winter snow and summer sun.

#### **Schedule:**

The goal of the funding partners is to complete the Queensway improvements by the end of August, 2014. It will be a challenge to make this date but construction of the improvements cannot start until the Bernard Avenue revitalization project has been substantially completed. Design has therefore started and the proposed roundabout at Water Street is planned to be constructed in June. The other road improvements and structures will be constructed between June and September. The existing transit exchange will be temporarily relocated to Ellis Street near Doyle Avenue.

#### **Internal Circulation:**

- J. Vos, GM, Infrastructure
- J. Creron, Civic Operations Division Director
- C. Weadon, Communications Division Director
- D. Edstrom, Director, Real Estate
- M. Hasan, Transportation & Mobility Manager
- T. Barton, Manager, Parks & Public Places
- A. Albiston, Regional Projects Manager

#### **Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

The City's budget for the Queensway Transit exchange improvements is \$4.3 million. The Province's share is more than \$3.5 million. The City is funding \$700,000 and there is also approximately \$87,000 of federal funding. **The deadline for using the senior government funding is the end of November, 2014.**

#### **External Agency Comments:**

While BC Transit would prefer that the "Bus Way" on Queensway be exclusive to transit vehicles, the revised concept is considered a definite improvement on the original Project Definition Report (PDR) concept:

- a. In the original PDR concept there were conflicts with Parking and general traffic on both sides. Angle parking is extremely disruptive for transit operations. The southbound right turn from Queensway to Pandosy was very challenging. Having rapid bus stops on both sides of Queensway could be confusing for pedestrians and transferring customers, especially if they were connecting to or from the Queensway north side stops to the transit island.
- b. The proposed option alleviates those concerns. It puts all the parking on the south (bus) side of the road closer to existing businesses. Transfers between rapid bus and local routes are easier with customers only having to cross half the road in one location.

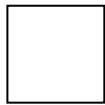
**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Legal/Statutory Authority  
Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements  
Existing Policy  
Personnel Implications  
Alternate Recommendation

Submitted by:

R. Westlake, Director, Regional Services

Approved for inclusion:



P. Macklem, General Manager, Strategic Services

Attachments:

cc: B. Berry, Director, Design & Construction  
P. Irani, Manager, Road, Drainage & Solid Waste Projects  
A. Albiston, Regional Projects Manager  
R. Villarrea, Regional Planning Manager