

## **Notes of a Meeting of the Regional Transportation Working Group Held Thursday, September 5, 2024, via MS Teams**

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### **PRESENT: Staff:**

P. Klassen, Senior Manager, Regional Planning; I. Lawrence, Senior Manager, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning; J. Starke, Manager Service Delivery, Southern Gulf Island Electoral Area; G. Tokgoz, Manager Regional Trails and Trestles Renewal, Facilities Management and Engineering Services; N. Brotman, Research Planner, Regional Planning; J. Douillard, Senior Transportation Planner, Regional Planning; L. Hube, Planning Assistant, Regional Planning; D. Pagani, Administrative Clerk, Regional Planning (recorder).

### **Also present:**

K. Balzer, City of Langford; L. Beckett, District of the Highlands; S. Button, BC Transit; J. Clary, Town of Sidney; J. Clary, Township of Esquimalt; C. Davie, Township of Esquimalt; B. DeMaere, Town of Sidney; J. Hicks, City of Victoria; I. Leung, Town of View Royal; T. McKay, District of Saanich; C. Mossey, BC Transit; M. Pearson, Province of British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI); C. Purvis, BC Transit; D. Puskas, District of Central Saanich; S. Rennick, District of Oak Bay; P. Webber, MoTI; K. Weicker, MoTI.

### **Senior Project Director, CRD Transportation Governance:**

D. Bracewell, Principal, Mobility Foresight.

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm.

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

D. Bracewell, Principal, Mobility Foresight, provided a welcome for members of the Regional Transportation Working Group (working group).

D. Bracewell also introduced new staff appointments: J. Douillard, Senior Transportation Planner, Regional Planning, and Patrick Klassen, Senior Manager, Regional Planning.

J. Douillard completed a roll call of working group members.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

The working group members approved the agenda without addition of further items.

### **3. Transit Future Plan Refresh**

C. Purvis, BC Transit, provided an update on the history, timeline and expected deliverables of the Transit Future Plan refresh, as well as its rebranding as the Victoria Regional Transit Plan (VRTP).

C. Mossey, BC Transit, provided an overview of the new federal funding available through the Canada Public Transit Fund, including the Metro-Region Agreement and Baseline Funding streams. The VRTP will be a key input into an Integrated Regional Plan (IRP), which will demonstrate the impact of plans in the region in the application process to receive funding. C. Purvis further explained the connections between existing plans and how they will feed into the IRP.

Discussion ensued with working group members, during which time C. Purvis and C. Mossey clarified the IRP will be a technical document intended to secure funding from the Canada Public Transit Fund, and that the VRTP will be one document feeding into its development, along with existing local and regional plans.

#### **4. Regional Trails Widening & Lighting Update**

G. Tokgoz provided an update on the Regional Trails widening and lighting project, including the background, project scope and anticipated timelines.

#### **5. Regional Transportation Service**

D. Bracewell provided an update on the regional transportation service establishment, including the bylaw scope, recommendations contained in the staff report, maximum requisition and the electoral approval process. He also outlined the timeline for service establishment, pending direction from the Transportation Committee and Capital Regional District (CRD) Board on September 11, 2024.

After the presentation, working group members discussed the scaling of the proposed regional transportation service as it relates to the role of the CRD and the maximum requisition. D. Bracewell provided further clarification of the maximum requisition amount as it relates to staffing, operations, debt servicing and equipment reserves. Additionally, J. Douillard explained the incremental nature of the CRD service planning process, with CRD Executive and Board approval of staff-level business cases required at each stage.

- **Action:** CRD staff to share the staff report once it is published to the CRD Board agenda.

Working group members also provided feedback about how the group has been used in the past twelve months. It was expressed that they that they would prefer the meetings to focus more on brainstorming and collaboration, rather than solely on information sharing.

- **Action:** CRD staff to provide a copy of the working group Terms of Reference to members.
- **Action:** CRD staff to schedule a working group meeting in October to discuss the outcomes of the September 11, 2024 Transportation Committee and CRD Board meetings and begin pre-planning the role and expectations of the working group in 2025.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The working group meeting was adjourned at 2:31 pm.