



Making a difference...together

## **Notes of a Joint Meeting of the Regional Transportation Working Group, Development Planning Advisory Committee, and Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group Held Monday, September 11, 2023, via MS Teams**

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### **PRESENT:**

CRD – Nikki Elliot, John Hicks, Matt Greeno, Jay Douillard, Noah Brotman, Natalie Bandringa, Laura Hube.

City of Victoria – Sarah Webb (TWG), Andrea Hudson (DPAC), Laura Berndt (CAIMWG).

District of Saanich – Rebecca Newlove (CAIMWG) for Troy McKay (TWG), Alanna McDonagh (TWG), Maggie Baynham (CAIMWG), Glenys Verhulst (CAIMWG).

Town of View Royal – Ivan Leung (TWG), Stirling Scory for Leanne Taylor (DPAC).

District of Oak Bay – Andre Boel (DPAC, CAIMWG), Richard Ding (TWG).

Township of Esquimalt – Charles Davie (TWG), Joel Clary (TWG), Bill Brown (DPAC, CAIMWG).

Town of Sidney – Jenn Clary (TWG), Corey Newcomb (DPAC, CAIMWG), Bruce DeMaere (DPAC, TWG), Kira Gill Maher (CAIMWG).

District of Central Saanich – Jarret Matanowitsch (DPAC, CAIMWG), Jennifer Lukianchuk (CAIMWG).

District of North Saanich – Regrets

City of Colwood – John Rosenberg (TWG), Carolyn Richman (CAIMWG), Joshua Baylis (TWG).

City of Langford – Leah Stohmann (DPAC), Katelyn Balzer (TWG), David Sametz (CAIMWG).

District of Highlands – Laura Beckett (DPAC, TWG, CAIMWG).

District of Sooke – Christina Moog (CAIMWG), Matthew Pawlow (DPAC).

District of Metchosin – Katheryn Lesyshen (DPAC, TWG, CAIMWG).

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Peter Webber (TWG), Cheryl Fraser, Danielle Miller (guests)

BC Transit – Chelsea Mossey (TWG), Simon Button (TWG).

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am.

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

J. Hicks provided welcome, land acknowledgement and roll call for introductions by municipality and agency.

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

Information sharing session covering three areas of shared interest: O+D results, Integrated Transportation Planning Branch, and energy emissions inventory update. Encourage Q+A saved for the end of each presentation.

- **Action:** BC Active Transportation (BCAT) grants – Local governments seeking a letter of support from the CRD should inform John Hicks by September 18<sup>th</sup> so we can get it back to you in the timeline that is required. Local governments seeking a letter of support from BC Transit should inform Chelsea Mossey as soon as possible.

### 3. 2022 Origin Destination Household Travel Survey

J. Hicks presented results of the 2022 Origin Destination Household Travel Survey, a profile of transportation in the region, that is conducted every 5 years. This is a good news story for our region as we are heading in the direction we have targeted. Overall number of trips are down despite increase in population, and mode share is trending more toward active transportation.

The group discussed methodology and results interpretation. J. Hicks noted that supplemental questions do not have the same level of validity as questions that went out to everyone. There are two types of mode share in the report, one is by residents of that jurisdiction, and the other is based on any CRD resident travelling to, from, and within your areas.

- **Action:** Contact John directly if you have questions.

### 4. MOTI – Planning Together BC

C. Fraser presented Planning Together BC (PTBC), an integrated transportation and land-use strategy with the goal of aligning transportation and land use decisions with broader government objectives to get more for less. It is a province-wide systems approach to how we identify opportunities and work together. It seeks to work collaboratively across ministries and with local governments and agency partners from the planning cycle through to project delivery. In Phase 3, looking to engage and implement, internally and externally with regional districts, local governments, and partner agencies as well as first nations communities and friendship centers to socialize the initiative and gain feedback on how this can work for others.

Relevant documents:

- PTBC framework document (attached): benefits of going over framework with vision goals and objectives.
- Integrated planning summary guide (attached): BC's experience with integrated planning, challenges and opportunities, and next steps.
- Assessment tool (attached): This tool is currently in a working draft form. It's laid out in an excel spreadsheet and breaks goals down into prompts for project managers to ask questions that may not have been asked in the past.

Questions and Answers:

1. Any formal engagement approach with local governments and regional governments?

*There is a formal engagement process internally within the Province, but not externally focused unless through sessions like this. Please contact C. Fraser if you'd like more information. MOTI is also interested in learning from the work you're already doing.*

2. How does this planning framework align with the Accessible BC Act in terms of tangible connections through the Accessible BC Act and requirements we have already seen?

*Through the Ministry there is a GBA+ subcommittee and we are leaning on that group to point us in the right direction. It's a good point to be looking back at the Accessible BC Act, so thank you for bringing it up.*

3. How is MOTI tracking VKT reduction targets?

*The PTBC guide will not be that technical in nature, it's a process guide, but it does point to the right resources, i.e., Clean BC Roadmap to 2030 and Clean Transportation Action Plan, which go into more detail of VKT. Clean transportation, climate action and resiliency goals are something we are focusing on and working closely with other ministry partners,*

*having conversations with groups like energy mines and low carbon innovation to ensure our work is aligned and goals are met at a provincial level.*

- **Action:** Provide any comments and feedback on the three below questions to Cheryl or Peter.
  - How is integrated planning currently incorporated into your work?
  - What are the barriers to achieving the goals outlined in Planning Together BC?
  - How can the ministry support local governments and regional districts embracing integrated planning principles across the region?

## 5. Community Energy Emissions Inventory

M. Greeno shared the regional emission trends. Some of the transportation behaviours of the pandemic have been sticking around so far as we can tell. Transportation emissions are down from 2007 in Saanich, Victoria, Esquimalt, Juan de Fuca, Oak Bay, and Sidney, though this trend varies by community. Many of the western communities are experiencing the opposite transportation emissions trend, though this may be a result of growth rather than individual transportation behaviour patterns. Overall, we are seeing more efficient use of fossil fuels in per capita emissions, though there are more cars in the region than in the past.

Report coming soon. Committee meeting on September 27 and more detail provided at Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group on September 20.

Questions and Answers:

1. Can you talk about electricity emissions factors?  
*Electricity is different for every jurisdiction. Because of the trading interplay, we use an emissions factor provided by the Province.*
2. Does this CRD inventory consider land based GHG emissions and removals?  
For example, land conversion etc.  
*It's difficult to interpret on a regional basis, including urban core to old growth rainforest, it becomes extremely difficult to collect that information. In the inventory it's for disclosure purposes only, not a line item and not accounted for in the totals.*

## 6. Adjournment

J. Hicks highlighted the similarities between presentations and emphasized the need for consistent methodology and the significance of localized data for reporting.

The joint working group meeting was adjourned at 11:17 am.

The next Transportation Working Group meeting will be held via MS Teams on Monday November 6, 2023, from 10 to 11:30 am.