

GPC Report

Date: July 18, 2014 From: Councillors Gudgeon and Isitt

Subject: Updating Neighbourhood Transportation Plans

BACKGROUND

In the 1990s, the City of Victoria spearheaded a participatory process of neighbourhood transportation planning, identifying issues and solutions for most Victoria neighbourhoods through citizen-led neighbourhood steering committees, supported by staff and consultants.

Consultation included community open houses, neighbourhood walkabouts and a mail-out survey to all households in each planning area, to determine support for proposed improvements (which had been evaluated on the basis of need and viability, with timelines and budgets attached).

These neighbourhood transportation plans received the support of approximately 90 percent of households who responded, demonstrating a community consensus on traffic calming and active transportation priorities for implementation in specific neighbourhoods.

More recently, neighbourhood transportation planning has been completed in Victoria West, with implementation underway.

MOTION

WHEREAS, Council has identified Active Transportation as a priority for the City;

AND WHEREAS, improvements to the design of rights-of-way are the best mechanism for traffic calming and safety in neighbourhoods, with additional benefits of improving liveability through increased green space and place-making;

AND WHEREAS, these improvements are consistent with the objectives of Victoria's Official Community Plan and the aspirations of residents to live in safe, vital, walkable neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS, allocating City capital funds for traffic calming is best achieved through a collaborative neighbourhood-wide process, rather than a piecemeal approach to specific traffic problems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council agrees in principle to work with community associations and residents to update Neighbourhood Transportation Plans, and directs staff to report with a timeline, workplan and budget for achieving this update.

Councillor Shellie Gudgeon

Councillor Ben Isitt

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