



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021, STARTING AT 1:30 P.M.

Remote Meeting

Held via Zoom – Link available at [www.whistler.ca/committees](http://www.whistler.ca/committees)

PRESENT*	Mtgs. YTD (1)
Chair, Mayor J. Crompton	1
Councillor R. Forsyth	1
Councillor A. De Jong	1
(V) Citizen at Large, C. Doak	1
(V) Citizen at Large, A. Jenkins	1
(V) Citizen at Large, T. DeMarco	1
(V) Citizen at Large, J. Sobieniak	1
(V) RMOW Chief Administrative Officer, V. Cullen	1
(V) Tourism Whistler Vice President, Market Development and Sales, K. Goodwin	1
(V) Whistler Blackcomb Director, Government and Community Relations, S. McCullough	1
(V) Whistler Chamber of Commerce CEO, Melissa Pace	1
(NV) BC Transit Senior Regional Transit Manager, Government Relations, R. Ringma	1
(NV) BC Transit Senior Transit Planner (Alternate), B. Bullivant	1
(NV) Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) Operations Manager, M. Braun	1
(NV) RMOW General Manager, Infrastructure Services, J. Hallisey	1
(NV) RMOW General Manager, Resort Experience, J. Gresley-Jones	1
Secretary, (NV) RMOW Transportation Demand Management Coordinator, E. DalSanto	1
Facilitator, Whistler Centre for Sustainability -Executive Director, C. Ho	-
RMOW Manager of Parks Planning, M. Pardoe	-
RMOW Manager of Protective Services, L. DeBou	-
RMOW Manager of Roads & Solid Waste, A. Tucker	-
RMOW Sustainability Coordinator, L. Burhenne	-
Tourism Whistler Director, Research, M. Kunza	-
Recording Secretary, D. Taveira	-

REGRETS*	

\*Where (V) = voting member and (NV) = non-voting member

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by M. Pace  
Seconded by C. Doak

**That** the Transportation Advisory Committee adopt the Transportation Advisory Committee Agenda of Monday March 15, 2021.

CARRIED

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by J. Sobieniak  
Seconded by V. Cullen

**That** the Transportation Advisory Committee adopt the Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes of Thursday, October 8, 2020 as circulated.

CARRIED

### **PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

#### Survey Results

C. Ho presented a summary of the TAG member survey results about TAG meetings. Survey highlights included:

- 50% of survey respondents have been on TAG for more than three years
- More exchange of ideas and large group discussions is favoured
- Members prefer materials and presentations to be provided ahead of time and only a high level summary at the meeting.
- Members prefer to have homework sent ahead of time for their review, but to discuss the topics during the meetings
- Member suggestions include:
  - Circulate materials like EV Fees report for individual TAG member comments
  - Send out less materials, streamline
  - More time for discussion of materials, brainstorming of ideas and solutions
  - Push for short-term low hanging fruit items
  - Less of a sounding board, more of an advisory board
  - Less review, more action

C. Ho indicated that, moving forward:

- Continue to send materials in advance and give a short summary at meetings, then allow for discussion
- Have more time for large group discussions, and have break-out sessions as needed to keep the discussion effective.
- Keep on-line meetings to two and a half hours or less to enable time for discussion, collaboration and contribution of ideas

#### Terms of Reference

E. DalSanto reviewed the TAG [terms of reference](#) (TOR), last updated June 21, 2016, and the process in developing and implementing the Whistler

Transportation Action Plan 2018-2028 E. DalSanto indicated that since TAG was created, its role has changed over the years, but the TOR has not reflected those changes.

A discussion was held key points and recommendations included:

- Members feel it key to remember that TAG is more of an advisory board rather than a sounding board.
- Staff to make recommendations regarding TOR updates.
- Prioritizing the long term Transportation Action Plan into actions that would start in the short-term (2021-22), medium-term (2023-25) and long-term (2026+).

#### Transportation Updates

E. DalSanto provided an overview of the monitoring results from early winter 2020-2021.

Summer recommendations put on hold due to the pandemic were implemented as of Dec. 15, 2020 and included:

- Changes to parking fees in Day Lot and Conference Centre
- no global changes to transit fares
- Decrease in Spirit transit pass pricing
- High school transit passes continue to be funded from day parking lot revenues.

M. Kunza gave an overview of tourism-related monitoring results from early winter 2020-2021 and the forecasted summer outlook. Key results included:

- Whistler experiencing a typical pattern of mid-week and weekend of valleys and peaks; lower volume. The province-wide advisory against travel imposed mid-November 2020 has lasted the entire winter season. Occupancy decreased to 25%.
- BC market is the majority of Whistler's occupancy; the remainder is from other Canadian provinces.
- Summer forecast assumptions similar to summer 2020: anticipated that borders remain closed; restrictions may ease heading into warmer months. BC market anticipated to continue to be strong; possibility of inter-provincial travel later summer. No mass gatherings, no major events or conferences.
- Expecting strong day trip market from Lower Mainland as in summer 2020.

#### Summer 2021 Park-related Transportation Initiatives

M. Pardoe provided a brief overview of summer 2021 park-related transportation initiatives. Key proposed initiatives included:

- Increased parking management; seasonal user paid parking at Wayside, Alpha, Rainbow, Lakeside, Alta Lake parks.
- Improved neighbourhood on-street parking signs in hot spot areas within the community.
- Expanded shuttle services between the Village and Rainbow Park, Meadow Park and Rainbow trailhead.
- Expanded secure bicycle parking service to several parks including gear storage and rental bikes;
- Alternative transportation modes may be promoted through a pop up visitor multi-mobile transportation hub.

A discussion was held and recommendations included:

- More signage to encourage visitors to park in Creekside should the other lots (Rainbow Park/Lakeside Park or Day Lots) be full; important to get that communication out.
- Expanded paid parking onto streets adjacent in neighborhoods adjacent to Rainbow Park and other parks should the car parking lots become full; increased signage.

*M. Braun, M. Kunza and M. Pardoe left the meeting at 2:40 p.m.*

Break

TAG members had a break from 2:40 – 2:50pm.

Transportation Action  
Plan 2021-2022  
Priorities

C. Ho reminded TAG members of the exercise they completed at the last TAG meeting that identified the priority Transportation Action Plan 2021-2022 actions that aligned with [Climate Action Big Moves](#). The priority goals were:

- Goal 2: Integrated transportation system with land use planning to minimize the need for travel by motor vehicle.
- Goal 3: Minimized greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions created by the transportation system.
- Goal 4: Support the increased use of transit and preferred modes for all travel purposes to reduce dependence on private automobiles.
- Goal 5: Ensure that the transportation system cost-effectively meets and anticipates the resort community's future needs and population growth.

Prior to this meeting, a prioritization homework assignment was given to the TAG Citizen-at-Large Applicants. Their top three actions when considering Climate and Active Transport included:

1. **Action 4.1.1:** Work with the provincial government to upgrade and develop safe pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure, such as bicycle lanes, crossings for pedestrians and cyclists, and adequate bus shelters and access to them along the Highway 99 corridor[, prioritizing this infrastructure for Emerald Estates].
2. **Action 4.1.9:** Continue to implement effective communications to share information about preferred methods of travel (and that a car is not necessary in Whistler) through tour operators and travel agents as well as local media, social media, etc., to ensure that both residents and visitors understand the available options.
3. **Big Moves Initiative (BMI):** Install more secure and covered bike parking.

Highly prioritized actions addressing both climate and active transport:

1. **Action 2.1.3:** Continue to develop the Valley Trail to fill gaps in the existing network, such as the connection from Rainbow Park to Chaplinville, and to provide new links between neighbourhoods and with commercial areas.
2. **Action 3.1.3:** Work with resort partners to provide transit tickets, bicycles and e-bikes for employee use within Whistler.
3. **Action 4.1.7:** Encourage and/or incentivize large employers to provide facilities with showers, change rooms and secure bicycle storage for bicycle commuters.
4. **Action 4.1.12:** Identify priority needs and budget required for implementing additional facilities and infrastructure to support preferred modes.
5. **BMI/2019:** Execute marketing/communication campaign about Whistler's community-wide commitment to climate action, information on Action Plan

items, and the benefits of longer stays for visitors, and provide incentives to encourage people to leave the car at home.

TAG members separated into breakout groups to discuss the priority actions. TAG members were asked to identify the top three priority actions overall that:

- Create biggest impact for climate action
- Will help support most people using active transportation
- Can be started in 2021.

The top priority actions overall were:

1. **Action 4.2.6:** Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and BC Transit to explore the development of queue-jumpers for buses and transit bus-only lanes on Highway 99.
2. **Action 3.1.8:** Develop a strategy and phased program to accelerate the introduction of electric vehicles in Whistler that would include parking privileges, requirements for recharging stations, replacement of RMOW municipal vehicles, incentives to taxis and shuttle bus operators and support for ridesharing with electric vehicles. (incorporate 3.1.6 and 3.1.5 and 3.1.2)

The other actions identified as overall top priorities were:

1. **Action 2.1.3:** Continue to develop the Valley Trail to fill gaps in the existing network, such as the connection from Rainbow Park to Chaplinville, and to provide new links between neighbourhoods and with commercial areas. (include "tributaries")
2. **Action 3.1.1:** Engage with and support BC Transit transitioning the fleet to electric transit vehicles.
3. **Action 3.1.8:** Develop a strategy and phased program to accelerate the introduction of electric vehicles in Whistler that would include parking privileges, requirements for recharging stations, replacement of RMOW municipal vehicles, incentives to taxis and shuttle bus operators and support for ridesharing with electric vehicles. (incorporate 3.1.6 and 3.1.5 and 3.1.2)  
**Action 3.1.6:** Include electric charging stations when planning new developments.  
**Action 3.1.5:** Encourage/incentivize stratas and private parking lots to provide recharge locations for electric vehicles and bikes.  
**Action 3.1.2:** Develop a strategy for adding EV-charging infrastructure to Day Lots 1 to 5, Creekside and other day parking lots.
4. **Action 4.1.1:** Work with the provincial government to upgrade and develop safe pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure, such as bicycle lanes, crossings for pedestrians and cyclists, and adequate bus shelters and access to them along the Highway 99 corridor, prioritizing this infrastructure for Emerald Estates
5. **Action 4.2.6:** Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and BC Transit to explore the development of queue-jumpers for buses and transit bus-only lanes on Highway 99.

*V. Cullen left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.*

Active Transportation  
Plan and Committee

C. Ho introduced the strategy for developing the Active Transportation Plan, including the creation of a TAG Sub-Committee. Highlights included:

- RMOW received grant funding from UBCM in order to put together an active transportation strategy: goal to determine if there are gaps in existing policies or strategies, and synthesize into an active transportation plan with specific actions.

- Three step process:
  1. Prepare and develop framework;
  2. Identify strategies and actions;
  3. Develop draft plan, review, finalize and present to council.
- TAG to create an Active Transportation Sub-committee (nine people) starting end of April. Email [edalsanto@whistler.ca](mailto:edalsanto@whistler.ca) if interested in participating as a volunteer.

**Recommendation**

Moved by R. Forsyth  
Seconded by A. Jenkins

**That** the Transportation Advisory Committee adopt the Transportation Advisory Sub-Committee Terms of Reference of Monday, March 15, 2021.

CARRIED

The following TAG members have volunteered to be part of the TAG Active Transportation Subcommittee: Tom Demarco, Alison Jenkins, Jack Crompton and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

Next Steps

E. DalSanto described next steps:

- Summarize top actions to address climate and active transportation most effectively for consideration for implementing in 2021.
- Revise TAG TOR, including a meeting schedule.

**OTHER BUSINESS**


There were no items of Other Business.

**MOTION TO TERMINATE**

Moved by A. De Jong  
Seconded by C. Doak

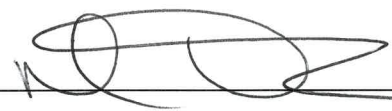
**That** the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting of Monday, March 15, 2021 be terminated at 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED



---

Chair, Mayor Jack Crompton



---

Recording Secretary, Denise Taveira