



MINUTES

**REGULAR WORKSHOP OF THE
TRANSIT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019, STARTING AT 12:30 P.M.
In the Flute Room
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V8E 1K4**

PRESENT:

TMAC Chair – RMOW Councillor, J. Ford
BC Transit, Senior Manager Government Relations, L. Trotter
Whistler Transit Ltd.– General Manager, C. Gomez
Whistler Transit Ltd. – Service Delivery Manager, C. Hoffmann
RMOW – General Manager Infrastructure Services, J. Hallisey
RMOW – TDM Planner & Recording Secretary, E. DalSanto

GUESTS:

BC Transit – Senior Transit Planner, L. Megenbir
BC Transit – Transit Planner, B. Bullivant

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by C. Hoffmann
Seconded by L. Megenbir

That Transit Management Advisory Committee (TMAC) adopt the TMAC Committee Workshop Agenda of April 11, 2019.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Staff Updates

BC Transit:

- B. Bullivant, Transit Planner at BC Transit will be taking on more planning projects for the Whistler Transit System in 2019 and 2020.

Whistler Transit Ltd:

- S. Antil has accepted the position of PWTransit Director of Operations. TMAC would like to thank S. Antil for all his work with the Whistler Transit System as Service Delivery Manager from 2008 through March 2019 and would like to congratulate him on his new role with the parent company.
- C. Hoffmann has accepted the new role of Service Delivery Manager, Sea to Sky Region.

BC Transit 1- Valley Express Post Implementation Review

B. Bullivant presented an overview of the draft Route 10 Valley Express Post Implementation Review that was circulated with the Agenda package. Highlights included:

- Ridership over the winter met the performance targets for a new route of between 15 and 25 rides per service hour at 17.9 trips per service hour.
- Ridership was much lower than other routes within Whistler which range from 35.9 to 157.7 rides per service hour in the winter.

- The route was used mainly for commuting to work (65%), followed by social/recreational (skiing) (47%)
- Even though this route was designed to meet the work start/end times in Function, Whistle Creekside, Nesters and Rainbow, the bus stops with the most alightings (people getting off) were Whistler Village northbound followed by Whistler Village southbound then Whistler Creekside southbound then northbound. Boarding activity indicated that the majority of riders were getting on the buses in Rainbow, Emerald Estates, Highway 99 at Alta Lake Road and Highway 99 at Alpine Way.
- Passengers using this service were very happy with its performance.
- Survey respondents requested the following improvements:
 - More frequency of service, especially mid-day
 - Improvements to existing highway stop infrastructure
 - More highway stops
 - Better access to Whistler Village
- BC Transit is recommending that this service continue into winter 2019/2020

TMAC discussed how this service could better integrate with the routes 20, 20X, 30 and 32 both in winter and spring/summer/fall based on the information gathered from the first four months of operation including the first 10 days of the spring/summer/fall schedule.

ACTION 1:

BC Transit will revise the draft report based on the discussion as well as add recommendations related to the route 20s and 30s.

ACTION 2:

BC Transit and the RMOW staff will present the findings and recommendations to the Whistler Council at the April 30th or May 14th Council meeting.

Summer free weekend Proposed schedules

Summer Free Weekend Proposed Service options

B. Bullivant summarized the draft Summer Weekend Free Service Layer Options letter report that was circulated with the agenda. The purpose of the report was to evaluate the two options and recommend one for implementation in the summer. The two options included:

1. Additional service on routes 20 and 30 as was done in summer 2018
2. Additional service on the new route 10 and route 25

BC Transit recommends providing the extra layer of summer weekend service starting June 15th with Option 1 based on the following reasons:

- Service performance of the 10-Valley Express (rides per service hour) was much lower than other routes within Whistler, including the Route 20 and Route 30.
- Consistency and predictability of adding extra weekend transit service in a similar fashion as last summer (option 1) is easier from a customer point of view over providing a new service (Route 10-Valley Express) only on weekends and removing the extra service during the week.

- Risk associated with providing an untested service (route 10) over an established service (route 20 and 30).

TMAC had discussed the benefits and risks of both options against the original purpose of providing free weekend service in Whistler.

The free weekend service in Whistler is part of the peak-day operations plan that also includes providing secure bike parking in Whistler Village. The goal of the Peak-day operations plan is to convert 10-15% of motor vehicle trips generated in Whistler to foot, bike, bus or carpool trips which in turn would reduce peak congestion on the highway and in the parking lots. Therefore, an argument was made that the 10-Valley Express could appeal most to the motor vehicle drivers that we are trying to attract with the free weekend service.

Next Steps

BC Transit and RMOW staff will include the recommendations on the 2019 and future summer service lay options as part of the April 30th or May 14th Council meeting as part of the 10-Valley Express Post Implementation Review report.

Whistler Transit Season Review

As a response to an action item from the December 2018 TMAC workshop where it was requested that Whistler consider reducing the number of transit seasons and fixed dates for seasonal services changes in Whistler, BC Transit reviewed the current Whistler Transit System Seasons. B. Bullivant reviewed the draft letter report that was circulated with the TMAC Agenda. B. Bullivant compared system ridership by service hour performance over the course of the calendar year and compared it to current Whistler Transit System seasons.

As a result of this preliminary review, BC Transit is recommending minor changes to the current seasons with a more detailed analysis in Spring 2020 when BC Transit has tentatively scheduled the Sea to Sky Transit Future Action Plan process.

Action 3:

For the 2019/2020 Transit year, BC Transit and the RMOW will consider the following:

- Starting the first day of Full Winter service one week before the current date of December 15th
- Consider allocating extra revenue hours to include more summer service
- End summer free weekends on Labour Day with the Lost Lake Shuttle as the September free weekends.

Updates

- BC Transit is holding its 2019 workshop in Kamloops. They have just released their Program at a Glance as circulated or found at: <https://www.bctransit.com/business/workshop-2019>
- BC Transit and the RMOW submitted 3 applications to the MOTI Minor Betterment Program. RMOW met with MOTI staff on May 27. The RMOW will add the Highway at Lorimer Road bus stops subject to TMAC's

Whistler Transit
Seasons Review

Updates

recommendations from the results of the 10-Valley Express Post-Implementation Review.

- RMOW is waiting to receive the MOTI Highway Capacity Study report and will then pursue Bus Queue jumper pilot project.
- RMOW staff have hired ISL to design three bus bays at the Bayly Park stop in Cheakamus Crossing. This will be discussed in more detail at the next TMAC meeting
- WATT Consulting group is reviewing the Gondola Transit Exchange and will be sharing the draft final design next week with the project team. These designs will be brought to the next TMAC meeting.
- Whistler Transit System AOA for 2019/2020 is still not available and will be discussed at the next TMAC meeting.
- BC Transit held a Whistler Transit System marketing workshop in Whistler in February. They will circulate their marketing plan with TMAC for the May meeting
- BC Transit has a Custom Transit Service Feasibility Study underway for the Whistler and Pemberton regions.
- Funding for Sea to Sky Regional Transit was not in the 2019/2020 Provincial budget announced in February. However, planning is continuing and there is a progress meeting on Monday April 15.
- Changes to Whistler Transit System fares are related to the overall Transportation Action Plan including user pay parking fees. The Transportation Advisory Group is holding its spring meeting on Monday April 29th.

The next TMAC meeting will Wednesday May 15, 2019.

Jen Ford left the meeting at 3:45pm

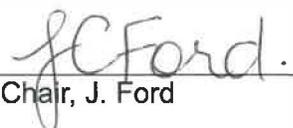
Other Business BC Transit, Whistler Transit Ltd and RMOW staff will have a conference call regarding next steps to bring the BC Transit Program Kids Ride the Bus to Whistler's elementary schools.

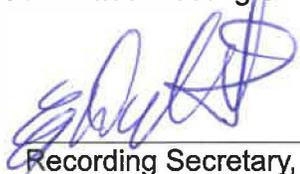
TERMINATION

Moved by L. Trotter
Seconded by E. DalSanto

That the Transit Management Advisory Committee Meeting of April 11, 2019 be terminated at 3:55 p.m.

CARRIED


Chair, J. Ford


Recording Secretary, E. DalSanto