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**REPORT TO THE PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009**

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**SUBJECT: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR STUDY**

**PURPOSE**

To present the Request for Proposals for the Regional Transportation Corridor Study for review and discussion. This initiative requests consulting services to prepare an inter-jurisdictional transportation corridor planning framework which defines the current and future roles of the major corridors in the Capital Region.

**BACKGROUND**

At the October 2007 meeting, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Committee of the Whole passed the recommendation that the Board authorize staff to commence work on an integrated corridor management plan and integrate into the plan greenhouse gas impacts and possible funding options.

Initial components of regional transportation corridor planning have been completed and include:

- establishment of preliminary criteria for identifying and defining the regional corridors;
- the preliminary identification of a base network of regional transportation corridors;
- an inventory of current and planned corridor projects.

The Transportation Corridor Study will produce a planning framework for the region's corridors which:

- Confirms the regional network of primary transportation corridors.
- Defines the appropriate role and functional characteristics for the regional corridors across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Identifies and confirms the transportation projects proposed by the Ministry of Transportation, BC Transit, the CRD, and member municipalities which affect the regional corridor network.
- Assesses the ability of the regional corridors to meet provincial transit targets and greenhouse gas reduction targets as well as the CRD's targets for sustainable transportation.
- Identifies corridor network gaps and functional inconsistencies.
- Provides recommendations for enhancing jurisdictional coordination and the functional integrity of the regional corridors throughout the network.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPLICATIONS**

The Transportation Corridor Study is part of a range of regional transportation initiatives currently either being lead by CRD Regional Planning or in partnership with other agencies.

These initiatives include:

- The recalibration and update of the Regional Transportation Model completed in early 2009 and managing the modeling for BC Transit's Victoria Regional Rapid Transit Plan and the more comprehensive Transit Master Plan.
- The CRD Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan which is due to be completed early next year.
- A regional Transportation Demand Management Strategy of which work will start shortly.

These initiatives follow directly from the transportation objectives of the *Regional Growth Strategy* and *Travel Choices*. The Transportation Corridor Study will establish a high-level framework to enhance the coordination of corridor planning across jurisdictions in order to support the greater use of sustainable modes of travel, more efficient use of existing infrastructure, and the enhancement of regional mobility and access. The planning framework will also address the provincial transit plan mode share targets and the greenhouse gas reduction targets.

### **GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The Transportation Corridor Study builds on the direction provided by the Regional Growth Strategy and TravelChoices. A regional network of primary transportation corridors support for the sustainable land-use patterns recommended in the Regional Growth Strategy. Primary transportation corridors with facilities to support rapid transit, cycling and walking, linking the designated high density mixed use regional growth centres with each other is a key component of the overall vision of the Regional Growth Strategy.

The project will contribute to the development of a network of primary regional transportation corridors that will provide the basis to coordinate and integrate corridor planning and operation being carried out individually by municipalities and other agencies.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The estimated cost of the transportation corridor planning framework is \$40,000 which will come from Regional Planning's 2009 budget.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Planning and Transportation Committee receive this report as information.

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### **COMMENTS:**