



**REPORT TO THE
PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY JULY 25, 2012**

SUBJECT CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

PURPOSE

To provide Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Working Papers on the needs, issues, opportunities and underlying principles prior to a facilitated workshop for the Committee to give input and direction on the first phases of the Plan.

BACKGROUND

In February 2012, IBI Group was awarded the contract to prepare a RTP for the CRD. The CRD and BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) are RTP funding partners with the CRD being responsible for overall project management. Project oversight is provided by a CRD/MoTI Steering Committee. The RTP is scheduled to be completed by September 2013 (see project schedule in Appendix 1).

ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

One of the key assumptions for the success of the RTP in terms of acceptance and adoption is an extensive process to engage the Board, municipalities, stakeholder organizations and the public. A RTP – Technical Advisory Committee has been formed consisting of transportation planners and engineers from the CRD, municipalities, the MoTI and BC Transit to provide input regarding RTP content and direction. The minutes from the first two TAC meetings are attached as Appendices 2 and 3. Interviews with representatives of key stakeholder organizations have begun and will continue through the summer. Later stages of the RTP will include engagement activities in conjunction with those of the CRD Regional Sustainability Strategy (RSS). The transportation web page on the CRD website has been completely revamped with a focus on the RTP as the integrating framework for various transportation initiatives being carried out by the CRD, municipalities and the Province. The web page will also be used to post RTP outcomes for public information, and there will be provisions for web based public input.

Over the course of the RTP close engagement with Committee is planned to review work done to date and provide input and direction on the components of each phase. Documents from Phases 1 and 2 are attached to this report (see Appendices 4 and 5) and are summarized in Tables 1 and 2 below. These documents incorporate revisions from TAC meetings where earlier drafts were presented for member review and input. It is anticipated that as the RTP progresses outcomes from each phase will be reviewed by the TAC, revised according to TAC input, and then finalized according to Committee input and direction.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PHASES 1 AND 2

Documents from the first two phases - *Issues and Opportunities* and *Vision and Principles* – are attached as Appendices 4 and 5, and summarized in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Issues and Opportunities reviews current transportation and development trends, identifies persistent and emerging transportation issues, and identifies opportunities to address these issues. The document lists six needs for a regional transportation strategy to be successful, and defines the issues and opportunities related to each need. In addition, a current priorities need is identified in response to emerging transportation issues that should be addressed immediately.

TABLE 1 – NEEDS, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

NEED	ISSUE	OPPORTUNITIES
1a. Current Priorities	Increase regional authority and the CRD's ability to address immediate transportation initiatives that will assist in achieving longer term priorities and encourage collaboration on funding and shared solutions.	RTP identification of short term priorities, actions, partnerships and potential funding models.
1. Shaping Growth and Development	Population growth is forecast for low density suburban areas adding more pressure on an already congested regional transportation network	Overall regional population growth rate will be modest providing opportunities and time to support and develop higher density, mixed use centres and mobility hubs in areas of the region with higher growth rates.
2. Coordinated Approaches and Common Objectives	Regional transportation responsibilities divided amongst various jurisdictions.	Build on political and public support for a more regional approach to transportation.
3. Integration of Networks	Divided responsibilities and competing demands regarding key transportation corridors.	Basis from PCMP, Corridor Plan, Transit Future and the work on the RTP to balance competing corridor objectives through agreed upon multi-modal performance targets.
4. Increasing Walking and Cycling Mode Shares	Expanding active transportation networks may conflict with other modal priorities.	High active bike and walk mode shares already exist in the CRD compared to other regions in Canada, and the CRD has some exceptional pedestrian and cycling facilities.
5. New Technologies	Has not been addressed in previous studies and impacts are largely unknown.	Potential support for sustainable transportation options (i.e. 'real time' transit information for mobile devices).
6. Long Term Priorities	Developing a plan to address growth over the longer range (i.e. 20 to 30 years from now).	RTP identification of short term actions and pilot projects to test longer term strategies.

Phase 2 – *Vision and Principles* - defines a future based on the *Regional Growth Strategy* and *TravelChoices* goals where transportation is sustainable, offers choice, enables smart growth and makes livable communities possible. Six principles based on this vision are defined to reflect the need for an integrated and multi-modal approach to transportation in the region, and guide the development of RTP policies and strategies.

TABLE 2 – SIX PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CRD

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION
1. A Coordinated and Engaged Planning Approach	RTP to be everyone's plan. A Plan resulting from the coordinated effort of the CRD and municipalities with extensive stakeholder engagement.
2. Integrate Transportation and Land Use Planning	Direct growth towards existing urban areas and support higher density mixed use development to promote the greater use of walking, cycling and public transit.
3. Capitalize on Potential for Alternatives of Driving Alone	Emphasis on providing services and infrastructure to make active transportation and public transit more competitive with automobile travel.
4. An Enhanced Role of Public Transit	Investment and land use policies to support a significant increase in transit use.
5. Efficient Transportation Corridors that meet Growing Future Demand	Optimizing existing capacity to balance competing modal priorities.
6. Strategic Investments Towards an Affordable and Well-Maintained System	Comprehensive framework of potential funding options to address future transportation investment needs.

CONCLUSION

Committee engagement and direction are necessary for the process to develop and prepare an overall transportation strategy for the region. This is because RTP outcomes which recommend changes to current transportation arrangements and responsibilities in the region will have significant consequences for governance relationships between the CRD, municipalities and the Province.

The first two phases of the RTP – *Issues and Opportunities* and *Vision and Principles* – have been reviewed and revised by the TAC. These working papers are now presented for Committee for its input and confirmation. To facilitate Committee input and discussion staff will organize a workshop in conjunction with the next meeting of the PTPSC.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff be directed to organize a workshop in conjunction with the next meeting of the Planning Transportation and Protective Services Committee to facilitate Committee input and direction on Phases 1 and 2 of the CRD Regional Transportation Plan.

“Original Signed”

Malcolm MacPhail, MCIP
Senior Transportation Planner
Regional Planning

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP
Senior Manager
Regional and Strategic Planning
Concurrence

Robert Lapham, MCIP
General Manager
Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence

Attachments: Appendix 1: RTP Work Plan Schedule
Appendix 2: Minutes from the March 27, 2012 Regional Transportation Plan
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Appendix 3: Minutes from the June 7, 2012 Regional Transportation Plan
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Appendix 4: Issues and Opportunities
Appendix 5: The Six Elements of Sustainable Transportation in the CRD



Making a difference...together

PPS-RP 2012-17

APPENDIX 1

Work Plan Schedule

	Feb-12	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13
Project Initiation	■	■	■	■												
Phase 1: Issues and Opportunities		■	■	■												
Phase 2: Vision and Principles			■	■	■											
Phase 3: Foundation Document			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■						
Phase 4: Governance Options					■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Phase 5: Funding Strategy							■	■	■	■	■	■				
Phase 6: Implementation								■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
Phase 7: Engagement Process		■			■	■		■		■		■	■	■	■	
Final Report													■	■	■	■