

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
Regional Planning Services Department**

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, June 18, 2003

SUBJECT:

Travel Choices Strategy Working Paper No. 8 ~~Update~~

BACKGROUND:

The *TravelChoices* Regional Transportation Strategy ~~was outlined to Regional Planning Committee at its January 2003 meeting. The deliverables for this work plan~~ include 1) a series of working papers on key elements of a transportation strategy, 2) a long-term TravelChoices Strategy and 3) a short-term implementation strategy.

~~These reports~~ respond to the key directions of the Regional Growth Strategy by proposing a broad strategic direction for transportation planning for such regional issues as:

- expanding ~~transit service,~~
- protecting and expanding the multi-modal role for all ~~major inter-municipal roads,~~
- expanding the inter-municipal cycling network,
- managing travel demand growth, and
- integrating transportation with land use

The purpose of this report is to introduce the eighth and final draft working paper on “Managing and Funding Regional Transportation” (Attachment A).

~~attempt to bring to light potential goals, and direction for mode choices, supporting infrastructure, operating and capital costs and administration of the strategy. Key parts of these working papers will then form the foundation for the overall TravelChoices Strategy. This consolidated strategy will need to balance competing elements. Based on the recommended TravelChoices Strategy, the final report will contain recommend implementation priorities.~~

~~This report provides an update on the work to date on the TravelChoices Strategy. A presentation will be made at the committee meeting by the project consultant who will request input on the draft working papers.~~

DISCUSSION:

On May 21, 2003, Regional Planning Committee was provided with an overview of the following working papers:

- ~~‘Goals and Objectives for the TravelChoices Strategy’ – working paper #1.~~
- ~~‘Commercial Vehicle Strategy’ – working paper #2.~~ and

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- ~~'Bicycle Strategy' – working paper #3.~~
- ~~'Transit Strategy' – working paper #4.~~
- ~~'Network Strategy' – working paper # 5~~
- Transportation Demand Management Strategy – working paper #6
- Land Use Strategy – working paper #7

The committee reviewed these working papers which are summarized in the meeting minutes.

At the last meeting John Steiner, Urban Systems Project Manager, introduced highlights of the final working paper #8 titled “Draft Managing and Funding Regional Transportation”. This working paper needs to be reviewed by this committee.

The purpose of this working paper is NOT to define a specific organizational and resource strategy to support transportation improvements presented in the *TravelChoices* Strategy. Rather it introduces options that may guide the CRD and project partners in developing a organizational and resource structure to effectively respond to the *TravelChoices* Strategy vision.

This working paper outlines the organizational and resource challenges to that face implementation of the *TravelChoices* Strategy, including the short-term strategy. The working paper explores organizational frameworks that include both existing and modified authorities to manage transportation, along with expanded and new funding opportunities.

The existing systems – organizational and funding – are examined and compared with the vision for each mode. For example, today, there are many agencies that have responsibilities for several facilities and services that impact advancing the *TravelChoices* Strategy.

In addition to the organizational challenges, the current lack of sound financial resources will also limit the ability to advance the vision outlined in the strategy. For the next five years, the strategy will need about \$50 million to advance the *TravelChoices* Strategy, as well as shifts in current transportation management practices.

~~e project management team is working with the Inter-Municipal Planning Advisory Committee (IMPAC), the community-based stakeholder committee and a municipal working group comprised of planners and engineers in the preparation of these working papers. The Regional Cycling Committee has also contributed to the review of the draft cycling strategy. Once each report has cleared the committee review process and is released for review by RPC it is also circulated to all municipal councils as information.~~

~~Each committee has contributed valuable information to these reports. To date there has have been no formal responses from the municipal councils on these reports.~~

~~The Regional Cycling Committee has raised a number of concerns with the draft cycling strategy that have been forward to the project management team. These issues will be addressed in the completion of the Transportation Strategy. The primary issues relate to the standards for regional cycling routes, priorities for improvement and the potential market which may be attracted to cycling.~~

~~Subsequent to the presentation of the roads, transit, and land use working papers, a working paper with respect to the necessary funding and administration efforts necessary to achieve the goals of the strategy will be prepared for discussion.~~

~~The primary components of all working papers and the direction resulting from CRD and municipal consideration of these documents will be summarized in an overall Travel Choices Strategy document.~~

~~LARRY, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE DETAILS OF THE COMMENTS ARE TOO SPECIFIC FOR A REPORT TO RPC. IN ALL CASES, WE ARE GOING TO BE ADDRESSING ISSUES FROM A RANGE OF GROUPS ON THE ENTIRE STRATEGY. THIS APPROACH KIND OF ISOLATES ONE GROUP AS HAVING MORE INPUT. YOUR CALL~~ cover many topics. The key issues relate to the:

- ~~• preferred standard for upgrading major cycling routes;~~
- ~~• potential market and promotion of cycling;~~
- ~~• analysis and recommendation of the priority routes;~~
- ~~• relationship to other strategies; and~~
- ~~• recommendations submitted by the sub-committee in March 2002 and not included in the draft strategy.~~

RECOMMENDATION:

That Regional Planning Committee receive this report for information and provide comments to the *TravelChoices* Project Manager ~~and provide guidance to the project management team regarding their content.~~

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

Larry Roberts, Manager Transportation Planning
Regional Planning Services

Mark Hornell, MCIP
Director, Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director

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