



Making a difference...together

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission
Held May 31, 2021, CRD Meeting Room, 129 McPhillips Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC**

****electronic meeting**

Present:

Electronic Participation: Gary Lehman, Myna Lee Johnstone, Peter Meyer, Maxine Leichter, Director Holman, Gayle Baker, Karla Campbell, Shayla Burnham, Mitchell Sherrin, Aubrey Smith

Electronic Guests: Elizabeth Nolan from the Driftwood publication and various members of the public

1. Territorial Acknowledgement / Call Meeting to Order

Territorial Acknowledgement was provided by Commissioner Baker and the meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm.

2. ELECTRONIC MEETING RESOLUTION

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Leichter, That this resolution applies to the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission (SSITC) for the meeting being held on May 31, 2021, and that in-person attendance of the public is prohibited by Order of the B.C. Public Health Officer.

That the SSITC is ensuring openness, transparency, accessibility and accountability in respect of the open meeting by the following means:

- a. By making the meeting agenda, as well as the other relevant documents, available on the CRD website, and directing interested persons to the website by means of the notices provided in respect of the meeting,
- b. By making the minutes of the meeting available on the CRD website following the meeting,
- c. By offering the ability to attend and listen to the electronic meeting by invitation.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Commissioner Leichter, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lehman, That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission agenda of May 31, 2021 be approved as amended by adding a Used Bus Shelter update under section 6. Report of the Director and Commissioners, adding 8.4 GradPASS, adding 9.3 Email Dated May 28, 2021 re: Mobility Concerns for El Loco Taco, moving item 8.2 Street Lighting to 8.1, and amending the Tree Removal Guideline motion to read: That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommend that the Salt Spring Island Tree Removal Guideline be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes of March 29, 2021

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Meyer,
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission approve the minutes of March 29,
2021.

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes of April 26, 2021

MOVED by Commissioner Leichter, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lehman,
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission approve the minutes of April 26, 2021
as amended by updating page 10, paragraph 2, from "That" to "that", updating 7.3, motion 3
to read: "North bound on Fulford-Ganges Road at the intersection of West Horal Road," and
updating 8.1 Islands Trust Referral Concerning "Taco Loco" to Islands Trust Referral
Concerning "El Loco Taco."

CARRIED

5. Delegation/Presentations

5.1 Curt Firestone re: Vehicle Safety on Vesuvius Bay Road

- Referenced the 3 ½ kilometres of Vesuvius Bay Road between Portlock Park and the Vesuvius Bay ferry terminal.
- Spoke to safety concerns regarding 14 curves, 6 hills and 8 streets that are on or enter Vesuvius Bay Road.
- Suggested that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) install warning signs for motorists and requested the Transportation Commissions support.
- Major curves cause blind spots for motorists.
- There was a question regarding painted lines on Vesuvius Bay Road.
- Confirmation of double yellow lines painted on Vesuvius Bay Road with an exception between Mobrae Avenue and Brodwell Road where a broken yellow line indicates that you may cross it to pass.

5.2 Tom Boekbinder re: El Loco Taco

- Owner of El Loco Taco.
- Expressed acknowledgement to the Transportation Commission for recommended suggestions regarding safety surrounding El Loco Taco and pedestrian walkways.
- Owners of the building express support for safety upgrades.

6. Report of the Director and Commissioners

Director Holman – no report.

Chair Baker briefly reported:

- Acknowledgement for CRD Staff.
- Ask Salt Spring meeting occurred Friday, May 28, 2021 and Chair Baker will provide the commissioners with a copy of the report.

Commissioner Johnstone briefly reported:

- Used glass bus shelter in Pioneer Village originally came from BC Ferries.

- Used glass bus shelters are being replaced by BC Transit with metal bus shelters due to vandalism issues.
- Commissioner Johnstone will report back to the Transportation Commission on Art Inspired bus shelters at a future meeting.

7. Outstanding Business

7.1 Booth Canal Pathway Safety Concerns

- CRD Staff met with MoTI on site.
- MoTI provided suggested changes such as a stop strip on the corner of Baker Road on the other side of the pedestrian crosswalk, signage warning motorists of the approaching intersection, and removed some shrubbery that may be interfering with sight lines.
- Potential in removing no post barriers south of Baker Road adjacent to the cemetery, except for ones put in place to secure infrastructure.
- Staff Indicated barriers towards Booth Canal Road are a requirement of MoTI.
- CRD staff to return to the Transportation Commission with cost estimates for installing the stop strip and removing the barriers approved by MoTI.
- A separate project needed for the addition of a cycling lane.
- A question was raised regarding the removal of the concrete retaining wall north of Baker Road and CRD staff confirmed that was a retaining wall that would have to be considered for a future project.
- CRD Director Holman indicated that MoTI will consider moving and/or removing the the curb side barriers north of Booth Canal Road.
- Commissioner Lehman provided the Transportation Commission the results of his walk-about with other engineers regarding improvements to Booth Canal safety, beautification and ongoing maintenance.

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Leichter, That the Transportation Commission recommend improving sightlines, subject to consultation with the families associated with the burial plots, that the pathway fronting the north side Baker Road cemetery be lowered by removing the top course of retaining wall blocks, or alternatively, lowered to road grade level by moving the retaining wall back to the cemetery edge; and also that a retaining wall more appropriate in a rural setting be considered.

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lehman, that the Transportation Commission recommend that all of the cement curbs south of Baker Road and adjacent to the cemetery, be moved or removed. Any moving of curbs to provide a wider cycling lane may require extension of the shoulder pavement.

CARRIED

- Installation of a 1.8 meter bikeway would comply with the Active Transportation guideline and assist with completion of the future Salish Sea Trail.
- A recommendation was made to have a cyclist lane constructed in between the pedestrian pathway and the roadway.

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Smith, that the Transportation Commission recommend that other low cost measures include painting a stop bar on the road side of the crosswalk, installing two parabolic mirrors across from Baker Road both north and south, signage warning pedestrians and cyclists of the Baker Road intersection, and by requesting greater RCMP enforcement in the area to reduce speed to improve safety at the Baker Road intersection, be implemented as soon as possible.

CARRIED

7.2 Islands Trust Referral Concerning El Loco Taco

- Transportation Commission making a request to Islands Trust to ensure safety for pedestrian walkways separate from the traffic.
- The pedestrian walkway, as well as handicapped parking and access to El Loco Taco, should be "Accessible." It is suggested that community members be consulted concerning accessibility issues.

MOVED by Commissioner Meyer, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Leichter, that the Transportation Commission recommends to Islands Trust a clearly-delineated pedestrian walkway on the entire perimeter of El Loco Taco. It is recommended that the business owner, the property owners and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure determine the best location for this pedestrian pathway. The pedestrian walkway be clearly-designated as well as made attractive for amenities such as planters and/or benches.

CARRIED

MOVED by Commissioner Meyer, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Leichter, that the Transportation Commission recommends on-site parking consist of four parking spaces abutting the Pharmasave building and painting the additional on-street parking on McPhillips with an increased angle to provide more room for a pedestrian pathway at the front while also decreasing extension of cars into the road and that the owner be allowed to use a small portion of the landscape reserve to complete painting.

CARRIED

7.3 Tree Removal Guideline

- Recommend pathways be constructed by going around trees if possible and not removing trees unless absolutely necessary.
- No construction should occur that would cause extensive tree root removal.
- Dead trees play an important role in wildlife habitats.

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Director Smith, that the Transportation Commission refer the guidelines back to staff to strengthen language regarding the policy and commissions intent to avoid tree and vegetation removal unless absolutely necessary.

CARRIED

7.4 Project Updates:

- **Island Bus Shelters** – deferred
- **North Ganges Transportation Project, Phase 2** – deferred
- **Ganges Hill** – deferred
- **Advocacy Strategic Priorities** – deferred
- **Salish Sea Working Group** – Discussion in item 9. Correspondence

8. New Business

8.1 Street Lighting

MOVED by Commissioner Baker, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Leichter, that the Transportation Commission request staff to send a letter to BC Hydro requesting that street lighting be replaced with the lowest, most yellow (softest) wattage possible to keep with the rural character of the island and to add night shields were possible.

CARRIED

Commissioner Johnstone opposed

8.2 Summer Schedule – Including Time for BC Transit Report and Recommendations, Strategic Planning, and Budget

- Commissioners recommend electronic meeting platform throughout summer months.
- No meeting in August 2021.

8.3 Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Program

- Grant application funding would cover up to 50%
- If grant is approved, the province will provide additional 25% funding.
- Level three chargers are expensive.
- CRD staff to meet with owners of Country Grocer and volunteers to prepare an application.
- Possibility of third party contractors to maintain chargers.
- Gas tax funds can be used to stack remaining funding.
- Country Grocer offering four parking spots.

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baker, That the Transportation Commission recommend staff proceed with grant applications for Electronic Vehicle (EV) Chargers and negotiation of license of occupation for these chargers with Country Grocer.

CARRIED

Commissioner Leichter opposed

8.4 GradPASS

MOVED by Commissioner Johnstone, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lehman, that the Transportation Commission recommend support to BC Transit in providing temporary bus passes to the Salt Spring Island high school graduate students.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence

9.1 Letter Dated May 21, re: Salish Sea Trail Working Group

- Commissioner Baker and Director Holman to return to the Transportation Commission with more information.

MOVED by Commission Baker, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Lehman, that the Transportation Commission support Curt Firestone in writing a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding vehicle safety on Vesuvius Bay Road.

CARRIED

MOVED by Commission Baker, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Smith, that the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission task Director Holman and Commissioner Baker to explore some alternate bicycle routes and to bring additional information forward at a future meeting.

CARRIED

9.2 Letter Dated May 23, re: Island Bus Shelters

MOVED by Director Baker, **SECONDED** by Director Holman, That the Transportation Commission recommend that staff provide a survey for the Mobrae Avenue and West Horel Road for the possible bus shelter locations.

CARRIED

9.3 Email Dated May 31, re: El Loco Taco Accessibility Issues

10. Next Meeting: Monday, June 28, 2021 at 1PM

*location and participation format TBD under the Order of the B.C. Public Health Officer.

- Commissioners requested staff to consider early start times for future meetings.

11. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Meyer,
That the meeting be adjourned at 3:51 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SENIOR MANAGER