

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Members: Kash Akinkuowo, RoadSafetyBC (EP)
Corey Burger, Capital Bike (EP)
Dr. Frederick Grouzet, Centre for Youth and Society, UVic (EP)
Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (EP)
Sgt. Andy Harward, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit (EP)
Todd Litman, Walk On, Victoria (EP)
Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul, Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, UVic (Vice-Chair) (EP)

Associates: Natalie Bandringa, CRD (for John Hicks)
S/Sgt. Jason Bland, Saanich Police (EP)

Regrets: Hailey Bergstrom-Parker, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Ron Cronk, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Fred Haynes, CRD Director (Chair)
Joe Perkins, Media
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Angela Wheeler, Island Health
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety and Community Involvement

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm. In the absence of Chair Haynes, Vice-Chair Sukhawathanakul acted as Chair. Quorum wasn't met so items discussed will be for information only.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Vice-Chair Paweena Sukhawathanakul provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

No quorum

3. Approval of Minutes – March 8, 2022

No quorum

4. Chair's Remarks

No remarks

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

➤ **Update on Transportation Working Group**

Natalie Bandringa gave an update. The next meeting of the Transportation Working Group is on May 9. Various municipalities, the CRD and UVic have applied to the Federal Active Transportation Fund. The CRD is working with the Community Social Planning Council on the equity study that that we've been asked by the CRD Board to engage with them on. John Hicks has put out a call for credentials for the origin-destination study. Also, the Salt Spring RFP went out.

➤ **Demographics/data collected from collision information**

Corey Burger noted that he intends to bring forward a motion to the May meeting to look further at approaches to collect more demographics when a road safety ticket is issued. The mandate for data to be collected would need to come from someone other than us and that would mean action by the CRD Board on our behalf. If we were to ask for this data, what would that look like in practice for the police? Vice-Chair Sukhawathanakul noted it would be a systemic change and we would have to investigate what the procedures would be for implementing it.

Corey Burger commented that his motivation for wanting to see this demographic information collected comes from data he has seen elsewhere around disparities in ticketing as they relate to the unhoused population, black population, indigenous population, and, to a lesser extent, other communities of colour and also income disparities. What we know from data that is collected locally is that there is a disparity in street checks and that street checks are disproportionately being done on people who are indigenous or black. We need to get the actual data to see if disparities in ticketing also exist locally. Once we have that information, the Commission and community at large can have a discussion on what to do about it.

Sgt. Andy Harward from CRD IRSU, commented that, as discussed at last month's meeting, whether a person is housed or unhoused is not addressed on a violation ticket, and there is no means to put a person's ethnicity on a violation ticket. Also, when doing traffic enforcement, vehicles that are speeding are hundreds of metres away, so it is next to impossible to determine a person's ethnicity from that distance. Issues around making these kinds of changes would need to be raised at an area chiefs' meeting.

We need to look more at the feasibility of this and how we would obtain this information as it would be quite complex. We can start the conversation, but it would need to be passed on to the Transportation Committee and the CRD Board.

Action: Bring forward to the next meeting for discussion and possible motion

6. Priority Business

➤ Budget Update

The only change to the budget was the payment to the Oak Bay Police re their funding application for a crosswalk safety program as approved at the February meeting.

Vice-Chair Sukhawathanakul noted that another member is needed for the sub-committee that evaluates applications for funding. Sub-committee members fill out an evaluation form to assess the application and then provide it to Paweena who does a summary. Currently there is one pending application that needs review. Please let her know if you would be interested.

➤ Commission Membership

Action: Not discussed. Bring forward to the next meeting.

➤ Cst. Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship

Advertising will commence for the Cst. Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship which will be opening in May. The application will be posted on our website.

➤ BCACP Calendar

- May – High Risk Driving Campaign
- July – Summer Impaired Driving Campaign
- October – Distracted Drivers Campaign/Occupant Restraint Campaign

The purpose of putting the BCACP calendar initiatives on our agenda is to act as a reminder for the Commission re the focus of our partners and to try and frame our advertising to support them. We could do the advertising ourselves or support any of our partners with additional funding to expand their campaigns.

7. Other Business

Corey Burger raised the topic of the Commission's role in clarifying issues around insurance, particularly for cyclists. He referenced media reports of a cyclist in Vancouver who has been billed by ICBC after they found him partly responsible for a crash and noted that this brings up a lot of challenging issues.

Recently, Capital Bike met with Minister Ma to discuss what they see as a policy problem. On one side, ICBC is looking to reduce costs, and on the other side there are organizations trying to increase

the number of people walking and biking which will be more difficult if there are additional costs and uncertainty.

If people don't know what the rules of the road are and unknowingly are breaking them, that's a traffic safety issue. One of the key things we do as a Commission is educating users about safely using the road system and we need to be able to provide good answers as to what that means. We need clarity as to what the law says today, and we need to decide if there are places where the law currently is causing people to unknowingly make risky decisions legally or financially as that is a traffic safety problem. Also, a secondary piece that needs to be resolved is which bylaw the Commission operates under.

Vice-Chair Sukhawathanakul noted that there does seem to be some ambiguity regarding the current laws around the legal implications which can lead to ambivalence and challenges with using active forms of transportation. Our educational campaigns need this information.

Once we have established what the rules are, the Commission can have an extensive discussion about what that means from a traffic safety perspective and then ultimately take that back through the Transportation Committee.

Colleen Woodger will provide contact information for Corey to reach out to ICBC.

Action: Bring forward to the next meeting

8. Member Updates

➤ **RoadSafetyBC – Kash Akinkuowo**

- Kash has shared the intersection safety camera report with the RoadSafetyBC team. It is currently under review and once that is complete, he will bring comments back to the Commission.

➤ **ICBC – Colleen Woodger**

No update

➤ **Youth and Children – Hailey Bergstrom-Parker**

No update

➤ **Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health – Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul**

No update

➤ **CRD – Natalie Bandringa (for John Hicks)**

- Monterey Middle School will be the only school joining the CRD Ready Step Roll active school travel planning for next year and we are excited to start working with them.
- Will be taking next year as a reflection time and doing an evaluation of the program.
- There is the opportunity to move into sustainable workplace commuting travel planning and a partnership similar to the Ready Step Roll Program has been started. The first workplace will be a pilot with DND – CFB Esquimalt.

➤ **Integrated Road Safety Unit – Andy Harward**

No update

➤ **Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement – Rudi Wetselaar**

No update

➤ **Vancouver Island Safety Council – Ron Cronk**

No update

➤ **Capital Bike – Corey Burger**

- The GoByBike launch is April 20 in Market Square.

- Capital Bike partnered with a UVic civil engineering group to do a joint application to the Federal Active Transportation Fund which will take their street sense project and deploy it in the combined project area of Tillicum Road and Gorge Road.
 - A meeting was held with Minister Ma recently and she seemed very excited about the prospect of a newer, expanded TDM project that goes beyond GoByBike Week. They talked a lot about taking the good work that has been done and making a bigger project.
 - There is lots happening in the region with various municipalities working on their active transportation plans.
- **Walk On, Victoria – Todd Litman**
No update
- **Municipal Police Forces**
No update
- **BC Transit – Dallas Perry**
No update
- **Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Shawn Haley**
- As mentioned last month, Shawn has accepted a new position with MOTI. He doesn't have a replacement yet for his area manager role, although it will likely be Tina Rogers. He would still like to sit on the Commission, so it might be Tina as well as himself.
 - Work is ongoing on capital projects, as well as district projects. Reach out to Shawn if you have any questions.
- **Island Health – Angela Wheeler**
No update
- **Working Group for UVic Centre on Youth and Society Joint Project – Dr. Frederick Grouzet**
- They are ready to work on the script for another video with Chek News. and are looking for input on what the focus should be for messaging. The suggested topics from focus groups are (1) driving while fatigued; or (2) not paying attention to other road users, e.g., when merging, etc.

Police members commented that fatigue is a form of impairment and youth need to be highly educated that it is just as risky as impairment by alcohol or drugs and messaging in that regard is really on point. After additional discussion, it was agreed that the messaging in the video should be around the risks of driving while fatigued.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on May 10, 2022 at 12:30 pm. The meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.