

RE: TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW STUDY FOR B.C.

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Planning & Building Inspection be adopted.

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ITEM
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 7
COUNCIL MEETING 89/04/17

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1989 April 12

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING INSPECTION Our File: 08.115.1

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW STUDY FOR B.C.

PURPOSE: To provide Council with further information on the review process associated with the work of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Task Force.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

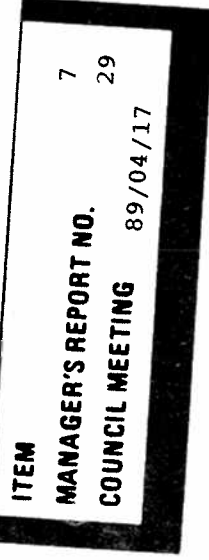
R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 1989 March 20, Council received a letter dated 1989 March 15 from the Chairman of the Greater Vancouver Regional District conveying a report that was forwarded from the GVRD Board to the Minister of State. That report, prepared by GVRD staff, provided an initial regional comment on the document "A Transportation Overview Study for the Province of British Columbia" released on 1988 November 29.

Council, in discussing this subject shared a concern in the report that the GVRD had not received a unique status reflecting its special transportation problems and economic growth prospects. In addition, there was a view expressed that roadway improvements should not dominate over transit initiatives and that the study for the GVRD area should reflect a thorough and long range perspective to ensure that transportation proposals are made in the context of an agreed to concept for the total transportation system.

Further to this subject, the Council at its meeting of 1989 April 10, requested information on the process planned for public information in relation to the work being done by the Greater Vancouver Transportation Task Force.



2.0 THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

The work of the Task Force is underway with each of the participating Municipalities having submitted their statement of identified need for transportation improvements within their respective jurisdictions. In addition, meetings have been held with municipal planning staffs to develop "base case" population and employment scenarios on which future transportation needs can be related.

A workshop has been scheduled for 1989 April 20 at the Villa Motor Inn for all public sector participants to review the relationship between projected growth trends and the regional and local implications for transportation and land use policy. A second workshop on policy alternatives is scheduled for four to six weeks after the first.

Eight public meetings have been scheduled as part of the transportation planning process with the meeting for the Burnaby/New Westminster area tentatively scheduled for 1989 May 04 from 19:00h to 21:00h at the Operating Engineers' Hall. A draft press release has been prepared (see attachment 1) that will be circulated to draw attention to the work of the Task Force and to identify the times, dates, locations and format of the public meetings. In addition, advertisements will be placed in community newspapers notifying the public of the meetings in their respective areas.

An information bulletin summarizing the regional transportation planning process underway has been completed and is being widely circulated. A copy of this bulletin, together with an accompanying mail-back postcard, has been included within Council Members' agenda materials. These latter items are available for viewing within the Planning & Building Inspection Department.

The GVRD Development Services Department has made arrangements to appear before Council on 1989 May 08 at 18:30h to outline major items currently under their review. This will include references to the update to the Livable Region Strategy, the Regional Economic Development Strategy and the work of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Task Force.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The transportation planning process being undertaken by the Task Force recognizes that a comprehensive transportation plan is an urgent priority for Greater Vancouver if the region is to maintain its overall livability. It will require a consensus to be achieved between the Municipalities, the GVRD, the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, BC Transit, port and airport authorities and other participants. The plan will need a long range perspective and is to be developed in response to the demographic, economic and land use scenarios developed by the region.


The material prepared to this point suggests that the comprehensive transportation plan for the region will need to address four key elements: complementary urban planning measures by Municipalities, identification of strategic traffic management improvements, prioritizing of major capital improvements and the implementation of measures to reduce automobile traffic within the region. At the same time, there will be a need to ensure that the proposals reflect sound environmental planning principles.

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While the timetable for the completion of the Transportation Plan is a tight one, it is generally accepted that this represents the beginning of a continuous, consultative planning process that has been long overdue.

As indicated in a previous report to Council, the Director Planning & Building Inspection attends the Task Force and as such will have an opportunity to provide input to the process, assist in the analysis and discussion and participate in the development of recommendations. Staff will inform Council and the Transportation Committee of the progress of the Task Force as conditions warrant.


A.L. Parr
DIRECTOR PLANNING &
BUILDING INSPECTION

JSB/mcb
Attachs:

cc: Director Engineering
M.J. O'Connor, Chairman,
Greater Vancouver Transportation Task Force

DRAFT

PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE HELD TO SEEK PUBLIC INPUT
ON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND PRIORITIES FOR GREATER VANCOUVER

A task force appointed by the Provincial Government to prepare a comprehensive strategy and transportation plan for Greater Vancouver will hold a series of public meetings to seek public input into the program.

The meetings are being arranged by the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) which is working with the task force, in association with the Province. The meetings, which will be widely advertised, will be held at locations around the region with the first expected in late April and the rest in May.

The task force, composed of public and private sector representatives, will look at all modes of transportation including highways, air, marine, rail and transit.

One of its key responsibilities is to draft a list of priorities, addressing both immediate problems and future needs.

It is to consider transportation demands that will result from growth and change in the region's population as well as the impact from centres where significant employment growth is anticipated. How transportation improvements themselves can influence growth and development will also be studied. So will funding options.

An on-going process by which all levels of government can work together to carry out priority improvements and determine future priorities is also required. This could mean a plan that would be subject to review and updating on a regular basis, to reflect changing conditions in the region.

The cost to resolve short-term priority problems alone is estimated in the billions.

Chairman of the 15-member task force is Michael O'Connor, Regional Manager, Greater Vancouver Regional District. Other members include representatives from municipal governments, transportation companies, the ports, B.C. Transit and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

The completed report is expected to be submitted to the GVRD Board of Directors for review in July, if the present deadlines are maintained. It would then be sent to Victoria as the metropolitan area's submission to the Government's provincial transportation plan called 'Freedom to Move.' Other regions of B.C. are preparing similar submissions.

In addition to participating in the upcoming series of public meetings, the interested individuals and groups may make written submissions. These can be mailed to: Greater Vancouver Transportation Task Force, c/o Development Services Department, Greater Vancouver Regional District, 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4G8. (Telephone _____). They should be submitted by May 12, 1989.

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Attachment 1