

CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
(TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT DIVISION)

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS:

RE: Environment and Transportation
Programs - Status Report

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council approve the continuation of funding for the Transit Pass Subsidy Program as part of the 1993 Provisional Budget.

R E P O R T

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Transportation and Transit Division), at its meeting held on 1992 October 20, adopted the attached staff report outlining the status of Environment and Transportation Programs previously approved by Council, and highlighting changes in travel patterns of Municipal Hall employees since the introduction of such programs.

Members:

Mr. Ernest Neumann
Mr. Peter Miller
Mr. Len Werden

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Young
Chairman

Councillor D. Evans
Member

Councillor D. Lawson
Member

Councillor C. Redman
Member

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- DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

TO: CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS 1992 OCTOBER 07
 TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
 OUR FILE: 08.420

FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS - STATUS REPORT

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee with information regarding the status of the Environment and Transportation Programs previously approved by Council, and to highlight changes in the travel patterns of Municipal Hall employees since the introduction of such programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Traffic & Transportation Committee approve the continuation of funding for the Transit Pass Subsidy Program as part of the 1993 Provisional Budget.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

In 1990 October City employees were encouraged to take an alternative form of transportation to and from work as part of Environment and Transportation Awareness Week. A follow-up survey was conducted to document employee travel patterns during this week. Following the survey, recommendations regarding the promotion of car-pooling and transit as alternatives to driving alone, were presented to Council in November 1990. Recommendations included municipal participation in the Transit Options Program (TOP), allocating "car-pool only" parking, and expansion of the Buddy Board car-pooling system to include all employees in the City Hall/Deer Lake Complex.

In 1992 February, an information report regarding the status of the Transportation Demand Management Programs was presented to the Committee. The February report stated that a further report would be provided to evaluate the recommendations outlined at that time, namely the allocation of designated car-pool spaces in the City Hall parking lot; the continuation of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program; and the sale of Transit Faresaver tickets at City Hall.

The following is an assessment of the status of the above mentioned programs.

2.0 TRAVEL SURVEY RESULTS

To assess any changes in travel patterns due to the implementation of the programs, an employee travel survey was circulated to all City Hall employees in 1992 September. A total of 216 responses were received from City Hall, and 49 from the Health Department. The results were compared to those of the previous survey. Table 1 shows the mode of travel used for trips to City Hall before the Environment and Transportation Awareness Week, and during the recent survey period in September 1992.

TABLE 1. City Hall Employee Travel Patterns

Mode of Travel	Prior to ETAW, Oct. 91	Travel Survey Sept. 92
Drove Alone	75%	77%
Car-Pooled	16%	11% **
Took Transit	9%	8%
Cycled	< 1%	2%
Walked	< 1%	2%

**

In the 1992 survey the question was worded so as to distinguish between employees who car-pooled with other City Hall employees, and those who shared their commute with a non Burnaby City Hall employee. The 11% shown in the table includes both types of car-pooling, with only 5% being City Hall employees travelling together.

From the results of the survey, it appears that fewer employees are choosing alternative modes in September 1992 than prior to the Environment and Transportation Awareness Week in October 1990. The percentage using alternative modes has decreased from 25% to 23%. The recent change in work schedules and a lack of awareness of car-pool programs were cited by respondents but the effect of these factors can be mitigated by re-establishment and promotion of car-pool programs.

3.0

TRANSIT OPTIONS PROGRAM

In October 1991, the City of Burnaby joined B.C. Transit's Transit Options Program (TOP). The program is designed to encourage taking transit as an alternative to driving alone. The following is an assessment of the status of the program to date.

Transit Pass Subsidy

Starting in October 1991, the opportunity to purchase subsidized monthly transit passes was made available to all Full Time Permanent and Temporary City employees. The City of Burnaby pays 25% of the cost of monthly transit passes. From the recent travel survey, all employees who take transit as their primary means of travel to and from work take advantage of the subsidy. Table 2 illustrates the use of the program, and the cost to the municipality, over the first year of its operation.

TABLE 2. Use of the Subsidized Transit Passes

Month	Monthly Passes Sold			Total Passes Sold	Pool Passes	Total Cost to City
	1 Zone	2 Zone	3 Zone			
Oct. '91	7	12	0	19	0	\$315.50
Nov. '91	13	21	0	34	0	\$561.50
Dec. '91	9	18	0	27	0	\$454.50
Jan. '92	16	16	0	32	0	\$504.00
Feb. '92	16	20	0	36	4	\$884.00
Mar. '92	15	19	0	34	4	\$800.50
Apr. '92	14	15	0	29	4	\$764.00
May '92	12	13	0	25	4	\$761.00
June '92	16	14	0	30	4	\$770.00
July '92	16	11	0	27	4	\$713.00
Aug. '92	16	9	0	25	4	\$675.00
Sept. '92	16	15	0	31	4	\$789.00
TOTAL COST TO CITY OVER ONE YEAR:						\$7,932.00

Table 2 shows that the Transit Pass Subsidy program is used by between 25 and 35 people a month. The number of passes sold varies, but on average a budget of \$800 per month should be sufficient to cover both the pass subsidies and the Pool Passes.

Transit Pool Passes

The Transit Pool Pass Program, was introduced in February 1992. Approximately 10% of City employees use the passes for occasional travel, 60% of which is business travel within working hours. The provision of Transit Pool Passes provides a means for City Hall employees to take advantage of transit for casual trips, both during and after working hours. Utilization of the passes has been high, but since no more than three passes have ever been signed out at any one time, the number of passes purchased for the pool could be reduced to three, thus saving \$76 per month.

Faresaver Tickets

Faresaver tickets have been on sale at the cashiers desk since February 1992. To date, fifteen one zone and sixteen two zone books have been sold. No three zone tickets have been sold. The sale of these tickets provides a convenient service for employees who travel occasionally by transit, and the service is of no cost to the City.

4.0 CAR-POOLING

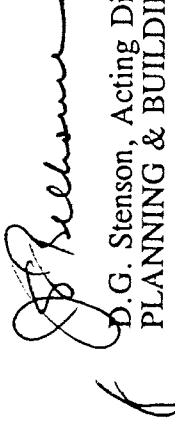
The "Buddy Board" system for car-pooling was established as a means of organizing car-pools for City Hall employees. As part of the system, a database was developed to match car-pool groups by grouping employees together based on the location of residence. The "Buddy Board" system is currently being re-established. A form has been circulated to all City Hall and Health Department employees to update the car-pool database. Starting in December 1992, car-pool placards will be available for car-pool groups wishing to use the designated car-pool stalls in the City Hall parking lot.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Environment and Transportation Programs introduced to encourage alternative modes of travel to work have been well accepted by City Hall employees. Re-establishing the car-pool database and greater promotion of car-pool programs is expected to result in an increase in ride sharing groups.

The Transit Pass Subsidy, and Pool Pass Programs have been used by a large number of employees. However, transit usage may be increased by additional advertising of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program and the availability of the Pool Passes. These programs have proved to be successful despite the concerns about poor bus service after the PM Peak on Thursday night.

With the update to the car-pool "Buddy Board" system, as well as improved advertising of the Transit Pass Subsidy and the Transit Pool Passes, we hope to see an increased awareness of the alternative travel options available to City employees.


D.G. Stenson, Acting Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

DAB\db

cc: Director Engineering
Director Finance
Municipal Clerk
Director Administration