

GREATER VERNON CYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GVCAC)

8 am meeting, January 15, 2010, Kalamalka Lake Room

The GVCAC strives to develop an organizational structure to deliver a cycling/pedestrian master plan, supportive infrastructure, cycling promotional tools, education, and events.

Present: Byron Beck (active cyclist), Maria Besso (Coldstream), Bryn Jones (ROGTS), Julia Lissau (SENS), Wendy Majewski (Vernon), Bruce Mol (Chair), Anna Page (RDNO), Jessica Rayner (Vernon), Mary Stockdale (SENS), Amanda Watson (Vernon), Laurie Williams (Armstrong/Spallumcheen Active Communities), Kim Young (Kal Rats)

1. Guest: Clint Kanester, City Bylaws Officer, expressed his concern re: the bicycle cage in the parkade. It has not been well advertised, therefore it has not been well used. As well, those with expensive road bikes do not wish to have their wheels in an area others may access, leaving their bikes or parts of, vulnerable. Individual lockers are preferred. The present lock-up is beside the walkway over to the medical clinic on the second floor, where it is felt that handicapped parking is more useful. Clint asked about removing the cage altogether until the final construction is done, in about a year, OR moving the cage to another location beside the second floor elevator. Our best option is to have the cage present but moved. Clint is prepared to present to council asking for funds to provide individual lock-ups. GVCAC would appreciate this and hopes council is receptive.

Another pedestrian – oriented problem that is occurring now, due to the increase in wide electric bikes, is the space they take up when locked to posts around town.

2. Old Business: Kim Young provided a Grid Road Update (see documents at www.gonecycling.com/gvcac). The District of Coldstream engineers only provided the Urban Systems designers with ‘road plus multi-use path’ instructions, so they do not wish to do design changes to add a narrow bike lane on the north side of the new road. As well, due to the nature of the grant funds, time is a constraint. The car lane must be 3.2 meters to accommodate bus use in future. Bruce will prepare a presentation to show Coldstream the benefits of including GVCAC in future decisions, working with us, and providing a staff person to attend all GVCAC meetings.

3. New Business:

a) Transition Towns: Mary Stockdale noted that SENS and the Climate Action Cttee are sponsoring a March 6 – 7 Workshop for facilitators. GVCAC members may know of individuals from other communities who would make excellent facilitators and could be notified. TT is a community process that assists residents to transition to a post-oil, climate-changed state. An attachment is included on the GVCAC website.

b) Armstrong-Spallumcheen BTWW Update: Laurie Williams explained that her Active Communities group, the Chamber of Commerce and Parks and Rec, are working together to encourage more cycling prior to Bike To Work Week (BTWW is May 10 - 16). The focus is on family – community events. Residents would cycle to such venues as church, market, or the community garden. Spallumcheen Council is involved in a “Move To Health” event launch, May 8, at Otter Lake. A student team is organizing a ‘blue bike’ program where donated bikes are fixed up, painted blue, and left all over Armstrong for anyone to use.

c) Wendy Majewski’s Tutorial: “How to use the City’s Environmental Sponsorship documents”

*NORD is partnering with the City of Vernon, so now BTWW is a regional event. Anna Page will work with Wendy and the City of Vernon to make the events work. As well, we can now approach businesses outside the City limits.

*Wendy has a data base of business types to send out to all of us for use in contacting business managers/owners. A sponsorship document is also available to give to businesses which wish to partner with the City and provide sponsorship for BTWW or other events throughout the year.

*Wendy asks us to approach business people we know in the community and ask if they wish to provide sponsorship for BTWW. The sponsorship gives business exposure much more valuable than what they get from paying for their own advertising – it’s a win-win situation. Should a business be agreeable, we contact Wendy with the name so that the City can send the sponsorship document.

*All sponsorships must be determined ASAP due to the print deadlines for promotional material. Before April is best.

d) Car vs Bike Route: This event is scheduled for 8 am so traffic is not necessarily a concern. We’d use existing bike

lanes as much as possible to highlight them. The route will be from Silver Star Elementary to the Post Office (or Library), then to the highly visible Real Canadian Wholesale parking lot where a celebration tent would be set up.
e) Another meeting will be needed to discuss promotion, sponsors, team registration, and the BTWW - BC website.

e) Cycling Times around Vernon: Amanda noted that the map showing cycling times to or from Vernon's central core is now complete and will soon be on the City of Vernon website. A pedestrian walking times map will also be generated in future.

f) Pedestrian – Cycling Master Plan: The City of Vernon will use an improved version of a Portland Oregon Document to provide information charts (distance, elevation gain etc) for trails and other non-vehicular routes. Amanda noted that the Vernon document will be part of the Greater Vernon Pedestrian – Cycling Master Plan and will be tied to local bylaws.

g) Check out COBRA (Central Okanagan Bicycle Rider's Association) website: <http://www.oscr.ca/> for information on their May 30, 2010 Okanagan Shuswap Ride around Armstrong, to Salmon Arm and back.

BIKE TO WORK WEEK VERNON is May 10 to May 16, 2010

* On Twitter ? please follow BTWVernon <http://twitter.com/BTWVernon>

* On Facebook? please join the group <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall>
<<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=374118590631>>
&gid=374118590631

December Meeting minutes located here: <http://www.gonecycling.com/gvcac>

4. Next GVCAC Meeting: February 19, 2010, 8 am, City hall.