



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Transportation 2050 Plan Update and Community Engagement Plan

File #: [Required]

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From: Moudud Hasan, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.  
Infrastructure Engineer

Date: July 22, 2024

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## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive the Transportation 2050 Plan Update and Community Engagement report, dated July 22, 2024, for information.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the status of the Transportation 2050 workplan and seek input from Council before embarking on the third and final round of public engagement. After the public engagement and stakeholder consultation the report will be finalized and brought forward for endorsement by Council.

## POLICY:

The Strategic Plan 2023-2028 outlines the following policies related to the Transportation Plan update and the planned final round of community engagement:

- Provide Reliable Municipal Infrastructure
- Support a Vibrant Economy
- Integrate a Holistic Approach to Community Safety
- Build Climate Resiliency
- Strengthen Communication and Public Engagement

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City's Strategic Plan and the Official Community Plan envisions a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system for all residents and visitors. This in turn will contribute towards socio-economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, quality of life and overall well-being of the community. To advance this objective and to respond to growth and changes in this part of the region, the City embarked on an update of the City's current Master Transportation Plan that was adopted in 2014.

The updated Transportation Plan, referred to as Transportation 2050 is a high-level planning document that guides future investments and initiatives related to policies, projects, programs and other priorities.

## **COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:**

The update to the strategic transportation plan considers a planning horizon of 25 years and aligns with the current Official Community Plan (OCP). Transportation 2050 is therefore based on the future land use context with an anticipated population growth of 48% and employment growth of 36% between 2019 and 2050 anticipated in the OCP. It also expects redevelopments in the Transit-Oriented Areas, along major transit corridors and other designated areas that will see significant increase in transportation demands.

The median population age in the City is increasing, which adds to the need for an accessible, interconnected, and multi-modal transportation system that provides options for everyone to reach their destinations in a safe, convenient, and equitable manner. Transportation 2050 works alongside the OCP to achieve a compact community and strategically placed, mixed land uses that bring amenities, services and other destinations closer and thereby reduce the use of automobiles.

Technology is also rapidly evolving to provide alternative and environment-friendly modes of travel. This includes electric vehicles, electric bikes and scooters, and other micro-mobility and mobility assist-devices that also provide flexibility and affordable travel options.

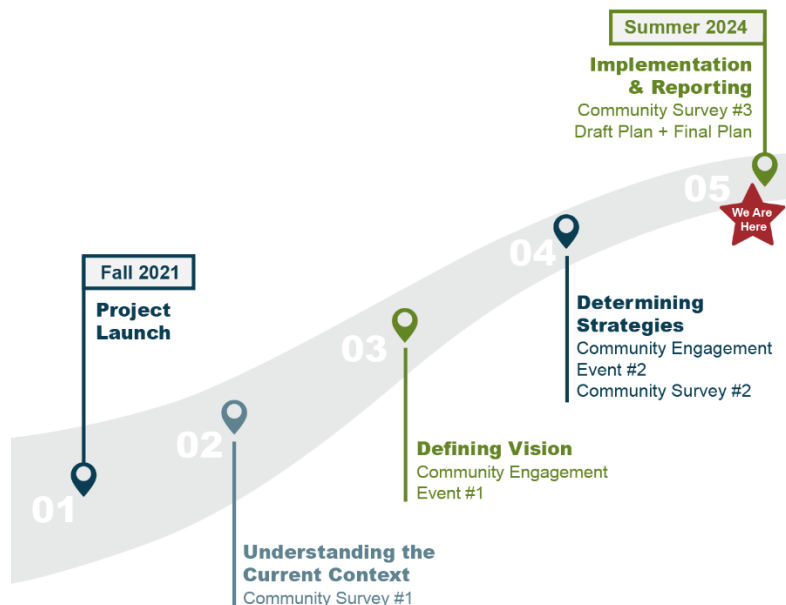
Transportation 2050 will prepare the City for the challenges ahead and new opportunities. It incorporates newer design concepts and a multi-faceted approach to mitigate growing travel demands, provide climate resiliency, deter unsafe speeding, and reduce motor vehicle incidents and their severity.

## The Planning Process

The Transportation 2050 update was launched in Fall 2021. Two separate rounds of community and stakeholder engagement have been completed to date to receive input on issues and opportunities. Surveys were conducted to further engage the community and gain a better understanding of the key concerns and aspirations, as well as priorities, as perceived by the community.

Detailed technical work was undertaken that included data collection, modelling and engineering analysis to develop a plan that is now ready for the final round of presentation and engagement.

Figure 1 - Transportation 2050 Public Engagement Milestones



## Vision, Objectives and Goals

An overall vision, objectives and goals were established to guide the development of Transportation 2050. Several key performance indicators were established with assistance from a consultant team and with input from Council at workshops.

The plan envisions the City to become a complete and connected community where residents, visitors, and goods and services can move safely and efficiently. Four key strategic goals have been identified to make transportation in the City – safe, inclusive and accessible, healthy and sustainable, as well as efficient, innovative, and forward thinking.

## Performance Indicators

To monitor the progress and success of Transportation 2050, a set of objective measures of performance are recommended to track progress on each of the goals. These include:

- ICBC crash data indicating the number serious crashes.
- Number of accessibility features built and length of new infrastructure for users of all ages and abilities.
- Shift in the number of trips made using automobiles to non-vehicular modes such as walking, cycling and transit, as evident in the regional Trip Diary surveys and Census Journey to Work data.
- Vehicle-kilometres driven per capita due to mode shift, strategic land use planning and various travel demand management measures
- Transit travel times and reliability as captured in TransLink's automated data collection system.
- Number of transportation projects completed using quick-build techniques.

## Key Outcomes and Recommendations

Transportation 2050 included a detailed review of the current state of transportation and future scenarios due to changes anticipated in this part of the region. It provides guidance to address current and upcoming challenges and recommendations to steer investments and initiatives in the direction that aligns with overarching strategic policies and plans of the community. The key outcomes are summarized below.

### i. Gaps and Opportunities

The plan provides a snapshot of existing gaps in the multi-modal transportation network. Inventory analysis, traffic modelling and GIS-based mapping helped identify missing links in terms of operational safety and performance, accessibility barriers, land access, and measures to facilitate the movement of goods and services.

### ii. Network Plans

Transportation 2050 includes long-term plans to achieve a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation network. These include an updated street classifications map, cycling and walking networks, and minor changes to truck routes. The new network plans consider continuity and connectivity beyond the City boundary and consistency beyond jurisdictional boundaries.

The recommended road network improvements are also identified from a capacity, safety and operational upgrade point-of-view to support growth and future developments. The recommended higher priority projects have been included in the new Development Cost Charges (DCC) program.

A more compact spacing of lanes and roadways road network is recommended for select areas to create safer and alternative land access for future developments, especially along the key arterials including 200 Street and 208 Street. This will also address current difficulties in accessing such streets from unsignalized local streets and cul-de-sacs.

One major infrastructure update that is not included in Transport 2050 and requires further planning focus and involvement from all levels of government is the 200 Street overpass structure above the Roberts Bank Railway corridor. It was previously excluded from delivery due to the construction of another nearby overpass at 204 Street in 2007. Given the time for such a significant project to move from planning to implementation, the City will be seeking to engage external agencies to revisit the Roberts Bank rail corridor grade separation study.

### **iii. Policy and Planning Directions**

Transportation 2050 provides planning and policy directions on several key topics. These are to alleviate issues and meet aspirations of the community and to align with innovative concepts, current industry best practices and technical advancements.

### **iv. Resource Investments**

Transportation 2050 implementation will involve activities ranging from planning and design to construction, as well as ongoing operations and maintenance, while carrying on with existing service enhancements, asset renewals and replacements. The entire process will require considerable staffing and capital resources.

### **v. Implementation and Prioritization**

Transportation 2050 outlines numerous planning, project and programming initiatives. Preliminary estimates suggest the capital investment alone will be in the order of \$240 million. Given the significant costs, it will be neither feasible nor practical to expect a full implementation within a 20-year timeframe. It is, therefore, necessary to prioritize initiatives and invest in a focused manner, look for opportunities for efficiency, and apply quick-build techniques whenever feasible. Due to growing demands, service levels may need to be adjusted to manage incremental costs and look for opportunities for cost recovery whenever possible.

## **Next Steps**

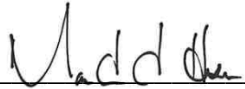
- Technical work associated with the development of Transportation 2050 is now mostly completed.
- The draft plan including the key outcomes are being presented to the City Council for information on July 22, 2024.
- The information will also be presented to the community by launching the final round of public engagement including an in-person Open House after the summer break. An online community survey will be conducted throughout August and September.

- Staff will meet with stakeholders from external agencies and neighbouring municipalities this summer to discuss various planning components and initiatives that require coordination and partnership.
- The Transportation 2050 document will be finalized incorporating feedback from the final round of community and stakeholder engagement and be brought to Council for endorsement in the fall of 2024.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

The Transportation 2050 plan sets out the significant level of investment required to complete the plan. An implantation plan will be developed upon finalization of the plan that will lay out recommendations to facilitate the high priority initiatives of the plan.

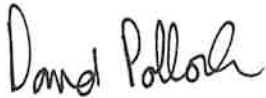
Respectfully Submitted,



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Infrastructure Engineer

Concurrence:



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David Pollock, P.Eng.  
Director, Engineering, Parks and Environment

Attachment:

1. Transportation 2050 Draft Report

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:**

I support the recommendation.



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer