



PROJECT UPDATE #2 ~ September 1, 2010

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The 2031 Multi-Modal Transportation Plan Study will develop a Transportation Plan for the District of Squamish that considers all modes of transportation. It will reflect the mobility, safety and sustainability aspirations of our community. The Plan will be the overarching transportation policy document of the District that will guide transportation decisions for many years to come. As a policy document the plan will form the basis of an amendment to the District's OCP and provide the planning framework for other upcoming policy reviews such as the District's Servicing Bylaw, Development Cost Charge Bylaw and the 20 Year Roads Capital Project Plan. The 2031 M-MTP study process was initiated with a staff report to Council on June 15, 2010. Adoption of an amendment to the OCP is targeted for June 2011.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

The following steps have been taken since the July 29, 2010 project update:

1. Discussion at Focus Group Meeting No. 1, July 29, 2010

A Focus Group was established to assist the District in establishing study objectives and to review progress at key milestones in the process. The group is made up of a cross-section of community organizations and regulatory agencies. A list of Focus Group members is on the District's Extranet site. The inaugural meeting of the Focus Group was held on July 29, 2010.

This meeting was largely introductory. The following action items were identified:

- The contact list will be updated and redistributed.
- DOS Planning Rep will provide an overview of the Transportation provisions of the new Official Community Plan at the next meeting.
- BCMOT Rep will circulate a sample of guiding principles for the Group to consider at the September 1, 2010 meeting.

2. Transportation Survey Strategy

Met with Opus International on August 16, 2010 meeting to develop a strategy for the Transportation Survey. The purpose of the survey is to establish current travel patterns, including mode choices and trip volumes. It will also attempt to determine the factors that affect mode choice. It was decided that the Transportation Survey Strategy will be comprised of the following three elements:

- ◆ A Telephone Survey of a minimum of 500 residents. A series of questions designed primarily to establish current travel patterns will be asked. This part will be conducted from September 13 to September 30.

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- ◆ An On-line Survey will be designed to probe how travel choices are made and the factors that can affect such choices. The on-line survey will be open to response from September 13 to September 30.
- ◆ An on-the-ground Traffic Survey at several key intersections to determine the volume of traffic in the afternoon weekday peak period. These counts will take place in the second and third weeks of September.

The results of the surveys will enable the consultant to calibrate the computer model for the present day condition so that when future conditions are modeled we can be confident in the results. The attitudinal questions in the on-line survey will help us to understand how future infrastructure development and policy decisions may affect travel behaviour.

3. Background Materials and Communication

The following locations are currently active:

- ◆ The District's website (www.squamish.ca) has an overview of the Study and current materials.
- ◆ Study background materials have been posted on the District's Extranet Site at <http://squamish.cc/extranet>. Select "2031 Trans Plan Study".
- ◆ Study specific e-mail address is active. Send questions or comments to transplan@squamish.ca.

4. Discussion at Focus Group Meeting No. 2, September 1, 2010.

The following action items were agreed to:

- Based on the discussion at the meeting the DOS will draft a set of Guiding Principles for the Study and circulate for review and comment.
- It was agreed that the Group would benefit from the participation of the DPAC on school related transportation issues and the Chamber of Commerce on Commercial transport needs and concerns. DOS to determine if these organizations are prepared to participate in the Focus Group.
- The DOS will forward a link for the On-Line Transportation Survey to the Group. Members will fan out in their constituencies and encourage all to participate in the on-line survey. It will be hosted on the District's website from September 13 to 30th, inclusive.
- DOS will forward results of District's 2009 Commuter Bus Survey to the Group.

KEY ISSUES/ NEXT STEPS

- ◆ Focus Group to finalize Guiding Principles for the study subject to Council endorsement
- ◆ Review findings of Transportation Surveys and Calibrate Network Model
- ◆ Plan meetings with selected Stakeholders (ongoing)
- ◆ Forecast 2031 and Community Build-out demands (ongoing)
- ◆ Begin Network Gap Analysis

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PROJECT SCHEDULE

- ◆ The November 10, 2010 Public Information Meeting has been rescheduled to November 17, 2010.
- ◆ Next Project Update September 30, 2010

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