

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the **DISTRICT OF MISSION COUNCIL** held in the Conference Room of the Municipal Hall, 8645 Stave Lake Street, Mission, British Columbia, on March 16, 2009 commencing at 3:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor James Atebe
Councillor Terry Gidda
Councillor Paul Horn
Councillor Danny Plecas
Councillor Mike Scudder
Councillor Jenny Stevens
Councillor Heather Stewart

Staff Members Present: Glen Robertson, chief administrative officer
Dennis Clark, director of corporate administration
Rick Bomhof, director of engineering and public works
Sharon Fletcher, director of planning
Kelly Ridley, deputy director of corporate administration

1. FRASER VALLEY TRANSIT STRATEGY

The Mayor welcomed representatives from the Ministry of Transportation and the Fraser Valley Regional District and stated that the purpose of today's meeting was to discuss transit plans for the Fraser Valley.

The following summarized comments were provided:

- (a) The approach used to develop the Fraser Valley Transit Strategy will include the use of best practices, understanding issues and markets, discussing funding and organizational challenges early in the process, developing regional and local visions concurrently, committing to a high level of community engagement, and management of resources;
- (b) Stakeholders will be consulted through the use of meetings, workshops, open houses, direct contact & information exchange, surveys and questionnaires, website, and reports;
- (c) The phasing strategy (2013) will include confirming cost estimates, prioritizing services, facilities and support strategies;
- (d) The long term plan (2020 & 2030) will summarize market research results and forecast travel demands, identify magnitude of potential transit markets, and review and assess transit targets for regional travel.

Council thanked the Ministry of Transportation and Highways for the information and provided the following comments and questions:

- (i) Municipalities should be involved at the earliest possible date in developing a long term strategy, followed by consultation with the Council of Councils to ensure that the process is partner driven;
- (ii) When identifying the scope of the project, ensure that it is a realistic one that all partners can achieve;

- (iii) Appointments to various committees should include representation from municipal councils, health and education agencies, and members of the public;
- (iv) The Fraser River should be included when assessing transportation options;
- (v) Due to economic realities we may have to develop more inter-regional connections to resolve transportation issues in the Fraser Valley (i.e. West Coast Express);
- (vi) Is BC Transit cancelling its 5 year plan, and if so, this topic needs to be discussed at an open meeting.

The Ministry of Transportation and Highways thanked council for their input and stated that any further comments from council about the future of transit in the Fraser Valley will be appreciated and valued.

2. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Horn, seconded by Councillor Plecas, and

RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

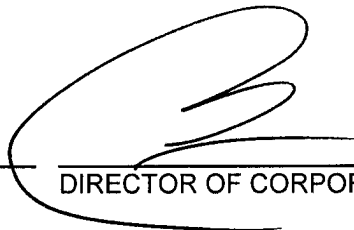
The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.



MAYOR

JAMES ATEBE

MAYOR



DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION

DENNIS G. CLARK

Director of
Corporate Administration