To:CouncilFile No.: 8620-21; 16014From:Chief Administrative OfficerDate: April 16, 2018

**Subject: Courtenay Transportation Master Plan Update** 

#### **ISSUE:**

This briefing note is to present an update to Council on the development of the Master Transportation Plan, including the results from the initial round of public and stakeholder consultation and existing and future conditions assessment. It also provides a preliminary introduction to the ongoing long-term planning work and the approach to prioritization and capital planning.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City is currently undertaking development of Connecting Courtenay – Courtenay's Master Transportation Plan. The plan has six phases, as illustrated below:





Council has received two updates on this work. On October 30, 2017 Council received information about Phases 1 and 2 of the plan, which included project start-up, collection and review of data, relevant reports, and studies, and analysis of existing conditions. On February 29, 2018, Council received information about the proposed public consultation program. Since then, staff and consultants have completed future forecasting and assessment of future conditions. At the same time, the public and stakeholder consultation program proposed to Council in February was successfully delivered.

# Consultation included:

- Open House (March 7, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm) Attended by approximately 90 people.
- Community Engagement Booths at Comox Valley Farmers' Market (March 10, 9:00 am to 10:30 am), Lewis Centre (March 10, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm), Driftwood Mall (March 10, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm), North Island College (March 12, 10:00 am to 11:45 am) Reached more than 200 people.
- Stakeholder engagement individual meetings with the Accessibility Committee, School District 71, Cycling Coalition, and other agencies / road authorities (BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Town of Comox, Village of Cumberland).

- Social media outreach on Facebook (main post reached more than 13,000 people in the Comox Valley) and Twitter (nearly 3,000 twitter feeds reached in the Comox Valley)
- Online survey 967 responses.

Staff and consultants are now working to develop long-term plans for each mode. These will be presented to the public at consultation in June.

The final report will be presented to City Council for consideration in fall 2018.

#### **KEY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Staff and consultants are working to develop long-term plans for each mode of transportation in Courtenay. These plans will work to address the issues identified for each mode, based on the findings of technical analysis and the public and stakeholder input collected through public consultation. The plans will be used as a basis to develop short-term and medium-term priorities for each mode.

Public engagement efforts will focus the on "inform – involve" phases of the spectrum International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) values and spectrum:

#### Increasing Level of Public Impact Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower To provide the To obtain public To work directly To partner with To place final **Public** public with feedback on with the public the public in each decision-making participation balanced and throughout aspect of the in the hands of analysis. objective alternatives the process to decision including the public. goal information and/or decisions. ensure that public the development of alternatives and to assist them in concerns and understanding the aspirations are the identification problem, consistently of the preferred understood and solution. alternatives. considered. opportunities and/or solutions.

Long term plans will be presented to the public and stakeholders at consultation in June. This consultation will also seek input on short- and medium- term priorities.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

The project team will be developing long-term plans for each mode of transportation based on screening and evaluation of possibilities identified through the technical assessment of existing and future conditions and by the public through consultation. City Council will be updated prior to finalization of the transportation plan.

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