

Summary of meeting discussion between representatives from the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure and the Gabriola Transportation Association

January 30, 2014

MoTI:

Nathan VandenDungen – Area Manager, Roads

GTA:

Jim Ramsay – President, Gabriola Transportation Association

Randy Young – Past President, Gabriola Ratepayers Association

It was noted that Ken Gurr, President of the Gabriola Chamber of Commerce and John Pierce, President of the Gabriola Lands and Trails Trust were unable to attend the meeting due work commitments and illness, respectively.

1. Progress since last public meeting in June 2013:
 - Elimination of Texada gravel.
 - Seal coating of Coast Road completed; Nathan noted for future reference cost to sponsoring individuals is about \$63,000 per km for the average road, while some roads may need additional gravel. MoTI usually covers costs for grading and culverts.
 - Ditch covering added to crosswalk culvert at the School.
 - Taylor Bay s-curve modifications well received; paving of remaining road shoulders only outstanding item.
 - Crack sealing well done, except that on steep hills some washboard resulted; less gravel would work better there next time.
 - Snow and ice sanding well done, but lack of snow to be cleared means grass on shoulders has not yet been removed by snow plows, resulting in water channels between the pavement and the grass shoulders.
 - Gravel road grading done recently.
 - Ferry line-up shoulder built up.
2. Village core traffic calming:
 - Community still looking for traffic calming, even if no consensus on means for achieving that result.
 - Province is reviewing speed limits, so it is possible a 40 Km limit through the village may become a possibility.
3. Church Street/North Road intersection:
 - Slip prevention coating has not yet been done; Nathan will look into again.
4. Eastom Road and Ferry Bus Stop:
 - GERTIE Community Bus requests widening of Eastom Road near ferry to eliminate dangerous single lane bend in road; complication may be that this is a Section 42 privately-owned road. Nathan will check into.
 - GERTIE request for a bus stop at the Skol pub is being reviewed, but Nathan is concerned that there needs to be room for pedestrians to pass bus when parked without moving into roadway.

5. Sweeping of paved shoulders:
 - This is still outstanding, although Rob Heaslip was contacted in November, and is particularly needed on the ferry hill where there are lots of pedestrians.
 - Randy will look into getting a local contractor to do the work, and will notify Nathan accordingly.
6. Other dangerous intersections:
 - Curve at Davis, Taylor Bay, Berry Point and King Roads could be fixed by removing vegetation including two trees to create a road shoulder.
 - Silva Bay road dip has no shoulder and is very dangerous to pedestrians.
7. GaLTT items:
 - Status of a GaLTT 'permit to construct' trail approval through the MoTI Gravel Pit is awaiting a referral from the RDN, whose Parks & Open Space Committee recommended approval last year;
 - The trail along the road right-of-way between McDonald and Petersen Roads was approved by POSAC two years ago, and revised to culverts and fill last year from wood walkways, which will allow bicycles and horses to traverse this section.
8. Next Meeting:
 - A Ratepayers public meeting with MoTI officials will again be scheduled for mid-June 2014, to keep communications open with the Gabriola community and elected officials.