

Report to Council



Date: August 13, 2018

File: 1850-50

To: City Manager

From: Transportation Engineering Manager

Subject: Transportation Master Plan - Phase 1: Vision and Goals

Report Prepared by: C. Taylor-Noonan, Transportation Planner

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Transportation Engineering Manager dated August 13, 2018, with respect to the Transportation Master Plan - Phase 1: Vision and Goals;

AND THAT Council endorses the Transportation Master Plan - Phase 1: Vision and Goals as presented in this report.

Purpose:

To summarize ongoing work related to the Transportation Master Plan and seek Council's endorsement of the proposed vision statement and goals.

Background:

Compact and complete communities are more likely to support walking, cycling and the use of public transit, where residents have multiple options to connect with their destination. Transportation choices shape our city, and ourselves. Therefore, they have a critical role in influencing a City's livability, quality of life, and vibrancy.

When completed, the Transportation Master Plan will be a long-term strategic vision for the City that will guide both transportation and land use decisions for the next 20 years. It will equip the City with a roadmap of how to optimize decisions for capital investments, policies and programs that allow us to respond to emerging trends and challenges.

Engagement Results

The Vision and Goals for the Transportation Master Plan will guide the direction of the plan and the development and prioritization of projects, programs and policies.

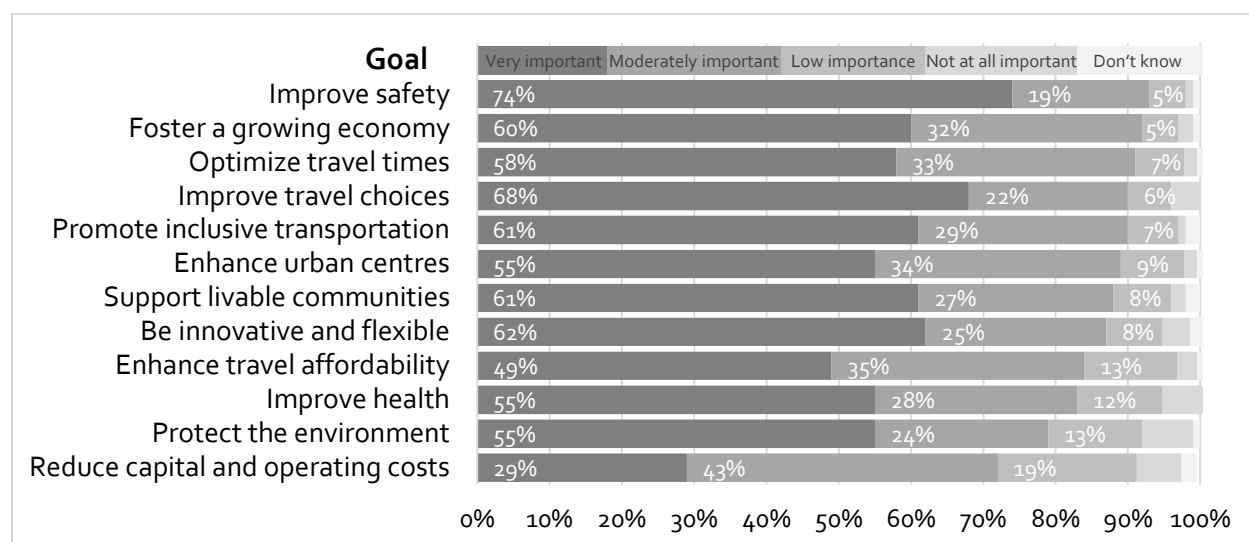
As part of the first phase of the Transportation Master Plan, residents were given the opportunity to provide input on the draft vision and goals. An online survey was open for three weeks in March and

April 2018, and staff members were available to discuss the plan at two open houses, including April 5th at Capital News Centre and April 7th at Orchard Park Mall. A comprehensive summary of results is provided in the Engagement Summary attached to this report.

A total of 522 responses were received between the survey and open houses. It is important to note that due to the opt-in and open method, the results cannot definitively be said to represent the views of all Kelowna citizens.

Overall, two-thirds of survey respondents were supportive of the draft vision wording. Amongst those who provided open-ended comments, two themes were concerns with the wording of “shift away from the current car-centric culture” and about the tense of the vision statement.

Respondents were also asked to rate the importance of the twelve draft goals. The chart below shows the goals ranked by the share of respondents who rated them as ‘very important’ and ‘moderately important’.



Staff gave presentations to several stakeholder groups¹ between March and June 2018 to share the launch of the OCP and TMP. Groups were invited to provide a representative to serve on a stakeholder panel, which met for the first time July 11th, 2018. Stakeholders were invited to review the draft vision and goals for the TMP, ask questions, and provide consolidated comments from their respective organizations.

Revised Vision and Goals

In response to the feedback, the following revised vision statement is proposed:

"Kelowna will be a city with vibrant urban centres where people and places are conveniently connected by diverse transportation options that help us transition from our car-centric culture."

¹ Groups included Kelowna Chamber of Commerce, Urban Development Institute, School District 23, RCMP, Uptown Rutland Business Association, Downtown Kelowna Business Association, Pandosy Business Association, UBCO, Interior Health, Okanagan College, BC Transit, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Kelowna Area Cycling Coalition.

The vision statement was switched to future tense in order to reinforce it is desired state rather than a present condition. There was also a change in wording from 'move away from our car-centric culture' to 'transition from', to emphasize the gradual nature of such a shift.

Ultimately, this vision is intended to articulate the community's aspirations for the future of transportation in Kelowna, and was written to align with Imagine Kelowna.

The twelve proposed goals will form the basis for how policies, programs and projects will be developed and prioritized through the TMP process. Goals were developed through feedback received during the Imagine Kelowna process and best practices in transportation system evaluation.

For the most part, the twelve goals remain the same, and have been revised slightly to reflect public and stakeholder feedback to provide more clarity. One goal, "reduce capital and operating costs", has been changed to "ensure value for public investment".

Goals	Description
Improve safety	Reduce the frequency and severity of collisions involving people who are walking, biking and driving.
Foster a growing economy	Support the city's growing economy by ensuring the transportation system connects people to jobs and promotes the efficient movement of goods.
Optimize travel times	Work to ensure optimized and predictable travel times for all modes of transportation (ex: driving, walking, biking, transit).
Improve travel choices	Ensure residents and visitors have access to multiple means of getting around so they can choose what best meets their needs for a given trip.
Promote inclusive transportation	Ensure the transportation network serves everyone, including all ages, incomes and abilities.
Enhance urban centres	Ensure the transportation system supports and encourages sustainable, efficient growth within urban areas.
Support livable communities	Ensure the transportation system helps support overall neighborhood livability, quality of life and builds a strong sense of community.
Be innovative and flexible	Adapt to emerging technologies and a changing climate by creating a transportation system that is resilient and responsive to future change.
Enhance travel affordability	Reduce the cost of travel for individuals by ensuring a wide range of affordable transportation options are available in Kelowna.
Improve health	Improve resident health by making it easier for people to be physically active (e.g. biking and walking) and reducing exposure to air pollutants caused by vehicles.
Protect the environment	Reduce the impact of transportation on our agricultural land, sensitive ecosystems, water, and air.
Ensure value for public investment	Make efficient use of public funding by maximizing benefits and reducing the costs of transportation infrastructure.

Facts in Focus Series – Transportation

Building on the Facts in Focus series developed for the OCP Update, staff have prepared a series of discussion papers in order to respond to common themes heard through public engagement and provide background on important issues in transportation. Selected topics include:

- Moving Towards Mass Transit (July 30, 2018)
- The Congestion Paradox (August 13, 2018)
- Principles for an Uncertain Future (November 2018)

The second paper, The Congestion Paradox is particularly relevant to the TMP vision statement as it addresses what is meant by the term “car-centric culture”, and what transitioning away from it may involve.

Next Steps & Summary

Work on the Transportation Master Plan will continue through the fall with a number of technical work assignments, including:

- Preparing a technical report on current transportation conditions and issues.
- Evaluating future conditions under the preferred 2040 OCP land use scenario (yet to be endorsed by Council)
- Developing initial systems-level improvement strategies for consideration based on servicing requirements and TMP Vision and Goals. This will entail examining all modes of transportation investments and narrowing down options to realize success of the TMP’s vision and optimize capital investments within the scope of the 20 Year Servicing Plan and Infrastructure Plan.

In addition to technical analysis, this work will require consultation and integration with City departments and the 2040 OCP team. Results from this work is anticipated to be shared with Council, stakeholders and the public in the spring of 2019.

Internal Circulation:

Active Transportation Coordinator
Communications Advisor
Communications Coordinator
Department Manager, Community Planning
Department Manager, Infrastructure Delivery
Department Manager, Infrastructure Operations
Department Manager, Policy & Planning
Divisional Director, Community Planning & Strategic Investments
Divisional Director, Infrastructure
Manager, Community Engagement
Manager, Development Engineering
Manager, Infrastructure Delivery
Manager, Infrastructure Engineering
Manager, Long Range Planning
Manager, Parking Services
Manager, Public Works

Manager, Strategic Transportation Planning
Manager, Transit and Programs
Manager, Utility Services
Senior Engineer, Infrastructure
Sustainability Coordinator
Traffic Operations & Technical Support Supervisor
Transportation Planning Engineer

Considerations not applicable to this report:

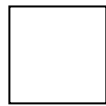
Legal/Statutory Authority
Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements
Existing Policy
Financial/Budgetary Considerations
Personnel Implications
External Agency/Public Comments
Communications Comments
Alternate Recommendation

Submitted by:

G. Foy, Transportation Engineering Manager

Reviewed and approved by: R. Villarreal, Department Manager Integrated Transportation

Approved for inclusion:



A. Newcombe, Divisional Director, Infrastructure

Attachment 1: Our Kelowna as we Move – Phase 1: Vision and Goals Presentation

Attachment 2: Transportation Master Plan: Phase 1 Engagement Report

cc: Divisional Director, Community Planning & Strategic Investments
Divisional Director, Corporate Strategic Services
Divisional Director, Financial Services
Divisional Director, Infrastructure
Community Planning Department Manager
Infrastructure Operations Department Manager
Integrated Transportation Department Manager