

Report to Council



Date: April 1, 2019
File: 1410-40
To: City Manager
From: Strategic Transportation Planning Manager
Subject: STPCO Update and Regional Transportation Plan – Options Development Workshop

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information the report from the Strategic Transportation Planning Manager, dated April 1, 2019, with respect to an Options Development Workshop for the Regional Transportation Plan (Connecting Our Region).

Purpose:

To provide Council with an update on the Regional Transportation Plan and to conduct an Options Development Workshop with Council to collect feedback on early draft options identified through technical analysis and stakeholder feedback, prior to the next spring public engagement.

Background:

The Regional Transportation Plan is a long-range plan that will help shape the future of the Central Okanagan region by identifying the transportation investments that will be needed over the next 20 years.

Transportation across the region provides a vital connection to jobs, markets, health care, education, recreation, shopping, emergency services and family and friends.

By 2040, population in the Central Okanagan is expected to increase by 38% (almost 77,000 new residents). The issues affecting all of our communities – economic competitiveness, air quality, climate change, goods movement, emergency response, public health and quality of life, are all directly impacted by the transportation choices we make today. Future population growth provides both a challenge and an opportunity to find more economically and environmentally responsible ways to move goods and people across our region.

By working collaboratively, we can ensure that regional transportation supports a strong economy and quality of life in the Central Okanagan, both now and into the future.

In the summer of 2018, after visioning workshops with all the Councils in the region, the STPCO Local Government Advisory Board, representing the partnering local governments and consisting of the

Mayors, the Chief of the Westbank First Nation and the Chair of the Regional District of the Central Okanagan confirmed the following vision for the Regional Transportation Plan:

“A transportation system that connects people to regional destinations within the Central Okanagan and beyond, supporting and enhancing the region’s economy, social networks, and natural ecosystem.”

This Council workshop will provide an update on the progress of the Regional Transportation Plan and present several examples of high-level options to Council, as described in the attached memorandum. Council will be invited to provide feedback on the example options and generate ideas for additional options prior to the next round of public engagement.

Coordination with Other Long-Range Planning Efforts:

The Regional Transportation Plan is being coordinated with the Kelowna Transportation Master Plan (TMP), the Kelowna Official Community Plan (OCP), the Okanagan Gateway Transportation Study (OGTS), and the Central Okanagan Planning Study (COPS), among other current long-range planning efforts. Any prioritized options for regional transportation programs and investments that are made in the Regional Transportation Plan will be coordinated with these other long-range plans.

Next Steps:

The project team is working to finalize the existing and future conditions report and is preparing for spring public engagement activities, which will include both in-person and online opportunities for public input. Specifically, a “World Café” style half-day event is being planned for April 24th that will provide the public and key stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss how we connect our region and the draft options identified so far for consideration. Information on how the Regional Transportation Plan is being coordinated with other current long-range planning efforts will be included in the public engagement.

After the engagement period, the options will be refined and then evaluated to determine alignment with the Vision and Goals previously identified for the Regional Transportation Plan. The next phase of the plan will include the development of a governance and financial strategy for plan implementation, prior to development of the final plan (anticipated in spring 2020). Consultation will continue to take place throughout each phase of the planning process.

Internal Circulation:

Communications Advisor
Policy and Planning Department Manager
Transportation Planner

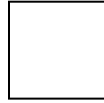
Considerations not applicable to this report:

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

Submitted by: M. VanZerr, Strategic Transportation Planning Manager

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

Approved for inclusion:



R. Parlane, Acting Divisional Director, Infrastructure

Attachment 1 - Regional Transportation Plan Supporting Memo

Attachment 2 - Regional Transportation Plan Presentation

cc: Divisional Director, Infrastructure
Divisional Director, Corporate Strategic Services
Divisional Director, Community Planning & Strategic Investments