

Fall
2019

STPCO UPDATE

Quarterly Newsletter #5

This newsletter provides a brief update on the Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan (STPCO) activities that occurred during summer and fall 2019.

The Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan (STPCO) is a formal partnership of the City of Kelowna, City of West Kelowna, Districts of Lake Country and Peachland, Westbank First Nation and the Regional District of Central Okanagan. The organization coordinates the regional delivery of sustainable transportation programs and projects in support of common regional policy, plans and interests (economic, social and environmental).

STPCO Local Government Advisory Board:

- Colin Basran, Mayor, City of Kelowna
- Gord Milsom, Mayor, City of West Kelowna
- Gail Given, Chair, Regional District of Central Okanagan
- James Baker, Mayor, District of Lake Country
- Cindy Fortin, Mayor, District of Peachland
- Chief Christopher Derickson, Westbank First Nation



The STPCO also provides a formal forum for discussion amongst elected officials, senior and technical staff, as well as stakeholders and the general public. The next board meeting will be a facilitated workshop on November 13, 2019 to discuss the future of regional governance. For more information, contact Rafael Villarreal, rvillarreal@kelowna.ca or visit smartrips.ca/stpco-meetings.

City of Kelowna
City of West Kelowna
District of Lake Country
District of Peachland
Westbank First Nation
Regional District of Central Okanagan





Regional Bicycling and Trails Master Plan update underway

The Regional Bicycling and Trails Master Plan will provide an update to the Regional Active Transportation Master Plan that was adopted in 2012.

The 2012 plan presented a future bicycle and pedestrian network to provide safe and convenient travel options, connecting significant destinations across the region. It included design guidelines for a range of active transportation facility types to ensure a safe and comfortable experience for people walking and cycling.

In the years since the plan was created, many active transportation connections have been completed and additional active transportation plans have been developed by jurisdictions within the region.

Additionally, the province has recently released an Active Transportation Strategy. Updating the 2012 plan to align with recent changes will help focus the vision for bicycle and trail connections throughout the Central Okanagan.

The plan was kicked off in Fall 2019 and is being coordinated with development of the Regional Transportation Plan. Interviews are being scheduled with staff in each jurisdiction throughout October and November to gain an understanding of updates that have been made to the network since 2012. The plan is anticipated for completion in 2020.

To access the 2012 Master Plan, visit the Plans and Programs page at smartrips.ca/about/stpco.

STPCO NEWS

Regional Transportation Plan

In spring 2019, the regional transportation planning team launched Let's Talk Transportation – a public engagement event and questionnaire designed to understand the values of Central Okanagan residents and obtain input on potential transportation options. Since then, the project team has been busy analyzing the results of the engagement and conducting a corridor-level analysis to refine and screen the options. This fall the regional councils will hear an update on the refined options and plan status. In addition, a workshop on governance is planned for the Local Government Advisory Board in November. Completion of the plan is anticipated for 2020.



E-scooters gain more ground

Currently, any device which does not fit the Motor Vehicle Act's definition of a bicycle, wheelchair or motor vehicle is not permitted on public roads or sidewalks. This limits electric scooters to off-street pathways like the Okanagan Rail Trail. Uptake for e-scooters has been strong in Kelowna despite these limitations, with daily ridership more than three times greater than the Kelowna's pedal bikeshare pilot. The Province has recently introduced legislation to allow new vehicle types to be piloted on public roads with consent from local governments, which would increase opportunities to expand electric scooters and new mobility options in the region.

Help shape BTWW 2020

In 2019, more than 2,300 Central Okanagan residents registered for Bike to Work Week and collectively travelled 91,500 kilometres by bike, saving nearly 20,000 kilograms of greenhouse gases.

As we begin planning for Bike to Work Week 2020, we are looking for input on what motivates you to participate, what you like about the event and what can make this event even better.

Please complete the short questionnaire and share why you love BTWW by October 21, 2019 at getinvolved.kelowna.ca.



Transportation Updates



Fall transit service updates

Fall is a time of change in the Kelowna Regional Transit System with new routes and route names in effect as of September 1, 2019. Service levels on routes going to and from secondary and post-secondary schools were reinstated for the fall to reflect increased demand for transit at this time of year.

Three new routes and associated new bus stops were introduced on the Westside:

- Route 24 Shannon Ridge: replaces a portion of the existing route 24 Shannon Lake while also providing new service to the neighbourhoods along Shannon Ridge Dr. and Auburn Rd.
- Route 26 Old Okanagan: replaces the portion of the existing route 24 Shannon Lake serving along the Old Okanagan Hwy.
- Route 28 Shannon Lake: replaces the existing route 28 Smith Creek, maintaining service to Smith Creek while extending service to Tallus Ridge, Shannon Woods, and Crystal Springs neighbourhoods along Shannon Lake Rd.

Other adjustments included improved Sunday service and weekday evening service for route 97 Okanagan on the Westside, improved midday service on weekdays and Sunday service for the route 8 University/OK College, and weekday peak hour trips extended to serve the Ellison area on route 23 Lake Country. For a full list of seasonal service changes and updated route and schedule information, visit bctransit.com.

Fall Go by Bike Weeks

The province-wide Fall GoByBike Weeks event runs from October 21 - November 3, 2019.

This event encourages residents to ride their bikes to and from school, work and anywhere they need to go, as a form of everyday transportation.

This event also focuses on sharing safety and gear tips for the riding your bike in the fall season and weather.

Participants can register for free and earn a chance to win a cycling trip for two to the Baltics at GoByBikeBC.ca.