

Request for Decision

Sustainable Mobility Plan (SMP)

Presented To: Policy Committee

Presented: Wednesday, Jun 16, 2010

Report Date Thursday, Jun 10, 2010

Type: Presentations

Recommendation

WHEREAS, the City of Greater Sudbury supports the development of a Healthy Community ; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Community Cabinet recommended the development of a Sustainable Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health Promotions, in partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury, Rainbow Routes, the Sudbury & District Health Unit, the Sudbury Regional Hospital, YMCA Sudbury, and the Social Planning Council have provided funding for the completion of a Sustainable Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS Rainbow Routes has prepared a report on Sustainable Mobility for the City of Greater Sudbury,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the City of Greater Sudbury Sustainable Mobility Plan.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Cindi Briscoe
Community Development Coordinator
Digitally Signed Jun 10, 10

Division Review

Cindi Briscoe
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Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community
Development
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Recommended by the C.A.O.

Doug Nadorozny
Chief Administrative Officer
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Background:

The Healthy Community Strategy provides the framework for building a healthy, sustainable community.

In 2009, a partnership was struck between several members of the Healthy Community Cabinet (Sudbury & District Health Unit, the Hospital Regional de Sudbury Regional Hospital, the Social Planning Council, YMCA Sudbury, the City of Greater Sudbury (Community Development Dept.) and Rainbow Routes to make application to the Healthy Communities Fund. The application proposed that a Sustainable Mobility Plan (SMP) be developed for the City of Greater Sudbury. A grant of \$36,000 was received from the Ministry of Health Promotions and the project moved forward. Rainbow Routes took the lead on the project. Extensive community consultation has taken place as well as an in-depth literature review regarding best practices of other municipalities in regards to active transportation. The total project cost was \$60,000; \$18,000 of which was in-kind contributions from the partners listed above, and a \$6,000 contribution from the City.

The SMP will provide the framework for the community to move forward on active transportation strategies

and initiatives. It is recommended that the Sustainable Mobility Plan will be considered in the future CGS Official Plan review.

The Sustainable Mobility Plan encompasses all four pillars of the Healthy Community Charter in Greater Sudbury: economic growth, natural environment, active living, and civic engagement.

Economic Growth: The economic burden of inactivity in Greater Sudbury is approximately \$25 million per year as per data retrieved from the Canadian Medical Association.

Natural Environment: 25% of all greenhouse gases in Canada are generated by motor vehicles. By increasing the number of individuals choosing active transportation, this figure could be greatly reduced, as pedestrians and cyclists do not contribute to air pollution.

Active living/healthy lifestyles: Approximately 63% of the City of Greater Sudbury is overweight or obese compared to the provincial average of 52%. On average, children are 12 lbs heavier and weaker than they were 30 years ago. Advantages to choosing active transportation include better physical health and improved quality of life.

Civic engagement / social capital: A significant benefit of a sustainable transportation network is that it fosters social interaction among members of the community. As more people walk or cycle, the community will exhibit increased cohesion and individuals may develop a greater sense of personal security.

A comprehensive SMP is also seen as an essential component of longer term planning for infrastructure capital, and is required to leverage funding for “green infrastructure” projects.

A draft copy of the Sustainable Mobility Plan has been provided to Council.

The three recommendations of the Sustainable Mobility Working Group are:

1. Forward the Sustainable Mobility Plan and its recommendations to the Healthy Community Cabinet and subsequently City Council for their consideration as it encompasses the principles of the Healthy Community Strategy,
2. Develop a Sustainable Mobility Advisory Panel comprised of representation from appropriate stakeholder groups in order to provide a holistic approach to sustainable and active transportation initiatives in the City of Greater Sudbury to oversee the direction of the Sustainable Mobility Plan for the City of Greater Sudbury. The purpose of this plan would be to advocate and oversee the actions related to the Sustainable Mobility Plan for the next term of Council. The Panel should include but not be limited to the following representatives:
 - community representation (former Bicycle Advisory Panel & Walkability Task Group)
 - Community experts (walking, cycling, and Transit users, low income community)
 - City staff (i.e. Transit, Community Development, Planning, Roads, Engineering, Parks, Leisure Services, Tourism, and Police Services), and
3. Recommend that a staff position be created to assist Advisory Panel in their functions of advocating and overseeing the actions related to the Sustainable Mobility Plan for the next term of Council and that this matter brought forward during 2011 budget deliberations.