



**RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION FORUM**

**Wednesday, June 26, 2013, 7:00pm-9:00pm**  
**Committee Room No. 2 – City Hall**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr  
Mayor Wayne Wright  
Councillor Betty McIntosh  
Clarissa Sprancis  
Catherine Cartwright  
Dave Brett  
Jason Lesage  
Matt Lorenzi  
Andrew Baker  
Penny McIvor

- Acting Chair, Council Representative
- Council Representative
- Council Representative
- Glenbrooke North Residents' Association
- McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association
- Queen's Park Residents' Association
- Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association
- Brow of the Hill Residents' Association
- Moody Park Residents' Association
- Quayside Community Board

**ABSENT:**

Councillor Bill Harper, Chair  
Karl Brysch  
Dean Wells

- Council Representative
- Connaught Heights Residents' Association
- Queensborough Residents' Association

**GUESTS (NON-VOTING):**

Gavin McLeod for Elmer Rudolph  
Diane Butler for Jocelyn Smith  
Miles Thorogood for Jocelyn Smith

- West End Residents' Association
- Downtown Residents' Association
- Downtown Residents' Association

**STAFF:**

Jan Gibson  
Bev Grieve  
Eugene Wat  
Jerry Behl  
Julie Schueck  
Susan Jung  
Stephanie Lam

- Acting Director of Legislative Services
- Acting Director of Development Services
- Manager of Infrastructure Planning
- Transportation Engineer
- Heritage Planner
- Communications Coordinator
- Committee Clerk

Councillor Puchmayr called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Staff, Council, and Members of the Forum provided brief introductions.

**1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

No Additions.

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of April 17, 2013**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the April 17, 2013 Residents' Association Forum minutes be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Forum present voted in favour of the motion.

## **3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Communications**

- **Informational Brochure and City Website**

Susan Jung, Communications Coordinator, provided an update regarding the status of developing a Residents' Association (RA) Informational Brochure.

Ms. Jung provided a draft copy of the template, advised that general contact information, as well as a map of the RA Boundaries, would be included in the brochure. Members of the Forum provided the following comments:

- Once published, the Brochure can be made available or distributed at public events;
- The Brochure will assist residents in finding RA information for those who do not regularly use the internet;
- If there is additional space at the back of brochure, it was suggested that a "notes/comments" section be included for residents to note information;
- It was suggested that emergency service contacts be included in the brochure, should space allow;
- The information presented should be simple and direct, adding that the purpose of the brochure is to advise the community of which RA represents their neighbourhood, and how to contact the RA for information.

Ms. Jung reiterated the importance of ensuring generic contact information is provided for the Brochure, as it will support the longevity of the document. Members of the RA advised that they would forward their information to Ms. Jung in the near future.

Ms. Jung advised that a proof will be forwarded to the RA for approval prior to print.

## 4.0 PRESENTATIONS

### 4.1 Development Services

- **Demolition and Heritage Update**

Julie Schueck, Community Heritage Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation which provided an update regarding the Heritage Conservation Area study, and summarized the City's Demolition process (presentation attached).

Concluding the presentation, discussion ensued and Ms. Schueck provided the following information in response to questions from the Forum:

- The Community Heritage Commission reviewed the application for 221 Third Avenue, and requested Council not to approve demolition of the building;
- Legal advice from the City Solicitor stated that under the Freedom of Information Legislation, the City cannot release contact information of demolition applicants during the processing stages. If the permit is approved, the address can then be made available to the Public;
- With respect to 221 Third Avenue, six pieces of correspondence was received in response to the notification, noting that of the six, four were opposed;
- The City attempted to charge demolition applicants a fee for loss of heritage; however, under the legislation, is only able to charge for the staff time required to process the application.

Discussion ensued and the Forum provided the following comments:

- With respect to the demolition of 221 Third Avenue, the surrounding neighbourhood was shocked following the removal, noting that additional notification for the demolition would have been appreciated;
- Residents often feel disconnected from the demolition process due to the limited timeline to submit feedback and concerns.

Bev Grieve, Acting Director of Development Services, advised that staff will investigate options for broadening the notification system with respect to heritage and demolition notifications.

## 5.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Engineering Services

- **Traffic and Bridge Update (Traffic Study, Pattullo Bridge, Bailey Bridge, North and South Fraser Perimetre Roads)**
- **Pedestrian Bridge / Downtown Waterfront Vision**

#### **Traffic Study, Pattullo Bridge, and the North and South Fraser Perimetre Roads**

Jerry Behl, Transportation Engineer, provided an update regarding the status of the City's Traffic Study, the Pattullo Bridge Project, the Bailey Bridge, and the North and South Fraser Perimetre Roads.

Mr. Behl noted the following:

- The Master Transportation Plan (MTP) is a broad document that addresses all modes of transportation including motorcycles, trucks, cars, cyclists, pedestrians, etc.;
- The Committee continues to discuss visions, goals, and objectives for City wide transportation;
- With respect to the Traffic Study, the City seeks to better understand the origin and destination of traffic, particularly with trucks, travelling through New Westminster;
- With respect to the Pattullo Bridge, it was noted that TransLink brought forward over 25 different options and are currently assessing which options are feasible through public consultation and analysis;

Mr. Behl advised that the Public Consultation period for the Pattullo Bridge concludes on June 28, 2013, and encouraged members to submit their feedback. Information can be found on [www.pattullubridgereview.ca](http://www.pattullubridgereview.ca).

Concluding the presentation, discussion ensued and the Forum provided the following comments:

- The City has requested, multiple times, for a direct connection to the Port Mann Bridge from the South Fraser Perimetre Road, and to date none of the 25 options addresses the City's request;
- Concerns were expressed for the six lane bridge proposal, noting that such an option would negatively impact greenhouse gasses as the increased lanes would allow additional traffic;
- It was suggested that restricted crossing times be placed on the Pattullo Bridge with respect to bridge traffic, noting that such restrictions could alleviate the traffic congestion;
- The number of trucks travelling across the Pattullo Bridge since the opening of the Port Mann Bridge has increased significantly;

- It was noted that many truck travellers will utilize the Pattullo Bridge to avoid paying a toll. However, it was noted that trucks who utilize the Pattullo Bridge as a “toll-free” option incur approximately \$9 in fuel charges per direction;
- It was noted that options for building a Surrey to Coquitlam bridge had been suggested, adding that representatives from Surrey and Coquitlam had not expressed opposition, but advised that further discussion would be required prior to consideration;
- Members of the Forum advised that some of the language in the survey was difficult to comprehend, adding that others wishing to participate in delivering feedback may encounter a similar experience.

Members of the Forum encouraged their colleagues to forward the Pattullo Bridge feedback link to members of their association.

### **Bailey Bridge**

Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering, provided an update regarding the status of the Bailey Bridge. Mr. Lowrie reported the following:

- A structural assessment was conducted on the Bailey Bridge, and the results revealed that the structure has exceeded the lifespan with only one or two years remaining with restricted use;
- Approximately 10-15K vehicles utilize the crossing per day;
- The City of New Westminster and the City of Coquitlam discussed next steps for the Bailey Bridge; however, could not come to an agreement as the City of Coquitlam advised they wish to have a two lane crossing;
- The City of Coquitlam has requested the Ministry of Transportation to intervene and assist with finding a technical solution for the future of the bridge.

Members of the Forum noted that much of the traffic caused in the Braid industrial area is a result of the trains, adding that many vehicles bottleneck when there are train crossings. It was suggested that whatever the outcome, that the options include a cyclist route/crossing.

### **Pedestrian Bridge**

Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering, advised that Development Assistance Compensation (DAC) funding has been awarded to cover the cost of the Project.

Mr. Lowrie spoke to the following two pedestrian crossing options:

Attachment to Railway Crossing:

- One option is to have a low-level crossing that could possibly be attached to the existing railway swing bridge;
- It was noted that the bridge is generally in open position; however, if a pedestrian crossing is attached, the position would generally need to rest in closed position;
- Cooperation from Southern Rail will be required in order to ensure their staffing to monitor the open/close of the bridge;
- The estimated cost for this option is \$6.5M.

Building a Pedestrian Crossing Structure

- The crossing would be at a slightly higher elevation than the railway bridge, and would be located further upstream;
- The bridge would operate independently;
- The structure would likely need to be constructed as a draw bridge to accommodate traveling vessels;
- The structure could be build higher in order to allow vessels to pass without raising the bridge;
- The estimated cost for this option is \$9M.

In order for both crossings to be permitted, the projects would require approval under the *Marine Act*.

Discussion ensued and members of the Forum provided the following comments:

- It was suggested that photos or a model of the Bridge options be placed on display during the Quayside Boardwalk Sale held this summer. Members of Council suggested that the City purchase a table at the sale and also feature the Anvil Centre;
- Through community consultation, 68% of the feedback received expressed interest for a crossing;
- It was noted that the River Market is often used as a cycling destination, and having a new crossing will likely increase visitors to the Market and Downtown core;
- It was noted that the crossing could provide an alternate cycling route to Annacis Island which would assist commuters.

## **5.2 Meeting Facilities**

Members of the Forum expressed concerns regarding booking affordable, or free, facilities to host Residents' Association meetings. It was noted that the Library was once a viable option; however, recently the bookings have been so popular that the Facility is no longer accepting reservations.

Members of Council suggested that this matter be brought forward to the School District through the Schools Task Force meeting, and report the findings to a future Residents' Association meeting.

Members of the Forum provided the following suggestions with respect to the City providing affordable options/assistance to the Residents' Associations:

- The City provide a grant or credit for room rentals to the Residents' Associations;
- If a Residents' Association does not require the room rental credit, it was suggested that the credit be placed towards hosting an event.

Members of the Forum advised that they approached Parks and Recreation with respect to receiving a credit or reduced rate for the RA meeting, and reported that there could be a potential loss of revenue to the City if the room is requested for a significant event (eg: double booking of RA meeting vs. Wedding or reception). Members of the RA advised that hosting meetings at schools would be ideal as it would not cost the City any revenue, and that the locations would be convenient as schools are located across the community.

### **5.3 Family Day – Hosting a Table at the 2014 Event**

Councillor McIntosh, Chair of the Family Court Committee, advised that the Family Day festival was hosted on February 10, 2013 at the Fraser River Discovery Centre.

It was suggested that the RAs collaborate and host a table or event at the 2014 festival, adding that the Information Brochure can also be made available for distribution.

## **6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### **6.1 Proposed Coal Transfer Facility at Surrey Fraser Docks – Update**

Councillor Puchmayr advised that a meeting was held with Metro Vancouver this week regarding the proposed coal transfer facility at Surrey Fraser Docks, noting that the majority of delegations spoke against the proposal. Discussion ensued regarding the following negative impacts of the Facility to surrounding neighbourhoods were noted:

- Coal dust;
- Combustion issues;
- The quality of coal transferred, noting that the substance is volatile and low grade;
- The potential stock piling of coal at the facility;
- The issues and hazards resulting from the movement of empty trains containing coal dust and coal fumes.

Discussion continued, and a member of the Forum expressed support of the proposed facility, noting that the Facility would support the economy through job increases, and by not providing the economic opportunity to other organizations. Further, it was noted that the health and environment concerns expressed may be exaggerated.

## **6.2 Nimbé – Neighbourhood Clean-up**

Catherine Cartwright, McBride Sapperton Residents Association (MSRA), provided a written submission and updated the Forum regarding the event “Neighbours into more beautiful environments” (Nimbé).

Concluding the 1.5 hour event, over 15 pounds of garbage was collected, which included over 1700 cigarette butts. It was noted that the McBride Sapperton Resident’s Association will be hosted another clean-up in September, and encouraged other RAs to host or coordinate one on the same day.

It was noted that the MSRA hopes to host this event twice annually.

## **6.3 Member Reports**

There were no additional reports.

## **7.0 NEXT MEETING**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2013, 7:00pm-9:00pm, Committee Room No. 2,  
City Hall**

## **8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Certified Correct,

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**COUNCILLOR PUCHMAYR  
ACTING CHAIR**

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**STEPHANIE LAM  
COMMITTEE CLERK**