

## **RAILWAY COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL**

**September 7, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.  
Committee Room 2, City Hall**

### **MINUTES**

#### **VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr	- Co-Chair
Councillor Bill Harper	- City Council
Singh Biln	- Southern Railway representative
Gordon Hamilton	- City Resident
Mike LoVecchio	- Co-Chair, Canadian Pacific representative (participated via conference call)
Bill Magri	- City Resident
Emile Scheffel	- Canadian National representative

#### **VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Bhupinder Dhillon	- City Resident
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#### **STAFF:**

Roger Emanuels	- Manager, Design and Construction
Lisa Leblanc	- Manager, Transportation
Jerry Behl	- Transportation Engineer
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m.

Councillor Puchmayr assumed the Chair.

### **1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**MOVED and SECONDED**  
*THAT the agenda be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of the May 18, 2016 Minutes**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the May 18, 2016 Railway Community Advisory Panel minutes be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## **3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

There were no items.

## **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There were no items.

## **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

There were no items.

## **6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### **6.1 Brunette Fraser Greenway: Braid Street Section**

Jerry Behl, Transportation Engineer, advised that the Brunette Fraser Greenway will be implemented along Brunette Avenue. The project will cross through five rail tracks, as well as through land that is owned by BNSF.

Emile Scheffel, CN Representative, and Mike LoVecchio, CP Representative, advised that they could provide Mr. Behl assistance in addressing the issue of the Brunette Fraser Greenway crossing through rail tracks.

In response to questions from the Panel, Lisa Leblanc, Manager of Transportation, advised that staff have been working with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding upgrading the Brunette Street interchange.

### **6.2 Fraser River Bridge Project Update**

Emile Scheffel, CN Representative, advised that potential issues regarding the Fraser River Bridge project have been addressed during pre-construction meetings.

There will be single lane alternating traffic during a portion of the project, and construction is scheduled to be completed by December 2017. Mr. Scheffel noted that there have been no traffic complaints received to date.

Roger Emanuels, Manager of Design and Construction, advised that traffic will be open eastbound during the beginning of the project, and westbound traffic will open at a later date. The project will include removing a centre column that is located on Front Street.

## **7.0 STANDING ITEMS**

### **7.1 Whistle Cessation**

Roger Emanuels, Manager of Design and Construction, provided the following update regarding the following projects:

#### **a) Downtown Whistle Cessation Update**

- The signal located at Begbie Street and Front Street is in operation; and,
- Once sign-off on the crossing is complete, the City can submit a formal application to Transport Canada.

#### **b) City-wide Whistle Cessation Program**

- There is an update regarding the Cumberland Street, Spruce Street and Braid Street crossings posted on the City's website;
- The improvements required for these crossings have been identified;
- There are minor issues to address at Cumberland Street, and it is anticipated that cessation will be completed by the end of 2016;
- There was \$350000 worth of work to be completed prior to cessation at the Spruce Street crossing;
- There may be an opportunity to relocate the SkyTrain stairs, which could assist with cessation at Spruce Street; and,
- There are many issues to address at the Braid Street crossing, including pre-signals, gates, site lines, and private driveway crossings.

#### **c) Queensborough Crossing Upgrades**

Singh Biln, Southern Railway Representative, advised that three crossings are anticipated to achieve whistle cessation by the end of 2016. There is design work to be completed for the Ewen Avenue, Stanley Street, Mercer Street and

Salter Street crossings prior to whistle cessation; however, it is anticipated that the crossings will achieve whistle cessation by the end of 2017.

In response to questions from the Panel, Roger Emanuels, Manager of Design and Construction, advised that the City is working towards continuous cessation at all crossings in the city.

The Panel noted that even with whistle cessation implemented, railways would still have the ability to whistle when necessary.

## 7.2 City Projects

Roger Emanuels, Manager of Design and Construction, provided the following update regarding the following projects:

### a) Braid Street Greenway

This item was addressed as part of item 6.1.

### b) Q2Q Pedestrian Bicycle Bridge

Alternative options for the Q2Q Bridge are currently being reviewed.

## 7.3 Railway Projects

Singh Biln, SRY Representative, advised that Southern Railway is currently double tracking along the southern shore of Annacis Island, which could reduce the amount of switching required and provide less disruption to residents in Queensborough. Mr. Singh noted that the project is fully funded and is expected to be completed in three years.

Mr. Singh advised that Southern Rail had previously attempted to connect the railways on Annacis Island through land that is currently owned by Metro Vancouver, and that this connection would help further minimize disruptions to Queensborough.

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Council reengage with Metro Vancouver in discussions regarding the missing railway link for Southern Railway on Annacis Island.*

**CARRIED.**

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

Mike LoVecchio, Canadian Pacific Railway Representative, advised that there will be a panel regarding the proximity guidelines and rail safety at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities conference on September 28, 2016.

Emile Scheffel, Canadian National Railway Representative, advised that Canadian National will be hosting a family day event on September 11, 2016 between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Thornton Yard.

## **8.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items.

## **9.0 NEXT MEETING**

**January 11, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in Committee Room 2**

## **10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, The meeting concluded at 1:58 p.m.

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**Chuck Puchmayr**  
**Co-Chair**

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**Lauren Blake**  
**Committee Clerk**