

FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC REALM ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIPRAC)

**Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone	- Chair, City Council Member
Anne Bélanger	- Lived Experience Representative
Mathew Brito	- School District #40
John Davies	- Community Member
Vivian Garcia	- Lived Experience Representation
Gary Holisko	- Community Member
Andrew Hull	- New Westminister Business Community
Danielle Karlsson	- Community Member
Martin Lowe	- Community Member
Sonam Swarup	- Community Member

GUEST: - Alexandra Kenyon, Associate Architect, HCMA

STAFF PRESENT:

Terry Atherton	- Manager, Civic Buildings & Properties
Don Driedger	- Manager, Major Projects
Steve Kellock	- Sr. Manager of Recreation Services & Facilities
Erika Mashig	- Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planner
Eugene Wat	- Manager, Infrastructure Planning
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Advisory Committee agenda of the February 20, 2020 meeting be adopted with the addition of Unfinished Business Item 4.1 – Update on East Royal Avenue and Ross Drive Crosswalk (as discussed at a previous Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting) by Anne Bélanger, Lived Experience Representative.

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Access Ability Advisory Committee Meeting

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Access Ability Advisory Committee minutes of the November 14, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

2.2 Adoption of the Minutes of the January 29, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee minutes of the January 29, 2020, meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Orientation and Oaths of Office

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, commenced with her presentation which included the role of advisory committees, the terms of reference, meeting attendance and quorum, meeting conduct, City policies and freedom of information, and, lastly, oaths of office.

3.2 Share Interest in this Committee

This item was addressed during introductions in Item 3.1 Orientation and Oaths of Office.

3.3 Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Overview and Work Plans for 2019/2020

Don Driedger, Manager, Major Projects, welcomed members to the first meeting of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Advisory Committee and advised that the evening would be spent with staff providing Committee members with an overview of city projects.

Erika Mashig, Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planning, outlined the City's 7 Bold Steps which Council adopted in response to the Climate Emergency, noting that staff have set aggressive but attainable targets for 2030.

Ms. Mashig advised that the urban forest includes both private and public land, and announced that the City has launched two tree initiatives including the City's first ever tree sale where a variety of trees will be available for residents to purchase, as well as the Adopt a Street Tree Program, both of which are a part of the Urban Forest Management Strategy.

In response to questions from the Committee, Dean Gibson, Director, Parks and Recreation, provided the following comments:

- Regarding mandated replacement of trees that are cut down on private property, staff advise residents of the most appropriate tree species for the space in which the new trees will be planted and require them to be a certain size in order to facilitate successful adaptation in their new environment; and,
- The City acknowledges that there needs to be a balance between environmental objectives and impacts and limitations to property owners and their property.

Discussion ensued and a Committee member suggested that some non-profit groups may be interested in assisting in tree maintenance on public property.

3.3.1 Facilities

Don Driedger, Manager, Major Projects, provided a presentation outlining various City projects including the new Sportsplex facility, City Hall renovations, and the Massey Theatre.

Terry Atherton, Manager, Civic Properties, reviewed existing city facilities and, , shared the City's goals to update building condition assessments, finalize the building Asset Management Plan (AMP), address funding gaps, and incorporate energy conservation measures to become a carbon-free corporation.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mssrs. Driedger and Atherton provided the following comments:

- Early stages of the Massey theatre project will include addressing seismic issues, building mechanics, etc., followed by a redesign of the foyer and other aspects of the building, and maintain the mid-century modern look of the building; and,
- Solar panels have been installed on both the Queensborough Community Centre and the City Works Yard building and will be installed at the new aquatic and community centre and Sportsplex facilities.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Accessible kitchens should be considered in civic facility planning so that everyone has a chance to cook and learn to cook;

- The University of British Columbia has a program called Renew that looks at the envelope of the building and how to make it net zero; and,
- New Westminster could look to the City of Surrey for ideas with respect to programs relating to the aging population and recreation services.

3.3.2 Infrastructure/Asset Management

Eugene Wat, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, provided a presentation outlining the importance of asset management which includes, roads, parks, buildings, vehicles and equipment, electrical, water, sewer and drainage, and also reviewed Life Cycle Costing.

3.3.3 Public Realm

Erika Mashig, Manager, Arboriculture, Horticulture and Parks and Open Space Planning, provided a presentation and advised that the public realm is identified as the space around, between, and within buildings that are publicly accessible such as streets, lanes, greenways, bridges and overpasses, squares and plazas, natural areas, transit hubs, views, riverfront, and streetscape.

3.3.4 Update on New Westminster Aquatic & Community Centre (NWACC)

Steve Kellock, Senior Manager, Recreation Services and Facilities, shared that the City has a policy of LEED gold (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) which has gone into the planning of the NWACC project. Mr. Kellock also announced that, with respect to accessibility, the facility will achieve the Rick Hanson Foundation Accessibility Certified Gold accreditation.

Alexandra Kenyon, HCMA Architects + Design, shared design updates on the NWACC project, including virtual reality walk through videos.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Kenyon provided the following comments:

- Power sources to facilitate food trucks, etc., during events is currently being worked on in the design process for the north side of the centre;
- The facility will be comprised of hybrid steel and wood;
- As the radius of a spiral ramp would greatly impact the lobby space and limit seating areas, etc., it was not included in the design; and,
- Since each area will have its own air supply, heat rising from the pool will not affect the workout area.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Kellock provided the following comments:

- The parkour activity area and various other elements will be suitable for use by visitors of all ages;
- A number of accessibility options, including a lift, will be available in the pools;
- While it is yet to be determined if the pool will be eight or 10 lanes as funding has not yet been approved, the 10 lane version has a larger deck to accommodate spectator seating along with seating above the deck;
- A business case study has been performed and may be viewed, along with other information regarding the project, at www.youractivenw.ca ;
- A glass wall will separate the two swim areas and allow for privacy swims for various community groups such as the LGBTQ and Muslim communities; and,
- Civil relocates, including sewer and electrical, will commence in the spring with the foundation work being started in the summer.

Discussion ensued and a Committee member expressed the need for both the eight and 10 lane options to have enough deck space for spectators.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Update on East Royal Avenue and Ross Drive Crosswalk

Anne Bélanger, Lived Experience Representative, requested an update on the East Royal Avenue and Ross Drive Crosswalk which was discussed at a previous Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting. Councillor Johnstone agreed to speak with Ms. Bélanger about the crosswalk after the meeting.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Election of Alternate Chair

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Anne Bélanger be elected as the Alternate Chair for the 2020 term of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

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

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 16, 2020 in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Certified correct,

Original Signed

Councillor Patrick Johnstone
Chair

Original Signed

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk