



FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC REALM ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIPRAC)

Thursday, November 19, 2020

This meeting was held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192

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
Martin Lowe	- Community Member
Sonam Swarup	- Community Member

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Andrew Hull	- New Westminster Business Community
Danielle Karlsson	- Community Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Tobi May	- Acting Manager, Civic Buildings & Properties
Steve Kellock	- Sr. Manager of Recreation Services & Facilities
Erika Mashig	- Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planning
Eugene Wat	- Manager, Infrastructure Planning
Ashleigh Young	- Communications Coordinator
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk
Nicole Ludwig	- Assistant City Clerk

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

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, reviewed the tools available for meeting participation.

1.0 ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Facilities, Infrastructure and Public Realm Advisory Committee agenda of the November 19, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

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 February 20, 2020

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Facilities, Infrastructure, and Public Realm Advisory Committee minutes of the February 20, 2020 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 NWACC: Project Update and Public Communication Plan for Construction Disruptions

Steve Kellock, Senior Manager, Recreation Services and Facilities, and Ashleigh Young, Communications Coordinator, provided an update on the New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre project and public communication plan for construction disruptions.

In discussion, Committee members noted the following:

- Use media to showcase accessibility and other features, such as Wi-Fi access;
- Consider bike parking such as a temporary covered structure to make it easy, convenient and dry; and,
- It is important to be very proactive in communicating with the neighbourhood; people using the facilities will be parking on side streets.

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

- The accessible parking for the pool and recreation centre are in the north lot and will not be affected by construction;
- The project team is addressing connectivity across the site, which will change over the life of the project;
- The project team is working with the Justice Institute to manage connectivity throughout construction;

- The new facility increases space in circulation corridors which can better accommodate social distancing measures;
- Staff are working on mitigating parking issues during construction and working with a contractor who will work to minimize construction parking onsite;
- Once timelines are firmed up, staff can start getting information out about construction to ensure the neighbourhood is prepared for an increase of cars in the area; and,
- Tenders have been issued and staff expect pricing by end of year.

In response to a question, Councillor Johnstone advised that part of the delays currently being experienced were a Council decision to delay procurement, and that the process restarted in early fall.

3.2 Proposal for Bike Skills Track in Queens Park

Erika Mashig, Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planning, provided a presentation on the proposed bike skills track in Queens Park, including an overview of its origins and progress so far.

Committee members provided the following comments:

- Suggested possibility of tying in the Grand Prix to bike skills;
- Consider those in wheelchairs who may want to observe and provide facilities to ensure their participation;
- Consider stakeholders and possible sponsors like Cap's Bicycles, TransLink, and local cycling groups;
- There may be benefits to having the skills park in a confined space; and,
- This will be a good environment for children to practice and learn new skills before they move onto more complicated courses.

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

- It is unlikely skateboarders will try to use it because there is a new skate park in Queens' Park, and it will be a dirt track, so it won't be usable by skateboards;
- Cedar split rail fencing will be installed to ensure the bikers will go where the track is; and
- Glenbrooke Ravine was not considered because it is one of the most valuable ecological areas in the city and is not an appropriate place to introduce biking.

3.3 Project Updates: Sportsplex and City Hall Renovation

Tobi May, Acting Manager of Civic Buildings and Properties, Steve Kellock, Senior Manager of Recreation Services and Facilities, and Erika Mashig, Manager of

Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planning, provided a presentation updating the progress of the Sportsplex.

In discussion, Committee members noted the following:

- In the bathrooms, consider putting soap dispensers in accessible spots;
- Consider drains outside or a small urinal in washrooms for people who use leg bags; and,
- Reach out to former members of the Access Ability Advisory Committee who may be able to provide more information regarding access;

In response to Committee questions, the above-noted staff provided the following information:

- Staff worked with the boxing club and the rod and gun club early on to help them with space; however, most of them have now moved on to other clubs in the region;
- There is a lot of opportunity for input to receive and tackle accessible parking and general access in 2021 the form of sidewalk and parking lines are still to come; and,
- There is a lot of feedback from all sides on the universal washrooms and they are open, bright and have multiple access routes in and out; there is also a stand-alone cubicle with universal access for people who may feel uncomfortable in a universal washroom.

Ms. May then provided a presentation on the renovation at City Hall.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- City Hall is much more inviting now;
- Matching the wood to the original is great; and,
- Anything that restores and expands the lifespan of the building is great.

3.4 Riverside Adventure Park Playground Replacement

Erika Mashig, Erika Mashig, Manager of Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planning, provided an introduction of the Riverside Adventure Park Playground replacement.

Committee members provided the following comments:

- There should be a pathway in from Sharpe Street;
- Consider accessibility and applying a theme to it to make it identifiable and memorable;
- The park is quite unknown and could be very popular since there is a lack of fields for sports;
- Consider a mail drop to the neighbourhood to raise the profile of the park and engage residents; and,

- The park is at the bottom of Brow of the Hill and access could prove challenging to anyone who has to go back up the hill.

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

- The playground could get a slightly different configuration; however, this is mainly about edging, surfacing and play equipment, as well as seating areas;
- Accessible features could be considered in the future; and
- Staff want to make the park identifiable and memorable.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 18, 2021, location TBD.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Certified correct,

Original Signed _____
Councillor Patrick Johnstone
Chair

Original Signed _____
Nicole Ludwig
Assistant City Clerk