



ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 30, 2014

Council Chamber; City Hall

NOTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Betty McIntosh
Ron Jones
Mary Varga
Ken Wilkinson
Michael Wilson

Chair
Special Advisor
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member

MEMBERS REGRETS

Anne Bélanger
Ryan Chilton
Glen Henderson
Erin Gable
Paul Gauthier

Community Member
Student
New Westminster School Board
Community Member
Community Member

GUESTS

Steven Chua
Sarah Chung
Scott MacFarlane
Janet Taylor

Contractor for TransLink
Access Transit Coordinator, TransLink
Senior Advisor, TransLink
Resident

STAFF

Jason Haight
Fan Jin
Eugene Wat
Donna Martin

Manager, Business Operations, PCR
Transportation Technician, Engineering
Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Eng
Recording Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Due to the lack of a quorum, this meeting was held for discussion purposes only.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councillor McIntosh added the following to New Business:

5.3 Royal City Taxi Request for Additional Accessible Taxis

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Receipt and Adoption of Minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee Meeting of September 11, 2014

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 New Westminster Skytrain Upgrades / TransLink – Mr. Scott McFarlane, Mr. Steven Chua and Ms. Sarah Chung

Mr. Scott McFarlane, Senior Advisor Government and Community Engagement, informed the Access Ability Advisory Committee of the proposed upgrades to the expo line, funding, and anticipated timeline (presentation attached).

The proposed upgrades are:

- Increased safety incorporating Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) features;
- Replacement of critical infrastructure and system elements;
- Installation of high visibility stair “nosings”;
- Replacement of escalators;
- Improvement to station signage;
- Installation of new lighting and glazed panels;
- Addressing call button issues and making the south elevator more open;
- CCTV camera upgrade; and
- Replacement of all public area PA systems.

TransLink staff assured members there will be accessibility during construction. However, customers may have to travel further and there may be periods of time with no escalator access to the north platform.

Concerns raised during discussion were as follows:

- South platform accessibility during construction;
- First Capital upgrades;
- Access to Eighth Street;
- Suggest ramp on northern side to make it less challenging for those with limited mobility;
- Availability of station attendants through the transition;
- Consistency in size of elevator buttons;
- Suggest a new colour for posts in fare purchase area;
- Consider directional striping;
- More signage; and
- Need easy access on Columbia Street.

Direct questions or comments to Scott MacFarlane 778-375-7665 or email scott.macfarlane@translink.ca.

3.2 Accessibility Video (YouTube) Update – Mr. Jason Haight

Mr. Haight gave a brief history of the accessibility video project prior to presenting 10 draft accessibility videos that messaged education (public awareness for accessibility needs) and City Accomplishments supporting accessibility. In turn, Mr. Haight requested video feedback from Committee members and actors by November 7th to jhaight@newwestcity.ca. No feedback was provided by members during the meeting after viewing the videos.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Status of AAAC Recommendations to Council – Councillor McIntosh

Councillor McIntosh reported the following recommendation went before Council on October 20, 2014:

- Request that Council direct staff to investigate the preparation of a policy on the provision of disabled on-street parking in single family neighborhoods.

Staff offered the following considerations:

- On street disabled parking spaces often require other street improvements aside from signage (i.e., wheelchair letdowns);
- Implement a policy for undue hardship cases when topographical or structural constraint prevent the use of on-site parking; and
- Need for a trigger if a disabled resident moves in order for the signage and associated works to be removed.

Council directed staff to investigate the preparation of a policy on the provision of disabled on-street parking in single family residential areas.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Michael Wilson left the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 2015 Community Application to City Committees – Councillor McIntosh

All applications should be submitted to Legislative Services by 4:30 p.m. on November 28, 2014.

Fax: 604-527-4594

Email: committees@newwestcity.ca

Hand-deliver to: Legislative Services, 511 Royal Avenue, New Westminster

Council will review applications in December with appointments being made in January 2015.

5.2 Queen's Park Plaza Transition Request – Mr. Jason Haight

Mr. Haight reported the transition between the trail and the plaza has been modified to accommodate wheelchairs.

5.3 Royal City Taxi Request for Additional Accessible Taxis – Councillor McIntosh

Councillor McIntosh reported the Transportation Board has been allowed two additional accessible taxis for service.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Information Update – Councillor McIntosh

Councillor McIntosh reported on the following:

- Fourth Street overpass expected to be completed by the end of November;
- The Canadian Club has received a portion of the famous maple leaf tree from Eastern Canada; and
- High rise development policy is still in formative stage.

6.2 Engineering Information Update – Mr. Fan Jin

- Transit Route #106 – The existing 106 route has two separate sections, one is between NW Station and Edmonds Station and the other is between Edmonds Station and Metrotown Station. The unstable traffic condition along Kingsway affects the transit service reliability between Metrotown and Edmonds Station and consequently also the Edmonds Street to NW Station section. As part of TransLink's 2015 Transit Service Optimization plan, TL proposes to separate the line and operate two distinct services terminating at Edmonds Station, and adjust service levels on both new routes to better match ridership. TransLink will engage public consultation in early 2015. Committee members could participate in the public process and provide their comments at that time.
- The aged sidewalk on the west side of Eighth Street north of Columbia Street: This section will be reconstructed as part of the Kyoto site redevelopment and the bus shelter will be relocated for accommodating accessibility better.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE (Circulated to members for information)

- 7.1 BCCPD Update; Update; Now known as Disability Alliance BC
- 7.2 Transition; Fall 2014
- 7.3 Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Transit, Bicycles and Pedestrians (ACTBiPed) of May 28, 2014
- 7.4 Deryck Thomson Aware-Call for Nominations
- 7.5 Reminder of Job Fair on Thursday, October 23, 2014
- 7.6 Urban Forest Management Strategy Open House; October 8, 2014

8.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is to be determined.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Councillor Betty McIntosh
Chair

Donna Martin
Recording Clerk