



City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association

McBride-Sapperton Residents Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 @ 7:15 pm

Location: The District Taphouse – 421 E. Columbia Street

Attendance: 17 residents

Presenters: Antonia Reynolds(City of New Westminster), David Wharf (EVO)

Executive: Rnold, Jerry, Anita, Dee, Ross, Babar, Monica (minutes) Regrets: Kevin

City Representative: Rupinder Basi

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Rnold

- Rnold thanked the owners of the District Taphouse for inviting the MSRA to hold their meeting at their newly renovated business.

2. Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2017 Meeting

Rnold

3. EVO

**Antonia Reynolds, City of NW
and David Wharf, Sr. Mgr. of Customer Relations, EVO**

- Antonia started the presentation by providing an overview of the EVO program in New West
- EVO has been in NW for four months. The first review of the program was held at the end of September.
- When EVO started in NW, it had over 50,000 members; now there are over 70,000 members, with over 2000 members in NW.
- The average number of trips per day is 202. The average number of trips per car per day is 2.5 trips. The total number of trips since May is 28,880. The customer density for NW is concentrated in Downtown area and along the river. The majority of trips ending in NW start in Vancouver, with 3115 ending in Sapperton.
- The total number of designated EVO spots in NW is 40.
- The average time EVO cars were parked in designated spots in NW is less in the Sept-Oct period than the June-Sept period. Antonia said that if designated spots look empty, it's because the cars are moving more frequently.
- EVO has a home zone for drop-offs. There is a proposal to expand this zone, and EVO is hoping to include a drop-off zone at Braid Station; they are currently negotiating with Translink.

- EVO and the City are also starting to work with RCH to address the issue of their employees using EVO cars and dropping them off in the Lower Sapperton neighbourhood in order to avoid parking at the hospital. Currently, there are no designated EVO spots at RCH.
- EVO and the City are working on the assumption that the people dropping cars off in Lower Sapperton are RCH employees based on the drop time data (which shows a high frequency of early morning drops).
- EVO and the City are hoping to get RCH staff to park at Braid Station and not in our neighbourhood.
- They are trying to collect data and are meeting with us so they can tweak their model going forward.
- RCH has indicated they are willing to approve EVO-designated spots at the Braid overflow parking lot and encourage their employees to take the shuttle bus from there.
- The ultimate aim is to have fewer cars on the road.
- Antonia acknowledged the concerns the City has heard from residents. These include: a shortage of on-street parking in Sapperton neighbourhoods due to EVO car clustering; the length of time the cars are parked; the inconvenience for residents being unable to park and access their homes; the fairness of the EVO cars having resident passes; the monitoring of the EVO cars.
- She addressed what the City is doing about these concerns. The City is undertaking public engagement; working to expand public understanding of car sharing.
- For its part, EVO is engaging in education and promotion of car-sharing; working to optimize the utilization of their vehicles; tracking data to streamline and manage the program; analyzing the data to see how members are using EVO.
- Dave Wharf acknowledged that EVO is a for-profit entity.
- He stated that about 90 cars are used in NW on average each day out of a fleet of 1250.
- He indicated that there is a relocation team that goes out at night and on weekends to move cars that have been sitting in spaces for a while.
- EVO uses data to analyze where clusters occur to determine where cars should be moved to optimize their use.
- He stated that “no cars are being relocated by EVO to Sapperton” given the concerns over the clusters already there.
- EVO is hoping to get designated EVO spots at the new high school and at the Justice Institute.
- EVO cars have resident parking permits; EVO bought permits for the entire fleet of 1250 cars. They pay \$15 per car for the permits. A resident raised the concern that EVO cars have unrestricted access to park anywhere in the City, whereas residents pay the same rate, but can only park on their block. It was suggested that NW are therefore subsidizing a for-profit company, while suffering inconveniences in their own neighbourhoods. Antonia said this is a “trade off to accomplish the City’s goal of increasing car sharing and reducing the number of cars on the road.”
- Antonia and Dave showed research to highlight the impact of the reduction in the number of vehicles since 2015 due to the Car2Go program. The number of cars in NW is going down car-sharing is increasing.
- They emphasized that this is a work in progress and indicated there will be further reviews of the EVO program.

- Users cannot park in pay parking zones.
- Some suggestions made by residents at the meeting to the City and EVO:
 - EVO users should be incentivized to move cluster-parked cars themselves.
 - EVO cars should be allowed to park in City pay parking zones.
 - Put the onus on EVO to monitor high cluster zones and move cars during the day, not just at night.
 - The City should make resident tags clear to indicate who is a resident and who is a visitor.
 - It was also suggested that a representative from the City Engineering Dept. should come speak at our next meeting to discuss the new parking regulations to mitigate any confusion residents have about these new regulations.

4. Sapperton Capital Projects

**Gurtej Tung, Stacy Nevis,
and Amir Amanpour – City of NW**

- Presenters were here to discuss and provide an update on the ongoing sewer projects throughout the Sapperton area.
- The project started in July, and has involved the installation of approximately 3000 m of City storm sewermain pipes.
- Has also involved the installation of 30 manholes and catchbasins.
- The City received a \$5.5 million grant from the federal government for this project.
- They have started work on the watermain replacement on Braid Ave. This is expected to be completed in December.
- There will be work done at the intersection of Braid and Brunette, but most of the work will be done at night.
- The presenters gave updates on where they are going next.
- They addressed some of the concerns they are heard: parking issues for residents, interruption of garbage/recycling pick-up, and interruption of deliveries to homes, coordination of traffic management.
- They acknowledged that soil conditions and unidentified underground utilities have resulted in some delays with the project timeline.
- The City is committed to working closely with residents, especially in regards to monitoring traffic management in the neighbourhood. Parking permitted areas have been extended, and there has been investigation of underground utilities. The City is working to address residents' concerns as they arise. The City reps thanked Sapperton residents for their patience and support during this whole process. The storm sewer separation part of the project is 95% complete.
- The presenters took questions from residents, and listened to the following concerns: the City should have made the whole affected area resident only parking for the duration of the project; the roads are bumpy since the work has been done (the City reps said this is temporary and the streets will be resurfaced when there are drier conditions in the spring/summer), the street cleaners have not been around to clean the leaves from the streets despite multiple calls to the City, there should have been signs up saying "Local Traffic Only".
- Metro Vancouver contractors will be coming into our area when the City is done its project to start their project.

5. New Business

- Following these presentations, Rnold asked those in attendance to talk amongst themselves and suggest ideas of ways to enhance our neighbourhood.
- Dee suggested inviting the local business owners to a future RA meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 pm.

Next meeting: Tues., January 23, 2018, at 7:15 pm at Knox Presbyterian Church.