



City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association

McBride-Sapperton Residents Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 @ 7:15 pm

Location: Knox Presbyterian Church

Attendance: 18 residents

Presenters: 6 presenters (2 from each project)

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

City Representative: Hardev Gill (sitting in for Rupinder Basi today)

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Rnold

2. Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2017 Meeting

Rnold

3. Sewer Pipe Work for Metro Vancouver Steve Billington (Metro Vancouver) and Michelle Wong (Communications Coordinator)

- The presenters provided a pamphlet, complete with map, that outlines the purpose and scope of project.
- The presenters distinguished their project from the New Westminster sewer separation project that is ongoing.
- The affected roads must be closed during the day; the contractor is allowed to occupy 300 yards of street frontage.
- Metro has worked to communicate with affected residents.
- They are coordinating with the City contractor (Targa) to ensure they are not both hitting the same areas at the same time. They are trying to minimize impact on residents as much as possible.
- They will take about one week per block to complete.
- The contractor needs to give individual residents 24 hour notice if their driveway will be affected/blocked.
- They are only repairing trench areas of asphalt, not entire streets.
- The project should be finished by the end of January.
- The presenter took questions from residents about some of the technical aspects of the project.
- Rnold requested email updates on the progress of the project, and Steve agreed.

- Residents were encouraged/invited to be part of the email database by contacting Metro Vancouver.

4. RCH Redevelopment Project Update

Rob (last name?) and Jeff Roberts

- Currently, RCH is in Phase One of the project: the Mental Health and Substance Use + Parkade building, Energy Centre, and Interim Heliport
- They have a 4-minute video tour of the new building which residents can access by Googling the project.
- The construction will be impacting Allen, Keary, Sherbrooke, and E. Columbia Streets to deal with utilities pathways: water, storm and sewer, power, IT/fibre optics. Therefore, all these perimeter roads will be excavated, starting in 2018.
- Public access to these roads will change when the new building opens. Cars shortcutting between Sherbrooke and Keary through the hospital private service lane will be discouraged from doing so.
- There will be one-way traffic only from Keary to Allen Street.
- A sidewalk will be added to the south side of Allen Street and the south part of the service lane for Skytrain access.
- The Brunette sidewalk will be made wider.
- Construction on the interim heliport has finished and will be operational this fall (late October).
- There will therefore be new flight paths; helicopters will now land and take off over E. Columbia Street.
- The Mental Health and Substance Use building will open at the end of 2019.
- Phase 1 of the project should be complete by December, 2019.
- Phases 2 and 3 were approved in April, 2017, along with \$1.1 billion in funding. Phases 2 and 3 should start in January, 2020.
- Planning for Phases 2 and 3 are in the early, early stages (Phase 2 is predicted to run from 2020-2024).
- The presenters showed a general concept drawing of the new 10-storey acute care tower.
- Phase 3 is scheduled to run from 2023-26. This will involve mostly interior work and will have little impact on the neighbourhood.
- Parking – Braid Lot use is expected to ramp up in 2018. It will be in use until the Phase 1 parkade opens.
- New 450-stall parkades will be part of both Phases 1 and 2.
- RCH is working to improve transportation along with the City and the Province.
- The presenters emphasized that there are multiple ways to communicate with the project coordinators. For example: feedback@fraserhealth.ca OR the emergency number is 1-855-857-7075 for urgent situations.
- Construction staff have been told they must park in the Braid Street lot, NOT in the neighbourhood.
- Geoff spoke to the impact that people are suffering – dust, an increase in the number of rats, noise, and so on. Rob emphasized that construction should NOT be starting before

7 am, with very few exceptions. He emphasized that people must contact the feedback line so that the project coordinators can be made aware of complaints and issues.

- Diesel trucks should NOT be refueled before 7 am either.
- Stairway access from the Copperstone complex to the lane behind the hospital is shut down until the end of November.

5. Sapperton Green Project

Sophie Perndl and John Pinoni

- There will be an open house tomorrow, Sept. 20 at the Sapperton Pensioners' Hall from 5 – 7 pm. The project coordinators will have all their consultants present, and City Staff will also be there. A traffic model will be available.
- They reminded us this is a 30-acre property.
- The OCP amendment was approved by the City in 2015.
- They provided an overview of the process to date.
- There will be a range of heights on buildings from 3 – 35 storeys.
- Work that has been done in recent years: extensive work with consultants, including geotechnical, environmental, and arboricultural.
- The presenters showed a draft landscape plan and a proposed layout of the site.
- They emphasize that there will be a pedestrian and cycling network; they are trying to minimize traffic impacts.
- They gave an overview of the development process and dates. The neighbourhood plan/rezoning public consultation will take place in 2017-18. There should be two open houses in the fall, and the rezoning public hearing should take place in Spring, 2018.
- The significant construction on Sapperton Green will not start for another 8 years or so.

6. 6. EVO Car Program

Monica

- Monica outlined the concerns that have been raised by residents since the EVO cars started appearing on our streets in May. Based on these concerns, she invited Antonia Reynolds, who is in charge of overseeing this program for the City, to our meeting tonight, but she is out of town. Instead, she sent an email with an explanation of the program.
- Monica read part of this email to the group; here are some of the highlights of Antonia's message:
 - the EVO car-sharing program was introduced in May, 2017, in support of the Master Transportation Plan's goals of reducing car ownership and use in our community. City-wide promotion and advertising was undertaken by EVO, including newspaper and online coverage, as well as "pop-up" booths in our neighbourhood.
 - "it was projected that the EVO model would grow, but exact details of how or where some challenges might develop were unknowns at the outset, so these were the reasons why individual presentations were not made to the Ras at that time".
 - the City is aware that, three months in, multiple EVO cars are often parked on certain residential streets at once, creating problems for residents. She contends that "a number of EVO users are in fact also residents of Sapperton", and that "resident parking permits do not guarantee parking directly in front of residents' homes".

- a first full review of the EVO program is taking place at the end of September, and “the challenges in Sapperton are an important agenda item for discussion”.
- Antonia will be happy to report on this review when she visits the MSRA at the next meeting.
- EVO pays marking rate for their designated spots in the City, and have “purchased residential parking permits for their whole fleet at this time”.
- Cars are supposed to be moved by EVO staff if they stay in one spot for an extended period of time, usually during the night.
- There is not currently a limitation on the number of cars allowed in any one area, but this is one of many options that will be explored during the upcoming review.
- Residents can call EVO directly to report cars parked for extended period of time: 604-268-5594.
- The feedback from residents in attendance at the meeting was as follows:
 - although there are designated EVO spots (eg. By Save-on), those spots are not being used as they are too far away from the hospital.
 - why can’t EVO follow the MODO model?
 - why is the City not allowing EVO to park in pay zones?
 - how many Sapperton residents are registered users? BCAA is actively recruiting, but just because one is an EVO member does not mean people are actively using the service.
 - Babar brought feedback from the NWTAC meeting on EVO; it is a pilot project, and the City is working on getting EVO to move cars, as this is an issue throughout the City.
 - how much does EVO pay compared to what residents pay? While EVO can park anywhere, residents can only park on their own block.
 - while residents understand they are not guaranteed to park in front of their homes with their parking pass, neighbours have implicit understanding that they should park as close to their own residence as possible and respect each others’ access to their homes. EVO users who do not live in the area have no understanding of this, and simply park as close to their destination as possible, with little regard for the neighbourhood, or how much space they take up in front of particular residences.
 - it is clear from the cluster of cars parked near Sherbrooke along Kelly, Fader, and Garrett, that the users are destined for RCH.
 - a suggestion was made that EVO cars should only be allowed to park in 2 hour spots.
 - Monica will draft a response to Antonia with residents’ feedback. Antonia has promised to come to our next meeting to address this issue.

7. Old Business

A. Brunette Interchange - Update

Rnold

- Rnold provided information on how they money that was approved for our communications plan was spent: he hired a communications consultant to contact all

provincial candidates for the May provincial election to seek their opinions on major transportation project processes.

- As a result of this, the RA got 215 email addresses, 20 responses, and several phone number contacts.
- We are currently in limbo with the project due to the recent change in government.
- The final cost of the communications strategy was \$1500.

B. Sapperton Garage Sale – feedback

Rnold

- The general consensus was that there seemed to be a bit more “business traffic” this year.
- Rnold thanked Steve Kasper for his help in promoting and organizing the event.

C. OCP Update

Hardev Gill

- A public hearing was held yesterday for the 2 by-laws related to the OCP changes
- The City Council voted unanimously to give the 2 by-laws third reading.
- Council has given City staff a 2-year period to monitor how the process is working.

8. New Business

A. R.A. Forum

Dee

- Dee attended the recent R.A. forum
- The City will provide a \$200 per year honorarium to locations used as RA meeting spaces
- For RAs that don't have a website, this money can be used to help establish one.
- EVO was a huge topic of discussion at the forum.
- The tree by-law was also a major issue as it has impacted many NW residents.

B. Membership and Benefits Committee

Dee

- Dee discussed the idea of establishing a partnership with local business to allow members of the MSRA benefits or discounts at these businesses.
- She would like to form a committee to work on this idea.
- She would ideally like to get this program up and running for next year.
- Perhaps we could invite local businesses to the November meeting to discuss this idea.
- At the end of the meeting, Rnold asked a question of residents in attendance about what types of business we would like to see in our area. The responses included: butcher shop, vegetable and fruit store, ice cream shop, and breakfast restaurant.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:17 pm.

Next meeting: November 21, 2017, at 7:15 PM.