



City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association

McBride-Sapperton Residents Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 @ 7:15 pm

Location: Knox Presbyterian Church

Attendance: 17 residents

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

City Representatives: Rupinder Basi, Gurtej Tung, Amir Amanpour, Ryan Huang

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive **Rnold**

2. Approval of Minutes from January 23, 2018 Meeting **Rnold**

3. Ongoing Road Construction Projects – Resident “Listening Exercise”

- Conducted by Gurtej Tung, Amir Amanpour (City Eng. Dept.) and Ryan Huang (Eng. Tech).
- Amir gave an update on the road projects that have been going on for the past several months. He said the City’s sewer separation project is now completed, and that the water main is in. The only thing needed to be completed is the tie-ins, final touch-ups and clean-up. He said the repaving of all the neighbourhood roads will happen between June and August.
- Residents in attendance were given time to write their concerns and suggestions about the process on a map.
- A question and answer session to Ryan and Gurtej followed. Some of the responses they gave to questions and issues raised were:
 - the big deep hole by the liquor store is a pressure-reducing valve, which is part of the Metro Vancouver project.
 - the work on Braid St. is almost done and the contractors are just working on the tie-ins. This should be finished by Mar. 23.
 - every contractor working on City streets is required to provide notification to “impacted residents”. A question was raised about who constitutes “impacted residents”; is this left up to the Contractors to decide? Does the City define how many residents? The response was that there is no specific definition for this term, as it changes with the scope of each project. The Good Neighbour protocol is available online, and contractors are expected to abide by its terms.

- on Sherbrooke Street, the contractors are required to maintain one open lane, but they failed to meet the requirements on one particular day.
- Metro Vancouver has obligations to communicate with residents.
- a concern was raised that the City needs to oversee all of the projects more closely; the response was that the City only looks at the traffic management aspect of the project, not the construction aspects. Metro Vancouver and Fraser Health are responsible for their own projects, and only report to the City at a high level.
- Ryan stated that Metro Vancouver is done its project, and also claimed that the Sherbrooke work by the RCH project is also done. This raised much surprise among residents in attendance as the street is still half dug up with equipment all along one side of the street. This was pointed out to him, and he then said he would “need to check” the paperwork.
- residents were told that if contractors fail to meet the requirements of their contract, they will have trouble getting approval for another project in NW.
- in response to a question about whether the City can request a temporary “no trucks allowed” on E. Columbia for the duration of the projects, the City reps said “they will look into it”.
- the Street Occupancy Permits go through Ryan Huang. He has control of the overall schedule. He claimed that the City staff visit the site every day.
- a concern was raised about the poor planning by the City of NW in allowing all these projects to take place at the same time.
- a concern was also raised about the number and placement locations of the Road Closed signs. The suggestion was made that this should be part of the traffic management plans.
- a concern was raised that the quality of the road surface is poor.
- we were told that water shutdowns will be coming over the next week due to water tie-ins taking place along Braid Street. Amir said “absolute” that notice will be given for water shut off 72 hours in advance of the work being done. It was pointed out to him that people have been receiving less than 24 hours notice, and he said this is “unacceptable”.
- another concern expressed is the impact on people’s water tanks; however, Amir assured everything there was no “check valve” installed. Residents indicated that numerous residents on Kelly Street had their tanks blow the day after the tie-ins happened. Amir and Gurtej asked for a list of the names of the affected residents so they can follow up on this matter.
- Gurtej assured residents that he will take all the feedback, digitize it, and pass it on to the relevant authorities.

4. Vision for E. Columbia Street

Rnold

- The 6-storey building proposed for E. Columbia Street beside the Elizabeth Fry building is coming before a public hearing in April.
- In the past, residents have been promised 4 storeys, but the City encouraged developers to go higher to accommodate medical office space close to the hospital.
- Rnold wants to solicit input for a vision for E. Columbia St.
- There was a general discussion around design consistency on the street.

- A concern was expressed over 2 – 3 bedroom units in the proposed new building not having windows.
- A suggestion was made that rezoning should have a time limit, eg. The E. Fry project on Kelly Street, where nothing has happened 6 years after the rezoning was approved.
- A suggestion was made that streetscaping needs to happen on E. Columbia
- E. Columbia is designated a Great Street so a process is in place to establish design guidelines such streets
- It was suggested that strict design guidelines are needed to ensure that E. Columbia does not turn into a “canyon”
- Rupinder said he would follow up and find the old OCP guidelines and compare them to the new OCP guidelines

5. Leaders/Volunteers Wanted

Rnold

- Rnold encouraged people to step up and volunteer on the RA Executive.
- The AGM is taking place at our next meeting in May.
- We are looking for volunteers to help with “Party in the Park” on July 15. Some of the activities that will be organized are baseball games, volleyball games, a cardboard fort building context. Food will be served between 4 – 6 pm.
- A suggestion was made that we get high school students to help out.
- Kevin will arrange for cardboard disposal by SuperSave.

6. Victoria Hill Residents

Rnold

- Rnold noted his concern that our RA is not serving or representing Victoria Hill residents that well.
- He made the suggestion that they could consider forming their own RA so their issues are better represented to the City.
- A few residents from VH were in attendance. One made a suggestion that we should put VH and McBride on the agenda regularly to encourage those residents to attend and feel engaged.
- She also suggested that VH residents could attend for the next few meetings, see what is involved in an RA, and then they might decide to form their own organization.
- Another person suggested that a VH resident could be a Member-at-Large on the MSRA Executive for a time.
- Rnold asked for access to the VH Facebook page to help make connections to the area residents.

7. Other

A. Sapperton Annual Garage Sale: Saturday, June 23

B. Sapperton Day – the RA will have a booth there

C. A resident noted two issues of concern:

1. There was a break-in of a house in her neighbourhood by three males while a 20-year old female resident was at home.
2. The 3-way stop intersection at Richmond and Hospital Street is a dangerous location as cars often do not slow down. The resident feels that limited action/response has

been taken by the City on this except to install red reflective strips. Rupinder will report back to Transportation about this matter.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:13 pm.

Next meeting, including the AGM and Executive Elections:

Tues., May 15, 2018, at 7:15 pm at Knox Presbyterian Church.