



City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association

McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 @ 7:15 pm

Location: Knox Presbyterian Church

Attendance: 26 residents

Executive: Dee, Ross, Anita, Danielle, Monica (minutes) **Regrets:** Geoff, Kevin, Leslie, Gerry

Presenters: Stephen Blore, Transportation Planner – City of New Westminster; Tom Sparrow, Chief Project Officer – RCH Redevelopment; Amir Amanpour - City of New Westminster

City Representatives: Dilys

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Dee

- Nomination and election of Kevin Little and Leslie Malcom as Members at Large for the Executive

2. Approval of Minutes from May 15, 2018 Meeting

Dee

3. Update on Road Construction Project

- Amir Amanpour from the City of New Westminster provided an update on the ongoing road construction work happening in the area
- Crews are currently working on Richmond and Alberta Streets, which are approximately 80% done; he took a question regarding transit changes due to the Richmond St. closure
- In the week of Sept. 28, paving will start on Fader, Kelly and Sherbrooke Streets, and will hopefully be completed by October 19. This will be full street paving.
- Alberta Street will be paved by next year as there is still work to be done there.
- Lanes will not be paved. Paving will only be done on streets where sewer separation work was completed.
- A diverter will be going back in at Alberta and E. Columbia Streets, at least temporarily.
- Amir addressed the issue of incomplete clean-up by crews after work has been completed, for example on Strand St.

4. Sapperton Transportation Plan

- **Stephen Blore** from the City of New Westminster presented an update on this project.

- He started by going over the policy context, principles for success, and plan goals (to provide connectivity, improve access to sustainable modes of transportation, enhance safety and livability of neighbourhoods).
- He emphasized that this is not just a “traffic calming plan”, but a multi-modal document to meet the goals of City policies.
- He explained that they had to factor in various ongoing projects: RCH, Canada Games rebuilding, Sapperton Green, the Brewery District, and so on.
- He went over the three phases of the process, and described the involvement of the Working Group, the Civic Advisory Committees, the Local Community and Key Industry Partners.
- The plan was presented to Council in Spring, 2018.
- He then went over the Implementation Plan, which involves the following considerations: City led projects, such as traffic calming measures, partnership projects, such as the Braid/Brunette intersection improvements, and development provisions, which involve negotiated changes with developers, such as wider sidewalks.
- He stressed that “there is still a chance for the community to have input” as this is not a detailed design yet.
- The City will be coming back to the community for engagement on controversial areas, such as the proposed Richmond and E. 8th Street changes and the Alberta Street diverter.
- Some measures are temporary to allow room for modifications if they don’t work out.
- The plan is a “living document”, which will evolve based on unknown conditions, such as the RCH rezoning plan.
- Lots of residents expressed that they are upset about the proposal to block Richmond Street at E. 8th Ave. Stephen said there will be no actions taken without warning, and without consultation.
- Question: Why take out the Alberta Street diverter?
- Concerns expressed over pinch points being put into streets.
- Question re: Brunette Interchange project. Stephen said the project is on hold for now. Dee mentioned that we have tried asking the Ministry of Transportation and Judy D’Arcy’s office for clarification about the status of the project, but we have not received any definitive response.
- RCH will be doing a transportation study and will report back to the City.
- Stephen suggested we put a collective message together through the R.A. rather than submitting multiple letters. He stressed that letters from the RA have more clout than 300 separate letters.
- Stephen said outreach will be done through social media, newspaper notices, as well as direct mail drops to all directly affected residents.

5. RCH Redevelopment Project

- Tom Sparrow gave the presentation.
- He started by stating that Bird Construction’s work on Sherbrooke Street is complete.
- Telus still has some work to complete on the street, however.
- There are also some minor fixes to do, such as a manhole cover.

- RCH is currently working with the City on a traffic study related to the hospital project.
- Telephone poles on Sherbrooke St. will be removed, perhaps as late as 2020.
- Bird's work on E. Columbia will soon reach the Keary Street intersection. This will impact the residents of the Anvil building when the road gets completely blocked off.
- Skytrain pedestrian access will be maintained.
- Construction on the mental health building is five weeks ahead of schedule at the moment; currently, crews are working on the fifth floor.
- The design is finalized. The cooling tower is quite high.
- RCH is preparing for rezoning after the municipal election. Community consultation will take place likely in early December.
- He showed updated visuals of the site maps.
- Sherbrooke Street will be relatively undisturbed until approximately 2020 when four buildings will be demolished (Sherbrooke Centre, Laundry/Power Plant facilities, and Main Entrance).
- He addressed a question regarding parking capacity.
- He said they will not be breaking ground on the new hospital building until the summer of 2020 at the earliest.
- The mental health facility is scheduled to open in April, 2020.
- Residents expressed concern that the main access to the hospital emergency is going to be off Sherbrooke Street.

6. Updates from City Planning Department

This information was presented by Dylis, the City Planning Dept. Representative, who was attending on behalf of Rupinder Basi.

A. Wesgroup Building #7: the developer has submitted a development permit application for a 32-storey tower.

B. Urban Academy: has applied for an amendment to its current zoning, and is requesting an expansion of their capacity and floor space.

Dylis stated that both applications are in the preliminary stages and consultation will be held in the Fall via the R.A. and applicant-hosted Open Houses.

7. New Westminster Police Committee

Dee

- Dee noted that Leslie Malcom is our new Police Committee representative, but she was not able to attend tonight's meeting.
- Residents noted that there have been car break-ins along streets in Sapperton recently.

8. New Westminster Traffic Committee

Dee

- We welcome Danielle Karlsson who volunteered to serve as the RA's Traffic Committee representative.
- She was nominated and acclaimed as the newest member of the RA Executive.

9. Treasurer/Membership Report

Anita

- There are 292 members of the RA as of today.
- This summer, we moved our banking from BMO to Van City Credit Union.

- The current account balance is just over \$3000.

10. Old Business

Dee

A. Community Picnic

- The first annual Community Picnic was held July 15 at Hume Park.
- 25 families attended, and many community organizations provided support, including Spareparts Adventure Playground.
- We will try to hold another picnic next year, maybe in September.
- Anita thanked Dee and her husband, Ron, for all their hard work in organizing this event.

B. Garage Sale

- Residents who participated reported that they had lots of interested customers visiting them during the event.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:03 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 – 7:15 pm at Knox Presbyterian Church