



# **City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association**

## **McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association Public Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, February 07, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

**Location:** Knox Presbyterian Church

**Attendance:** 9 residents

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

**Presenters:** Tom Sparrow, Chief Project Officer, and Leslie-Ann Drummond, Communications Officer – RCH Redevelopment; Cheryle Beaumont, Head of School – Urban Academy, plus two representatives from UA project (architect and transportation consultant); Representatives from Wesgroup

**City Representatives:** Rupinder Basi

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

**2. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2018 Meeting** **Dee**

**3. Urban Academy – Presentation** **Cheryle Beaumont, Head of School**

- Construction of the school is nearing completion, and UA is planning to move in at the end of February.
- They are in the process of applying for a textual amendment to allow for the addition of a fifth floor, which is consistent with their zoning.
- They are limited at this time to 450 students due to transportation constraints.
- All roofs are green roofs.
- Some ways they are dealing with traffic issues: there are three different groups being dropped off at different times. The Junior Kindergarten students are being dropped off in the interim Wesgroup parking area behind the building. Two other groups will be coming at the same time. There is to be no pick-up or drop-off on Rousseau Street. The children are being trained to use transit. Their main priority is the safety of their students.
- They suggested they may use a shuttle that will travel four times per hour from Hume Park to the school. Concern was raised that this shuttle idea was not brought before the RA for discussion or approval, and questions were raised about the lack of consultation with residents in the Hume Park neighbourhood about this idea. Rupinder said that the shuttle bus is an idea that has not received City approval yet.
- 75% of the junior and senior students are driven to school.

- If all goes according to their plans, they hope to start construction on the fifth floor in the Fall.
- Residents indicated that they have no issues with the design of the building, with one resident commenting that it is “lovely”.
- However, several concerns were raised by residents about the safety of students crossing at Braid, and about the impact of the increased traffic and parking in the Lower Sapperton neighbourhood once the school opens. Cheryle stated that major events, such as performances and concerts, would not be held at the school but at Massey Theatre or another venue. Concern was raised over impact of parking on parent-teacher evenings, open houses, and so on.
- A suggestion was made to put the proposed addition on hold until the traffic impact can be monitored in “real time” once the school is opened. The architect suggested that this will result in delays and increased costs for the school.
- Rupinder stated that three more opportunities will be given for public input: the Open House the school is required to hold, the Advisory Planning Committee, and the Public Hearing.

#### **4. Wesgroup – Brewery District**

- Two representatives from Wesgroup came to present on the latest building in the Brewery District neighbourhood.
- They came to Knox in November for an Open House on this latest building, which will be 30 storeys and mixed use.
- There will be office space, retail, and daycare (the daycare in the Translink building will be moving into this new space).
- They are working to make sure the new plaza space is “done right”.
- Concerns expressed by residents over sufficient parking for construction workers, who have been seen parking in the neighbourhood. Can Wesgroup find space for them so they don’t park in the neighbourhood?
- Construction of this new building may begin within a year.

#### **5. RCH Redevelopment Project**

- Tom Sparrow gave the presentation.
- The RFQ for Phase 2 will be released soon and Phase 2 of the project will hopefully start in 2020.
- The rezoning application has been submitted and there will be an opportunity for public consultation over the next three months.
- The least on the parking lot at Braid and Brunette for RCH employees has been extended to 2023.
- Concerns were expressed over the amount of parking that has been planned for the new buildings.
- Question was asked about whether there are plans for a light at Brunette and Sherbrooke Streets? Rupinder responded that multiple levels of government are involved in how to manage Brunette traffic, so changes to that intersection have not been determined.

- The Sherbrooke building, laundry buildings and maintenance buildings will be coming down in 2020.

#### **6. New Westminster Police Committee**

- Leslie Malcom, our new Police Committee representative, was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

#### **7. New Westminster Traffic Committee**

**Dee**

- Danielle Karlsson, our new Traffic Committee representative, has recently moved to the Massey-Victory Heights neighbourhood.
- Wilf Rodrick agreed to step into this position. We thank him and welcome him!

#### **8. New Business**

**Dee**

##### **A. Victoria Hill RA**

- The residents of Victoria Hill have established their own RA.
- We will need to have a discussion about changing the name of our RA to just the Sapperton Residents' Association as the boundaries change.
- Victoria Hill RA extends to Ginger Drive. People in Lower Massey-Victory Heights want to form a new Hume Park RA.
- Dee has reached out to residents in the San Marino building. They want to be included in our RA. She said we should also reach out to residents in the Brewery District Buildings to join our RA as well.

##### **B. Tandem Dump Trucks in Sapperton**

**Monica**

- Monica summarized the issues with tandem dump trucks from the RCH construction project.
- There were several situations in which these trucks and their trailers were illegally and improperly parked or idled on Lower Sapperton streets, blocking sightlines for traffic at key intersections, and causing dangerous situations for residents and others driving in the neighbourhood.
- Monica and others contacted Leslie-Ann Drummond and others involved in the project, as well as City officials, and RCH put pressure on Matcon to ensure their drivers were complying with all regulations.
- RCH responded immediately once contacted, and Monica commended Leslie-Ann and Tom on their quick responses. Residents are reminded to contact RCH with any concerns over traffic and other issues caused by the construction project.

#### **9. Updates from Rupinder – City Representative**

- The City is starting to see some applications for infill housing coming in under the guidelines from the new OCP.
- Building on E. Columbia beside E. Fry: they still need to go through City processes before starting construction.
- Question: What is happening with the E. Fry lot at Kelly and Sherbrooke? Why did we go through that tumultuous rezoning process if nothing is going to happen?
- Question: When will repaving be completed on Sherbrooke Street?
- Rupinder will check and get back to us regarding these questions.

## **10. Other**

- Anita noted that there have been several near misses on Holmes Street by St. Michael's School on the border with Burnaby. Anita would like the City to have By-law enforcement visit this area to ensure people are complying with traffic and parking regulations.
- A local resident emailed with concerns over EVO parking at Buchanan and Blair. We have responded to this resident, who was not present at tonight's meeting to speak to his concerns. This issue has been discussed at length in past meetings, and an EVO representative, and the City official responsible for overseeing EVO gave a lengthy presentation and dealt with concerns at a past meeting. Residents with concerns about EVO should continue to contact the City. Antonia Reynolds is the City official responsible for this file.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:47 pm.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, April 04, 2019 at 7:00 pm – Knox Presbyterian Church.