

West Jasper Place Sherwood Drainage Task Force
Minutes of Meeting #2 (DRAFT)
January 21, 2016 at Gospel Centre Church

Present:

- Sherina Dhala, resident, West Jasper Place
- Sandro Marrocco, resident, West Jasper Place
- Wendy Woodruff, resident, West Jasper Place
- Peter Doell, resident, West Jasper Place
- Hanna Nash, resident, West Jasper Place
- Andrew Knack, Councillor, Ward 1
- Clem Yong, Director, Project Delivery, Drainage Design & Construction, City of Edmonton
- Todd Wyman, Executive Director, Drainage Design and Construction, City of Edmonton
- Godfrey Huybregts, Task Force Coordinator

Regrets:

- Karl Holba, resident, West Jasper Place
- Shirley Thompson, resident, West Jasper Place
- Mary-Ann McLennan, resident, West Jasper Place
- Johnnothan Cruz, owner, Holy Angels Day Care

1. Agenda

The agenda was approved with one addition: Clem Yong requested guidance on action to be taken on an old information request.

Mr. Wyman noted there will be an information update on the West Jasper Place work to City Council's Utilities Committee on February 26. The Task Force will be sent the items of the motion that administration will be responding to.

2. Minutes of November 25, 2015

The minutes were approved with no changes.

3. Task Force Terms of Reference

The second draft of the Task Force Terms of Reference was reviewed. Only one change was requested: to note under the Membership section that the Task Force coordinator and facilitator was a third party hired by the City but was not a City employee. Mr. Huybregts said he would make that change and request approval of the document via email in order to make it public as soon as possible.

4. Odour Control and Gas Monitoring Update

Mr. Yong provided an update on odour control. Two large air scrubbers with H₂S carbon air filters will be put in place sometime in February at the intersections of 151 Street & 99 Avenue and 151 Street & 100 Avenue before the sewer line access shaft is re-opened. He noted the scrubber at 99 Avenue is 72 feet long and 17 feet wide. Task Force members were worried about the possible noise levels of the scrubbers and the disruption they may cause to local traffic. It was recommended residents be notified in advance of scrubber details, such as installation, size, location, potential noise/traffic issues and timing.

A real time hydrogen sulphide and carbon monoxide monitor in a Plexiglas box will be set up at the 99 Avenue shaft location for people to see 24/7. Task Force members suggested the monitor be in place before the shaft is opened and a feed from a web camera pointed at the read out screen be posted on line. They also suggested the monitor be kept in place for a few weeks after the work is done and the tunnel sealed to prove H₂S has abated. In addition to equipment monitoring, Mr. Yong emphasized the City wants residents to continue to report to 311 every time they smell strong odours.

Mr. Wyman noted Drainage Services has not yet hired a consultant to study what sewer gases are present in West Jasper Place, their concentration levels and the possible impact on human health. The process is being expedited though to bring the person on board as quickly as possible. The scope of work outlined in a RFP was sent to Task Force members. As some members did not recall seeing it, Mr. Huybregts will send it again.

In response to questions, Mr. Wyman confirmed one of four test locations will be in West Jasper Place and the results compared to a similar study done in 1998. He noted the consultant will test for all gases that may exist, including H₂S, methane, carbon monoxide and others, regardless of whether they were part of the 1998 study.

Once the contractor is hired, a work schedule will be provided to the Task Force. It is expected work will begin in February and a report ready by June.

5. Project Construction Update

Mr. Yong provided a schedule of work to be completed over the next few months. The sewage bypass line has now been installed. The air scrubbers will be in place before the shaft at 151 Street and 99 Avenue is reopened and connections are made to the existing trunk sewers at 100 Avenue. Connections at 100 Avenue and 151 Street are ongoing and he expected sewer liner installation to start in March and be completed in June. Sealing of shaft structure and manholes at 100 and 99 Avenues is scheduled to be done by July.

Phase 2 design work to inspect and repair 1.1 km of sewage line running east of 99 Avenue continues with most of the pipe inspections being completed. He confirmed utility locator personnel have been out in the neighbourhood marking lines. This is required as part of design and construction preparations. The first 50 metres of the Phase 2 work is of immediate concern because of the pipe's deteriorated condition. It is unknown at this point what method might be used for repair until the design engineers have completed their work. Potential options include installing a twin line, relining or a combination of both.

Mr. Yong shared pictures of the sewer main (WESS-13) connection at 99 Avenue and 151 Street as requested previously by the task force. He also showed a 3D rotating image which showed all of the connections at or near that junction. The Task Force recommended the 3D images, photos and schematics be labeled and made available to the community.

6. Communications

In addition to 3-D images, photos and sketches of the WESS-13 and area connections, the Task Force also recommended:

- Video of WESS-13 connection. .
- Simple illustrations of the Phase 2 work, particularly the solution to the first 50 metres.
- Images of the scrubbers, what they look like, how they work, and where they will be located (suggested to be done on an overhead Google map).

It was emphasized by the group that the City should only publish material that shows current conditions of the sewers and the solutions at the same time, and not to publish only the current condition. It was noted that before and after shots are always the most effective. They also suggested illustrations (such as pipes or scrubbers) be put into context by showing a person or car to compare the size.

The Task Force recommended the newsletter include a regular section that shares what the schedule of work for the next few weeks or months will be. This will notify people in advance and explain why utility locator personnel are in the neighbourhood, something residents were not aware of beforehand.

7. Community Meeting

It was recommended by the Task Force that the next community meeting to provide an update be held as soon as a plan is developed for Phase 2 and prior to re-opening the shaft. They noted however that work should not be delayed if a meeting cannot be organized in time. It was agreed the format should be a presentation followed by one-on-one discussions.

8. Outstanding Requests for Information

Mr. Yong indicated to the group that some months ago his department was asked by Irene Blain to share detailed technical information about the work being done in the neighbourhood. Producing the information will generate a lot of paper and is very time consuming and he inquired if the Task Force or the community still requires such information , given the fall community meetings, the introduction of a bi-weekly newsletter and creation of the Task Force.

The Task Force suggested the need may no longer exist because much more information has been shared in recent months. They requested Mr. Yong pass on the questions to the Task Force for further consideration and feedback. They also recommended he ask Ms. Blain directly if she still wanted the information.

9. Replacement of Todd Wyman on Task Force

Mr. Wyman announced he has become the Executive Director, Drainage Design and Construction and therefore will no longer be directly involved in drainage planning. However, he said he was willing to stay on the Task Force, accessing information from planning as required. The Task Force agreed it was important for continuity that he stays on the Task Force.

10. Next meeting

The next meeting was set for February 25, 2016 from 7-9 pm. Mr. Huybregts will notify the Task Force of the location.