



Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes “FINAL”

Monday, September 25, 2017

5:30PM –8:00PM

Heritage Room, City Hall

Meeting No. 17.09

Prepared by Christy McKenzie

Members Present:

Vlad Slavov (Vice-Chair), Bob Macklon, Charles Kelly, Isabell Hubert, Mariah Samji, Sean Lee, Kristina Peter, Brian Curry

Regrets:

Izak Roux (Chair), J. Philip Reid, Jorge Arango, Stewart Smith, Mark Tetterington (President, ATU 569)

Guests:

Conrad Nobert, Co-Executive Director, Paths for People
Anthony Dionigi, Transit Supervisor, City of Fort Saskatchewan

ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:

Guy Boston, Branch Manager, LRT Project Delivery, Integrated Infrastructure Services, City of Edmonton
Marc Lachance, ETS Staff Liaison, ETS Business Integration, City Operations
Christy McKenzie, Administrative Assistant, ETSAB and ETS Technical Services, City Operations

Materials & Attachments:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from August 28, 2017
- Draft Follow-Up Letter to Council re: Route 747
- ETS Branch Highlights Report

1. CALL TO ORDER	
Call to order at 5:30PM	

2. AGENDA REVIEW	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by B. Macklon & seconded by B. Curry to approve this Sep 25th, 2017 agenda, with the following change: Remove “Route 747 Discussions” from New Business/Updates, and add “DRAFT ETSAB Letter of Support for Route 747” to Request For Approval.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>CARRIED</u></p>	

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by M. Samji & seconded by B. Macklon to approve the Aug 28th, 2017 minutes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>CARRIED</u></p>	

4. PRESENTATIONS	INFORMATION
Paths for People on First Mile/Last Mile	C. Nobert
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conrad introduced <u>Paths for People</u> as an organization incorporated in December 2015 out of the Edmonton Bike Coalition, which was initiated in 2014 with the success of the “I Bike” Campaign to allocate \$30 million dollars of City funds to improvements for cycling in Edmonton. • The Reboot Whyte Avenue Event followed in 2016 with a campaign to redesign Whyte Ave due to multiple collisions involving bikes and pedestrians in the area. This resulted in the Downtown Bike Network project approval from Council in June of 2016, using Calgary’s Downtown Bike Grid in 2015 as a model. By June of 2017, 7.8 kilometers of protected bike routes were completed. • Advocating for upcoming Neighborhood Renewal project for Strathcona community is the current 	

focus for the group, followed by involvement in solutions for the first mile/last mile for public transportation. This includes walking and bicycle infrastructure, bike share programs and secure bike lock ups. Raised crosswalks, pedestrian islands, and similar improvements to the walk infrastructure were presented. Paths for People will be advocating for \$125 million dollars of the City's Capital Budget to be allocated to bike/walk infrastructure, including a Southside Bike Grid and a Bike Share Strategy for Edmonton.

- Bike Share and infrastructure advantages and examples were presented, with Hamilton, Ontario as a model for Edmonton. The estimated additional cost of the trip for last mile/first mile was \$1.50.
- Question and answer period followed, and included:
 - Discussions around Bike Share options and technology. Conrad noted Paths for People would like to see a pilot at Century Park Transit Center.
 - Board requested organization's view on biggest obstacle for implementing Bike Share in Edmonton.
 - Profits vs. non-profit bike share programs were discussed. China has company-owned bikes with QR codes that can be scanned and do not require any docks.
 - The existing Century Park bike lockers were discussed, in relation to signage and advertising. Conrad was not aware of these.
 - Members requested that Paths for People share progress on Southside Bike Grid project when available.
 - Breakdown of \$125,000 Capital Budget was noted to be related to five bike grids in five years, potentially interconnected by top level of high level bridge.

LRT Plans for Edmonton	G. Boston
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guy Boston manages the delivery of LRT projects within the City's Integrated Infrastructure Services (IIS) department, working closely as a key stakeholder with the planning department and with ETS on input to and alignment with the Transit Strategy as approved earlier this year. • Updates on LRT projects are posted quarterly to the dashboard on edmonton.ca. The link to the dashboard and related information were provided to members. • One of the main considerations regarding construction of the LRT lines is crossing CN and CP railway tracks. Two bridges are being considered for the surface LRT tracks – over the intersections with railway tracks at 178 St and 149 St as well as over the Yellowhead to Blatchford. These conversations with Council are expected to take place in Q2 of 2018. • An overview of the design concept of "Urban LRT" was presented. The key differences from the current system are that LRT Stations are replaced with stops that are smaller scale/more compact, and integrate with the surrounding communities to allow greater accessibility, maximizing use of public land. • Status of PTIF (public transit infrastructure fund) and benefits of TOD (transit oriented development) were discussed. TOD was noted to increase value to properties based on proximity to access to public transportation. • A map of the stops planned for the new lines was presented, showing the Valley Line Southeast, Valley Line West, Metro Line Northwest, Capital Line South, Heritage Valley Transit Centre/Park & Ride, and the Downtown Circulator. • The timelines for concept planning, preliminary design and construction procurement readiness, and building phases of the projects were presented as well. Valley Line West has been identified by Council as Priority 1a for building when funding is available, and Metro Line Northwest (NAIT to Blatchford) as Priority 1b. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Valley Line Southwest public engagement activity and status of construction was presented. It is a P3 Public Private Partnership, with low-floor, urban LRT design featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 13.1 km of track ▪ 11 stops, Davies Station w Park and Ride, Transit Centre ▪ Tawatinâ bridge across NS River ▪ Tunnel running under Quarters Redevelopment ▪ New O&M Facility ▪ Interchange at Churchill Station linking to the Capital and Metro LRT lines ○ Valley Line West is also designed to be a low-floor, urban style LRT with 13.9 km of track, 14 stops, and elevated stations at West Edmonton Mall and Misericordia Hospital. ○ Metro Line Northwest is designed as a High-floor urban style LRT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 11km double track ▪ 9 stations 	

- 1 new park and ride (St. Albert)
 - Operations & Maintenance Facility
 - CN Walker Railyard / YHT crossing
 - 6 potential grade separations
 - Princess Elizabeth Ave, 137 Ave, 153 Ave, 127 St, 142 St, Campbell Rd
- Capital Line South is an extension of the current Capital Line:
 - 4.5km double track
 - 1 station (+ potential for Twin Brooks)
 - Terminus - Heritage Valley Park n Ride
 - Blackmud Creek + AHD crossings
 - 23 Ave underpass
 - Operations & Maintenance Facility
 - 3 potential grade separations
 - 12th Ave, 9th Ave, Ellerslie Rd
- Downtown Circulator Project includes two stages. Corridor Analysis (selection of the route) and Concept Planning (alignment and station locations). Public Engagement is currently underway. High Level Bridge structural assessment is underway. Corridor Selection scheduled for end of Q4 2017. Concept Completion anticipated for Q3 2018
- Question and answer period followed.
 - Discussion around proposed Gorman Station (extension of Capital Line north from Clareview). It was proposed and pace of growth and development was considered but it was not prioritized by Council.
 - Hollyrood stop and Kingsway Garden Mall were discussed as examples of similar examples of areas with land use bylaws and policies that affecting permitting.
 - Citizen Advisory Committees and P3 were discussed in relation to public engagement for Valley Line Southeast LRT.

5. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL	DECISION
Draft Follow-Up Letter to Council re: Route 747	V. Slavov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vlad presented the draft follow-up letter to Council for members. • All members present voted in favour of the letter with minor formatting changes. <p><i>MOVED: by C. Kelly & seconded by I. Hubert to approve the Follow-Up Letter to Council re: Route 747, with minor formatting changes.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>CARRIED</u></p>	

6. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES	INFORMATION
Transit Innovation	I. Hubert
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was held evening of the Council meeting with Edmonton International Airport (EIA). The letter of support for ETS Route 747 to Council approved by the Board at today's meeting was drafted at the sub-committee meeting. • Allowing dogs on transit was discussed at the sub-committee meeting, initiated through a citizen letter to Councillor McKeen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion included comparison with other national and international systems. • The Board reviewed the Transit Customer Conduct Bylaw (Bylaw 8353) which confirmed that pets are allowed on ETS currently in an "appropriate container" and "remains confined for the duration of the trip". • Members noted that the issue could be considered for the 2018 work plan of the Board in the spring, if it is voted to be among the top concerns within the time available for the year. 	
Automated Vehicles	C. Kelly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September meeting was held and a summary of discussions was provided to the Board. 	

Gondolas and Cable Cars	V. Slavov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim Farrell, a citizen who has researched this topic in some detail, was invited as a guest speaker to present his findings and recommendations to the sub-committee during the September meeting. 	

7. NEW BUSINESS	INFORMATION
Debrief of September 6, 2017 ETSAB Tourism & Transit Report presentation	S. Lee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report was generally well-received by the committee. EIA spoke briefly to ETS Route 747 and further negotiations are ongoing between EIA and the City. The outcome was a motion for ETS to work with stakeholders (like EIA and EEDC) to provide a report by January 2018 back to the committee on the possible implementation of all seven of the ETSAB report measures to improve the tourists' experience on the system. 	

8. INFORMATION SECTION	INFORMATION
ATU Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates available. 	
DATS Advisory Group Update	B. Macklon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bob advised that the recent ETS reorganization has resulted in a title change for DATS lead Paul Schmold to Manager of Paratransit, reporting to the Director of Transit Operations. DATS accepts regular ETS passes and the new Ride Transit passes for low income riders. Riders no longer require a unique paratransit pass, and the current ones are being phased out. 82% of the DATS clients affected by the new scooter policy have now been contacted and supported to transition to compliant scooters. 	
ETS Branch Highlights Report	M. Lachance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The September ETS Branch Highlights report was presented. Question and answer period followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board requested whether VIA passengers are permitted to ride the shuttle, or only the Greyhound passengers. It was noted that only Greyhound pass/ticket holders would likely be serviced by the shuttle. Experience Jasper pilot project was discussed, including whether traffic counts may have been conducted as part of the study. Bus bay/lanes were also discussed. Members requested whether temporary heated shelters may be available to riders during the closure of Belvedere, Castle Downs and Jasper Place transit centres over the winter. They also were interested in more details about the shelter designs and justification for timing of the closures. 	

9. TOPIC OF THE NIGHT	DECISION
	V. Slavov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations by Paths for People and the LRT Delivery Branch representatives were both selected to be highlighted as the topics of the night. 	

10. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING	DECISION
<p>MOVED: by B. Curry & seconded by C. Kelly on October 30th, 2017 to approve these September 25th, 2017 minutes.</p>	
CARRIED	

Next Meeting Information:
Date: Monday, October 30, 2017
Time: 5: 30PM – 8:00PM
Location: Heritage Room, City Hall