



Citizen Working Group - Zone "B" (River Valley)

MINUTES

Meeting # 5	Location: Riverdale House, 9231 100 Ave.
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2017	Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Members		Attendance
David Kahane	Riverdale Community League	✓
Sandra Sperounes	Riverdale Community League	✓
Jodine Chase	Riverdale Community League	✓
Paul Bunner	Cloverdale Community League	✓
Peter McFarlane	Cloverdale Community League	✓
Jason Yeung	Strathearn Community League	✓
Dan Jancewicz	Strathearn Community League	✓
Nancy Rempel	Bonnie Doon Community League	
Andrew Leach	Bonnie Doon Community League	
Alice Harkness	Bonnie Doon Community League (alternate)	
Ken Saunders	Edmonton Ski Club	
Chris Perl	Edmonton Ski Club	
Bob Meyer	Edmonton Folk Music Festival	✓
Patrick Tso	Edmonton Chinese Garden Society	✓
Rhonda Norman	Muttart Conservatory	
Michael Duerr	Muttart Conservatory (alternate)	
Marguerite Trussler for Lorrie Deutscher	Public at Large	✓
Matt Knight	Public at Large	
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
Dean Heuman	TransEd LRT	✓



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1.	Welcome & introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting attendees introduced themselves, with Dean Heuman being introduced as TransEd's new Stakeholder Relations Manager. 	
2.	Confirmation of agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the addition of "Adaptability of LRT" and the request that the Round Table portion include discussion of the usefulness of the Citizen Working Group, the agenda was confirmed. 	
3.	Previous meeting minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group accepted the minutes of the previous meeting. 	
4.	Status of action items	
	<p><u>Add Word versions of agendas to distribution (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This now is regular practice for this group. <p><u>Design & construction schedule details as available (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was dealt with under item #5 below. <p><u>Updated project schedule for TransEd website (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive project schedule brochures are now being produced twice a year, and are downloadable from the TransEd website. <p><u>More user-friendly detail for local activity notices (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TransEd is working on improving the usability of its information. This includes providing more detailed neighbourhood-focused activity summaries. <p><u>Dates on web-posted material to show freshness; ensure as detailed as media reports (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dates are being shown on advisories and other posted materials. <p><u>Engage Cloverdale on 98 Avenue traffic signals (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City sought community input on converting one of the pedestrian-activated signals on 98 Avenue to a full-function signal at TransEd's public open house on April 19, 2017. The results of the engagement will be shared with the community when the report is finalized. <p><u>Tunnel Access Road alignment (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Riverdale community's interest in the confirmed alignment of the tunnel access road (and the desire to have it located as far west as possible) continues to be noted. The road is not in this year's construction plan. <p><u>Input into aesthetic elements of guideway structure over 98 Ave; community consultation on surface treatment of public-facing structures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group reiterated its interest in seeing opportunities for the local community to have input into aesthetic elements of the project. 	<p>Jack Stuempel</p> <p>TransEd</p> <p>TransEd</p>



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	<p><u>Support for public mobility during multiple projects (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The observation was expressed that some people who normally practice active transportation have begun to use vehicles due to disruptions. Jack has conveyed to relevant areas within the City organization the local concerns over the cumulative impact of various projects on mobility. <p><u>Parking & local traffic restrictions / signage (including mixed-use nature of Cameron Avenue) (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the Riverdale community has already pursued arrangements with the City for parking restrictions, Jack will follow up regarding methods to improve awareness of the mixed-use nature of Cameron Avenue. He will attempt to arrange attendance by an appropriate representative at the next meeting of the working group. <p><u>Cloverdale Bridge Deck Timbers (Jack / TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TransEd wants to ensure that community leagues in the river valley that have expressed interest in obtaining Cloverdale footbridge timbers are aware that they have been chemically treated and confirm they still wish to receive them with waivers of liability. They should follow up directly with TransEd as soon as possible. <p><u>Edible Forest (Jack / David Kahane)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group received an update on the exploration of the edible forest concept in Riverdale. It was explained that the City's Engineering Services Branch had recently commissioned a study to evaluate potential areas of environmental concern associated with past uses of the Louise McKinney Riverfront Park area (i.e. old coal mine, Grierson Dump and shantytown). The report is not yet complete, but it is understood that it will include a recommendation that due to subsurface conditions, future landscaping plans should avoid edible species and deeply rooted trees and shrubs. The group expressed interest in seeing the report when it is finalized. In the meantime, there may be opportunities to pursue the concept in areas of the neighbourhood where soil conditions are more suitable. A higher immediate priority for the community is the opportunity to contribute to TransEd's landscaping plans before they are finalized. TransEd will follow up. <p><u>Timing of Muttart Storage Shed Removal (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The removal of the old Muttart storage shed is not expected to occur for some time. Once it begins, the process will not take long. <p><u>Maintaining contact during winter (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact was maintained with the group during the winter to help bridge the time between meetings. 	<p>Jack Stuempel</p> <p>Community League reps / TransEd</p> <p>Jack Stuempel</p> <p>TransEd</p>
5.	Construction Schedule Update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TransEd presented an update on its construction activities, including its 	



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	<p>new spring/summer brochure. Highlights of upcoming work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining wall construction on Connors Hill. Construction of piers that will support the Tawatinâ Bridge, and also piers that will support the elevated guideway over 98 Avenue connecting the bridge to the Muttart stop. Caissons on Grierson Hill to prepare for the breakthrough of the tunnels next year. <p>It was noted with concern that Strathearn was not included in the shared preliminary drawings for construction in the neighborhoods and maps for tree planting.</p>	
6.	<p>Consultation on traffic management plans & detours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group has expressed the desire to be engaged during the development of construction traffic management plans and detours. TransEd indicated that no significant changes are expected to existing arrangements for the next several months. 	TransEd
7.	<p>Fate of footbridge railings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been some interest in the fate of the railings of the Cloverdale footbridge. For example, there is sentimental significance on the part of those who have carved their initials in the wood. The railings were not among the salvageable materials and are not recoverable. 	
8.	<p>Adaptability of LRT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a desire to ensure that the Valley Line LRT is capable of accommodating new initiatives, such as changes that may result from a new Gallagher Park Master Plan and the potential daylighting of Mill Creek. The group was informed that the Valley Line project team is being engaged by the City areas responsible for both initiatives. The plan TransEd has submitted to the City for the Muttart stop does not include the "pocket track" contained in the City's reference design for temporary and emergency storage of light rail vehicles. 	
9.	<p>Round Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a discussion of the value and viability of the Citizen Working Group, especially over the ability to provide meaningful input that can actually be applied to the project as it proceeds. And while the additional information generated at this meeting was considered welcome and valuable, concerns remain over the ability to influence outcomes. While engineering may be effectively complete, the group urged TransEd to recognize the community's desire to be consulted where opportunities exist, such as landscaping details. There are continuing concerns over the continuity of trails. It was suggested that for future public engagement sessions (e.g. open houses), TransEd might consider sharing advance information that would allow attendees to be better informed and prepared. 	<p>TransEd</p> <p>TransEd</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similarly, it was suggested that consideration be given to sharing presentation material in advance of Citizen Working Group meetings. 	Jack
13.	Next Meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that September 12, 2017 be the target for the next meeting. In the meantime, TransEd is open to opportunities to engage the community in various ways such as street corner conversations, as well as meetings with community league boards. 	

Notes by Jack Stuempel