



Citizen Working Group - Zone "C" (85/83 Street Corridor)

MINUTES

Meeting # 1	Location: Program Room, Edmonton Public Library Idylwylde Branch, 8310 88 Avenue
Date: July 15, 2015	Time: 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Members		Attendance
Jon Lai	Bonnie Doon Community League	✓
Shauna Kuiper	Bonnie Doon Community League	
Scott Wylie	King Edward Park Community League	✓
Sarah Vilay	King Edward Park Community League	✓
Lee Birkett	Idylwylde Community League	✓
Eric Flanagan	Idylwylde Community League	✓
Michael Chocho	Holyrood Community League	✓
Geoff Harder	Holyrood Community League	✓
Jean Johnson	French Quarter BRZ	
Luciana Gomez	French Quarter BRZ (alternate)	✓
Karen Sheridan	Southeast Edmonton Seniors Association	✓
Jean-Daniel Tremblay	École publique Gabrielle-Roy	
Brad Wotherspoon	Public at Large	✓
Bryan Zuch	Public at Large	✓
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
Mike Nickel	Councillor, Ward 11	✓
Lindsay Yarmon	LRT Design & Construction	✓



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1.	<p>Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting participants introduced themselves. 	Action by:
2.	<p>Working Group Composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of the composition of the working group included a suggestion that the education sector (and not necessarily or exclusively Edmonton Public Schools) be represented. It was also suggested that with the local importance of parks and recreation facilities including the pool, involvement from Parks might be considered despite being a City department. The group felt that Bonnie Doon Centre, which has been invited to participate, is an important stakeholder to include in this process. There was discussion of how places of worship and/or their congregations might be included while keeping the working group at a manageable size. This will be given further consideration. 	
3.	<p>Terms of Reference (items were re-ordered from the original agenda)</p>	
3.a)	<p><u>Zone Boundaries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the recruitment process for the Citizen Working Groups, there had been a suggestion that the boundary between Zone C and Zone D be re-examined with a view to possibly amalgamating the groups or moving the boundary northward to Whyte Avenue to have King Edward Park participate as part of Zone D instead of Zone C. This would make both groups more equal in size and follow Council ward boundaries which might simplify matters requiring the involvement or attention of the appropriate local Councillor. The group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both options, including group size and eventually agreed that it (and particularly the King Edward Park representatives) favoured a "blurred line" approach, in which the King Edward Park Community League would be represented in both zones. This would acknowledge the connection the neighbourhood has with communities to both the north and the south. 	Jack Stuempel
3.b)	<p><u>Accommodating non-members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed requirement that attendance at Citizen Working Group meetings by non-members be permitted only with the consent of all members was discussed. While the group favoured measures to prevent disruption of its business, it also understood and supported the principle of maximizing transparency. The consensus was to support fully-open meetings, with rules for the accommodation of non-members including advance notice of attendance and topic (if the guest wishes to speak), speaking time limits and a possible question-and-answer opportunity at the end of a meeting. 	Jack Stuempel



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3.c)	<p><u>General terms & guidelines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was some discussion about what the group realistically would be able to influence, given that major decisions with respect to concept, alignments and design have already been made by the City. It was noted that the primary purpose was to keep open the lines of communication and two-way sharing of information. The group might be used as a sounding board for fine-tuning certain aspects of the detailed design, and it is expected to be particularly valuable in the development and implementation of construction traffic and impact management plans by the contractor. In addition, groups will likely become involved in addressing issues such as parasitic parking, where local streets are used for park-and-ride purposes by non-residents. • Communication between groups was also reviewed, with the expectation that there may be topics and issues of interest to multiple groups. The facilitator will make every effort to make groups aware of common issues. However, consideration will also be given to having occasional joint meetings of two or more groups to discuss matters of mutual interest. Also, all groups will be encouraged to review one another's meeting minutes. • The group considered the expectations of members with respect to possible outreach and reporting obligations. It was explained that participation in the Citizen Working Group is not intended to be burdensome. The group is very much a sounding board consisting of people connected to their communities who will be sharing information and knowledge both ways as a result of their normal everyday interactions. • It was agreed that the frequency of meetings would be dictated by the need to meet, with meetings likely becoming more frequent for each group once construction begins in the respective zones. 	
4.	Project Update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group received a brief project update featuring the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is still in the procurement stage with the three short-listed teams currently preparing their bids to be submitted later this year. A contract to complete the design and then build, operate, maintain and partially finance the project will be awarded near the end of this year or the beginning of next year, with construction to begin in early 2016 and finish by the end of 2020. The actual schedule and sequence of construction won't be known until after the contract is awarded. • Some early works are being carried out by the City to set the stage for the contractor, including utility relocations, tree removals and relocations, building removals and closure of several direct accesses onto roads that will be share with the LRT right-of-way. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project is issuing bulletins to inform the public about these early works. Not all current construction activity in the vicinity of the LRT alignment is attributable to the Valley Line project, however, and the bulletins don't cover the unrelated work. 	
5.	Round Table	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional matters were raised at this time. 	
6.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members favoured a repeat of the polling process to determine the most convenient meeting dates and times, as opposed to establishing a set schedule. It was suggested that the next meeting should occur in mid-to-late October, possibly in a community league hall. 	Jack Stuempel

Notes by Jack Stuempel