

Citizen Working Group - Zone "H" (156 Street)

MINUTES

Meeting # 1	Location: West Jasper / Sherwood Community League 9620 - 152 St
Date: October 24, 2017	Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Members		Attendance
Jamie Post	Glenwood Community League	
Clayton Johnson	Glenwood Community League (alternate)	✓
Byron Kwasnitza	Jasper Park Community League	✓
Brandon Beringer	Meadowlark Community League	✓
Sharon Beitel	Lynnwood Community League	✓
Dawne Colwell	West Jasper / Sherwood Community League	✓
Ralph Huizinga	FCR - Meadowlark Health & Shopping Centre	✓
Brent Dragon	Public at Large	✓
Paula A. Smith	Public at Large	✓
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
Rob Powell	Blackmud Creek Community League / member of the public	✓

1.	Welcome & introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting participants introduced themselves, and Jack briefly explained the background and purpose of the Valley Line LRT Citizen Working Groups. 	
2.	Confirmation of agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agenda was adopted as circulated. 	

3.	Terms of reference	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group reviewed the terms of reference describing the purpose of the groups, their composition and coverage area, and guidelines for the conduct of meetings. • The group was reminded that while the City is in the process of refining the LRT concept plan, fundamental decisions such as the corridor, alignment and LRT vision are not being revisited. • It was noted that to help ensure an independent voice for the community, the City has not selected the members of the group, but instead relied entirely on the community to supply members. 	
4.	Zone boundaries	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group discussed the boundaries of Zone “H”. It was explained that the boundaries are designed to define neighbourhoods with common interests near the LRT alignment, and the intention is to adjust the boundaries as deemed necessary or appropriate by the working groups themselves. • The group recommended that Rio Terrace and Patricia Heights be included within the boundaries of Zone “H”, due to the nature of the community access. 	Jack
5.	Group composition / membership	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to adding representation from Rio Terrace and Patricia Heights, it was suggested that there would be value in inviting the participation of local high schools, with Jasper Place High School and St. Francis Xavier High School possibly collaborating on a joint representative. • For a member from the seniors sector, it was suggested that the West End Seniors Association be approached. 	Jack
6.	Project update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack provided a summary of the history and context of the new urban-style Valley Line project. It was explained that the current technical review, including intersection crossing assessments, for Valley Line West is intended to identify any refinements to the concept plan that might be necessary to enable the project to be ready for possible procurement in 2018. Drop-in style public engagement sessions in November will obtain further input from the public before amendments to the concept plan are taken to City Council. • In the ensuing discussion, it was suggested that the City might be more successful in transitioning drivers to LRT by offering more park & ride facilities with more capacity. The group also expressed support for an extension to the airport. • There were questions and concerns regarding the planned at-grade crossing at 149 Street, how traffic is managed in a more constrained roadway during emergencies, and other factors related to past planning and design. Some expressed lack of confidence due to some of the City’s recent LRT and other infrastructure-building experiences. 	
7.	Round Table	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a brief discussion regarding noise and the expectation that the LRT will produce less noise than car traffic. • There is interest in hearing more about the underlying philosophy of transit-oriented development, and in seeing more detailed results of traffic impact analyses. It was noted that traffic modeling takes into account not only current levels, but anticipated future levels with and without LRT in the mix. • It was agreed that it would be helpful to get the perspective from a project engineer at a future meeting. Transit ridership demographics would also be of interest. • Members noted the importance of the Citizen Working Group process being as meaningful as possible. 	Jack
8.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group agreed to meet again in mid-January, with January 23 as the target. 	All

Notes by Jack Stuempel