

DRAFT

Citizen Working Group -
Zone "C" (85/83 Street Corridor) & Zone "D" (Upper Mill Creek)

MINUTES

Meeting # 7	Location: W.P. Wagner School, 6310 Wagner Road
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2019	Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Zone "C"		
Jonathan Lai	Bonnie Doon Community League	✓
Dean Powell	Bonnie Doon Community League	✓
Scott Wylie	King Edward Park Community League	✓
Kevin Richtscheid	King Edward Park Community League	✓
Lee Birkett	Idylwylde Community League	
Marcus Nordin	Idylwylde Community League	
Michael Chocho	Holyrood Community League	
Geoff Harder	Holyrood Community League	
Andrea Hagan	Holyrood Community League	
Marc Neal	French Quarter BIA	✓
Martin Van Keimpema	French Quarter BIA (alternate)	
Currently unassigned	Southeast Edmonton Seniors Association	
Currently unassigned	Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre	
Jean-Daniel Tremblay	École publique Gabrielle-Roy	
Bryan Zuch	Public at Large	✓

Zone "D"		
Shane Thomson	Avonmore Community League	
Ken Stadt	Avonmore Community League	
Trina Empson	EPSB - W.P. Wagner School	✓
Currently unassigned	Metro Edmonton Continuing Education	
Monique Lapalme	Public at Large	
Jacqueline Landry	Public at Large	✓
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests

Dean Heuman	TransEd LRT	✓
Ginny Kulak	Communications Support	✓
Dallas Karhut	CoE Planning	✓
Nathan Smith	CoE Planning	✓

1.	Welcome & Introductions ● Meeting attendees introduced themselves.	Action by:
2.	Confirmation of agenda ● The agenda was confirmed.	
3.	Previous meeting minutes ● Minutes of the previous meeting of the combined groups were accepted.	
4.	Status of Action Items a) Poll members for site tour (Jack) ● Members were polled and the site tour took place on April 28, 2018 b) Arrange presentation on bike network (Jack) ● Guests from the City's Bike Network Team were present at this meeting	
5.	Evolution and integration of bike network ● Dallas Karhut and Nathan Smith from the City's bike network project presented a status report on the work to update the Bicycle Transportation Plan. (A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.) Highlights included:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The three-phase plan is to result in a high-level cycling network map. ○ With the first phase (aspirations and values) completed, the plan has entered the second phase (network design and corridor selection). This phase will include the identification of gaps, barriers and challenges that may be preventing people from cycling where they want to. ○ Integration with transit, which might include taking bikes on transit, or bicycle parking near transit, is also being examined. ○ Engagement during this phase will include workshops, focus groups and an online survey. ○ About 2% of people cycle regularly, and it is estimated that about one in six who commute by bicycle in the summer continue to do so in the winter. (Several members of the group regard themselves as regular cyclists.) ● Questions, discussion and suggestions included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider the European experience, e.g. Netherlands. ○ Increasing cycling will require a cultural shift which will take time. Improved cycling infrastructure will help. ○ When installing bike lanes, don't remove them from business areas but keep them accessible to businesses. ○ Consider maintenance issues; bike lanes will sometimes attract pedestrians in the winter because they are better maintained. ○ The prohibition of bicycles on LRT during peak hours discourages cycling. Secure lock-ups are important. ○ Lack of continuity in cycling facilities is an issue, as is the prevalence of features such as ramp alignments that prevent cyclists from maintaining momentum. ○ When infrastructure is rebuilt, as it is when LRT is introduced, the needs of cyclists should be considered as well as the needs of motorists. This applies to both design and construction (e.g. detours). ○ The role of bike share and scooter share services should be considered. ○ Consider ways to make cycling less intimidating for those with less experience, including more supportive wayfinding/signage and promoting lessons. ○ To engage on cycling matters, consider intercepts along cycling facilities, reaching out at bike shops, contact community leagues, engage students in data collection ○ The program being developed by TransEd to promote safety around LRT will include consideration of cars, cyclists and pedestrians. ● Further information on the bike plan can be found online at https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/cycling.../bicycle-transportation-plan.aspx 	
6.	Project/Construction Update (TransEd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dean Heuman provided a construction update. Highlights included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landscape renderings (available on TransEd's website at http://transedlrt.ca/gallery/) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work on the west side of 85 Street in Holyrood is nearly complete. Final paving won't occur until the east side is done. This year, the underground work will be finished, OCS (overhead catenary system - supplying power to the trains) poles will be installed, and railbed with rails will be in place. ○ The Bonnie Doon Traffic Circle conversion to an intersection arrangement will occur late in 2019. This will be accompanied by comprehensive communications to help people become familiar with the new configuration. ○ The pedestrian crossing at 86 Avenue will be moved to a location nearer the library. ○ Also south of the traffic circle, railbed and rail will be installed this year, and stop platform bases will be built. ○ Lane shifts will occur at 83 Street and Whyte Avenue to allow work to proceed on the west side of 83 Street. ○ The intersection at 76 Avenue should be completed before the end of summer. The work includes permanent lights. TransEd is aware of the driving challenges at this intersection, and Dean noted that much traffic has migrated to other routes during construction. ○ There will be one-lane overnight closures in the Avonmore area during April to June while concrete is poured for the railbed. Strobe lights will replace beepers on heavy equipment to reduce the noise. ○ Aerial spans should be in place from Argyll to 75 Street and McIntyre Road during 2019. ○ Landscaping, which will include 31,000 shrubs and trees for the entire alignment, won't occur until 2020. ○ South of Whitemud Drive, most of the railbed is in place, much of the track has been installed, and intersections will be straightened out. ○ Community updates will be posted to the TransEd website in the coming weeks. ○ A light rail vehicle will be put on display at Mill Woods Town Centre in late June or early July. ○ TransEd will hold public open houses to share project updates; dates are on their website at http://transedlrt.ca/community/. ● The ensuing discussion included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TransEd received both praise and concerns for its signage and traffic redirection efforts. ○ Due to the overall delays with the Tawatinâ Bridge, the pedestrian portion of the bridge will not open early as originally planned. ○ The pathway down Connors Road is to be restored this year. ○ Retaining walls on Connors Road are nearing completion. In the summer, the lanes will be shifted toward the wall to allow construction to proceed on the north side of Connors Road, beginning with the shared-use path and followed by the railbed. ○ A decision on the temporary closure of 95 Avenue to allow accelerated construction is expected in the near future. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ TransEd has worked with the local community to address challenges for pedestrians in the area of the seniors' residences across from the Bonnie Doon Centre.	
7.	Round Table <ul style="list-style-type: none">● There is interest in the status of the Mill Creek daylighting initiative. Jack noted that the Valley Line LRT project's role has been to ensure that it doesn't interfere with the ability of the daylighting initiative to proceed.● The group's views were solicited on a suggestion from Group "B" that consideration be given to outfitting LRT stops with some form of bulletin board that would enable community members to post notices etc. Responses included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ acknowledgement that it might have some value to the community○ consider how such a board might be maintained to avoid clutter (perhaps have the adjacent community be responsible)○ consider the alternative of allowing submissions to an electronic board○ perhaps try a pilot version, maybe at NAIT○ ensure that any such board not become a visual barrier that might compromise personal safety and security	
8.	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">● It was agreed that June 19 should be targeted for the next meeting, to be confirmed with a poll. In the meantime, Jack is to check on possible updates on items brought to the group previously by representatives of other City departments.	Jack

Notes by Ginny Kulak and Jack Stuempel