



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

MINUTES

Meeting # 2	Location: Riverdale House, 9231 100 Ave.
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2015	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	✓
Glenn Selland	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	
Bob Meyer	Edmonton Folk Music Festival	✓
Heather Seutter	Muttart Conservatory	
Michael Duerr	Muttart Conservatory (alternate)	✓
Lorrie Deutscher	Public at Large	✓
Matt Knight	Public at Large	
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
George Kosowan	Member of the public	✓



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1.	Confirmation of agenda	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting agenda was accepted with the addition of one item, being an update on the Muttart storage building. Meeting attendees introduced themselves. 	
2.	Previous meeting minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group confirmed acceptance of the previous meeting minutes. 	
3.	Status of action items	
	<p><u>Working Group Composition (Meeting #1, item #2)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack noted that recruitment from the education sector, seniors sector and the Chinese Garden Society had not yet occurred. <p><u>Terms of Reference - accommodating non-members (Meeting #1, item #3a)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was dealt with under #5 below. <p><u>Terms of Reference - Coordination with P3 Contractor (Meeting #1, item#3b)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was carried forward. <p><u>Terms of Reference - Annual review (Meeting #1, item#3b)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was carried forward. <p><u>Intersection of Connors Rd & 95 St (Meeting #1, item #6)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The neighbourhood drop-in remains to be organized. <p><u>Round Table - Pre-construction inspection follow-up (Meeting #1, item #8)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suggestion for follow-up with residents was accepted by the engineer responsible. The compilation of comprehensive reports that would be meaningful to residents may take some time due to the way the data is collected and maintained. 	<p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p>
4.	Project Update - Preferred Proponent	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group received a brief project update that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional background on TransEd Partners, selected by the City as the preferred proponent for the public-private partnership (P3) contract. (See attached presentation). It was noted that particular emphasis has been placed on the principle of "sustainable urban integration" to integrate the Valley Line LRT into the character of the community as much as possible. It was also noted that the many commitments the City has made to the community have been reflected in the Project Agreement, which will be released publicly (except for content protected by privacy legislation) after the contract is finalized. A six-month look-ahead construction schedule is to follow 30 days after financial close, with a comprehensive (though flexible) schedule for construction through to 2020 to follow 60 days later. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The light rail vehicle is to be Bombardier's Flexity. TransEd will be responsible for communications and engagement related to final design and construction, with the City providing oversight to ensure commitments are fulfilled. However, the City will retain the lead responsibility for engaging the Citizen Working Groups, with TransEd providing support. 	
5.	Revised Terms of Reference	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group reviewed the latest revisions to the Terms of Reference reflecting previous input from all of the groups. The first major change involved redefining the boundaries of the 85/83 Street Corridor and Whitemud (subsequently re-named Upper Mill Creek) Zones to achieve better focus and recognition of common or overlapping interests. This has resulted in some common representation, i.e. there are a few members who will attend meetings of both groups. In the same vein, it was agreed there would be merit in having cross-attendance between neighbouring zones elsewhere, such as between the River Valley and Downtown Zones. This will be proposed to the Working Group for the Downtown Zone. It was suggested that while the City has been setting the meeting agendas, with Working Group members invited to contribute, the Working Groups themselves might wish to take a stronger role in agenda-setting. The second major change addressed the matter of attendance of Working Group meetings by non-members. Based on previous input from all of the groups, it was proposed that meetings be open to attendance by the public. Non-members who wish to speak will be required to register in advance and their speaking time will be limited. During the considerable discussion regarding the appropriate length of time for speakers, it was acknowledged that the rules would be applied with reasonableness and discretion. The group favoured a five-minute time limit for speakers (rather than three), and agreed that the new provisions would be adopted, with time limitations ultimately based on the prevailing views of all of the Citizen Working Groups. 	Jack Stuempel
6.	Public art on the Valley Line	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group was informed that the Edmonton Arts Council is issuing calls for public art and offering opportunities for public participation on juries to select public art, including art to specific to the Valley Line. Details can be found at http://edmontonarts.ca. 	
7.	Planned closure of northbound access to Muttart service road	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group was notified of the City's intention to close the northbound access to the Muttart service road, which will be going to public hearing in January. The purpose is to reduce the size and length of retaining walls that would otherwise be required adjacent to the LRT track. There was some concern over the consistency of the rationale for the closure, as some members indicated that the City had previously explained that it is needed to accommodate a possible pocket track (siding) adjacent to 	



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	<p>the Muttart stop. However, current indications are that the closure will be needed with or without a pocket track.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was discussion of local concerns over the impact the closure might have on access to and from Cloverdale, especially with increasing traffic on 98 Avenue. There are plans for a meeting between community representatives and Councillor Henderson later in December to further discuss these concerns. 	
7a.	Update on Muttart storage building (added item)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was discussion of the replacement of Muttart storage building, which must be removed to allow construction of the Valley Line. There are some local concerns over the scale of the building and environmental implications due to the area having been used in the past for landfill, which the community has raised with the Minister of Environment. It was noted that another City department is taking the lead on the design of the building replacement, including the necessary environmental diligence measures. 	
8.	River valley trail detours	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group received a copy of the river valley trail detours planned for the LRT construction period. It was noted that there might be a need for some adjustments to accommodate non-LRT activities that were not contemplated at the time the contract for the Valley Line was being written, including some roadway improvements in Cloverdale and the Mechanized River Valley Access (funicular) project. Clarification was requested regarding a gap in the illustration at Grierson Hill and 95 Street (it was subsequently confirmed that the gap was just in the illustration; trail continuity at that location is maintained). There was also some question about how much flexibility might still exist to accommodate community input. It was suggested that consideration be given to trail users who might be entering the trail system from outside the construction zone, so that they are aware of potential detours well before they are committed to a specific path. It was also suggested that rather than emphasizing detours, the map emphasize trail continuity by indicating routes that will be open and those that will be closed. An additional concern was over the management of trail traffic that will be re-routed over the Low Level Bridge during the Cloverdale footbridge replacement period. There was a desire to ensure that the needs of less-mobile users continue to be considered, for example, by maintaining accessible parking. There will need to be some additional discussion between City departments to ensure coordination between projects affecting trails. 	Jack Stuempe



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9.	Round Table	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a brief discussion noting there will be a high level of interest with respect to construction details when available. It was noted that once there is a schedule and TransEd begins to participate in these meetings, discussion will become more practical and meaningful on that front. 	
10.	Next Meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that email updates will likely suffice until a construction schedule is in place. Given the anticipated time-lines with respect to the finalization of the contract with TransEd and the expected confirmation of a construction schedule, March was suggested as a reasonable target for the next meeting. As much lead time as possible is preferred by the group. 	Jack Stuempel
11.	Questions from guests	
	<p>Q: Will the meeting presentation materials be available on the website?</p> <p>A: The group agreed it had no issue with the materials being posted.</p>	Jack Stuempel

Notes by Jack Stuempel