



## Citizen Working Group - Zone "E" (Mill Woods)

### MINUTES

Meeting # 4	Location: Golf Course Maintenance Building Mill Woods Golf Course, 4540 - 50 Street
Date: October 4, 2016	Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Members		Attendance
Leigh Makarewicz	North Millbourne Community League	✓
Mariah Samji	North Millbourne Community League	
Linda Shute	Mill Woods Town Centre	
Joan Kirillo	MCARFA	✓
Mitch Baxter	Leefield Community League	
Wil Tonowski	Leefield Community League (alternate)	
Dennis Emmerling	Woodvale Community League	
Al Aben	Woodvale Community League	✓
(Currently unassigned)	Lakewood Community League	
Michael Neuherz	Public at Large	
Paul Conway	Public at Large	✓
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
Michelle Ponich	TransEd LRT	✓
Jeff Rogers	TransEd LRT	✓

1.	Welcome and Introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalized terms of reference for the Citizen Working Groups were circulated to attendees.</li> <li>It was suggested that, given the level of attendance from some community leagues, consideration be given to inviting a representative from the Mill Woods Presidents' Council to meetings of the Citizen Working Group. Leigh Makarewicz offered to gauge interest at the next meeting of the Presidents' Council.</li> <li>Meeting participants introduced themselves.</li> </ul>	



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2.	Confirmation of Agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the addition of discussion of a recent letter from North Millbourne Community League to Mayor and Council, the agenda was confirmed.</li> </ul>	
3.	Previous meeting minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as circulated.</li> </ul>	
4.	Status of Action Items	
4.i	<p><u>Tree removal map (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the previous meeting, the group had urged that TransEd prepare a map illustrating the tree removal plan as a supplement to verbal and written summaries.</li> <li>It was noted that the City has delegated to TransEd the responsibility for construction-related communications, and therefore it is up to TransEd to develop appropriate responses to community requests.</li> <li>With respect to the tree map request, TransEd has prepared an information sheet, which was distributed to attendees and will be posted online. However, rather than provide a map showing trees to be removed, TransEd is working on a comprehensive map that will show the "before" and "after" landscaped condition of the LRT alignment. This is to be posted on the TransEd website.</li> <li>Jack displayed a Google Earth image combined with a page from the widely-available LRT booklet as a suggested example of what TransEd might prepare.</li> <li>Members of the group expressed concern over the timeliness of information, as well as the scarcity of trees adjacent to the Mill Woods Golf Course (which is the subject of separate exploratory talks that have begun between TransEd and the Golf Course).</li> <li>Observing the absence of trees in other areas along the east side of 66 Street (according to the LRT booklet), the group further urged TransEd to make every effort to incorporate trees in those areas if at all possible.</li> <li>It was observed that the TransEd information sheet indicates the removal of 1,605 trees, to be replaced by 16,777 trees, shrubs and perennials. The group urged that a more like-for-like comparison be used to appear less "disingenuous".</li> <li>There was also discussion regarding continuity of pedestrian passage, including confirmation that there will be a continuous shared-use path on the west side of 66 Street between 28 Avenue and Whitemud Drive, and continuing north to the Davies Station and Transit Centre.</li> <li>It was suggested that more information, especially regarding schedules, from TransEd to the members of the Citizen Working Group would help them fulfil their liaison role better. It was also suggested that broader communication with the community to share and explain landscaping</li> </ul>	<p>TransEd</p> <p>TransEd</p> <p>TransEd</p> <p>TransEd</p>



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	<p>plans would be useful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City will shift the pipeline access from the current location on 66 Street to a location off the ramp to Whitemud Drive, likely in Spring 2017. In the meantime, the project will not interfere with pipeline companies' need for access.</li> </ul>	
4.ii	<p><u>Meeting with Mill Woods Golf Course (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TransEd has had an initial meeting with Mill Woods Golf Course to discuss joint opportunities with respect to trees and landscaping. More meetings are anticipated.</li> </ul>	
4.iii	<p><u>Noise Attenuation Walls (TransEd/Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City and TransEd had been asked by the group to consider the installation of a "living wall" as an alternative to the concrete noise wall currently in the plans.</li> <li>TransEd reported that following extensive discussion and analysis, it has concluded that while the living wall concept has appeal, it would not be feasible along the LRT alignment due in large part to ongoing maintenance costs.</li> </ul>	
4.iv	<p><u>Re-issue opt-in for notifications; add ETSAB (TransEd/Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City has re-invited its LRT email subscribers to opt-in for bulletins from TransEd. As suggested by the group, the Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board has also been signed up for bulletins. Jack will reconfirm that the invitation to opt in has been issued.</li> </ul>	Jack
4.v	<p><u>Anticipated diversion of traffic to 50 St. (TransEd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TransEd explained that the current work on 66 Street (e.g. median removal) is intended to reduce the potential for traffic diversion to 50 Street by maintaining four lanes of traffic in peak hours during construction.</li> <li>It was noted that the City has used a combination of incentives and penalties, including lane closure fees, in its contract with TransEd to help reduce traffic disruption.</li> <li>TransEd will continue to ensure traffic reporters are well-informed regarding traffic flow.</li> <li>It was suggested that construction-related communications (including signage) encourage "zipper-merging" which is more efficient than early merging.</li> </ul>	TransEd
4.vi	<p><u>Davies Park &amp; Ride history; traffic management (Jack)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to a question raised at the previous meeting, it was explained that the location of the Park &amp; Ride was changed to the Davies Station area from a location closer to Whitemud Drive to reduce the risk of congestion on the Whitemud ramp. The Davies Park &amp; Ride will feature five access points for cars entering and leaving. (Post-meeting follow-up: the capacity of the Davies Park &amp; Ride is to be</li> </ul>	



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	<p>minimum 1,300, slightly higher than the Century Park facility.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transit-oriented development adjacent to the Davies Station is anticipated in the future.</li> </ul>	
5.	<b>Project Update</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the information shared earlier during the course of the meeting, TransEd noted that construction on the LRT bridge over Whitemud Drive is to begin in December 2016. Traffic is to be managed in a way that should keep impacts relatively minor. Pedestrian passage across Whitemud Drive will not be impeded.</li> <li>• Edmonton Arts Council (<a href="http://www.edmontonarts.ca/">http://www.edmontonarts.ca/</a>) is preparing to issue another call for public art on the Valley Line, this time for a number of LRT stops. The shelter at the Mill Woods stop is to feature art glass to be provided by an Indigenous artist or artist team.</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>Round Table</b>	
6.i	<p><u>Letter to Mayor &amp; Council from North Millbourne Community League</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group discussed the letter sent in September 2016 by the North Millbourne Community League representatives on the Citizen Working Group on behalf of the community league to the rest of the working group and also to the Mayor and Council, expressing dissatisfaction with the dialogue, low frequency of meetings and availability of timely construction-related information to the working group. Particular reference was made to the "tree map", as well as the City's communications with leaseholders.</li> <li>• It was noted that the nature of construction is such that details of schedules tend to be very changeable. However, efforts will be made to make such information more readily available.</li> <li>• The group also revisited the option of establishing a set meeting schedule, recognizing that a meeting cycle is unlikely to coincide with the construction milestone cycle and that some members might not be able to attend a standard meeting date. It was acknowledged that timely dissemination of information would help reduce the desire for frequent meetings. However, TransEd would prefer to issue updates when there is fresh information to share, rather than repeat the same information to meet a regimented reporting cycle. It was stressed that group members and others interested in receiving current information should sign up with TransEd (<a href="http://transedlrt.ca">http://transedlrt.ca</a>) for updates.</li> <li>• It was agreed that it would not be necessary for the City or TransEd to report to the working group every time a meeting action item is addressed; reporting on action items at meetings will continue to suffice. However, progress reporting on significant items between meetings would be helpful. At the same time, it was acknowledged that there may be matters between the City or TransEd and third parties, even if initiated via the working group, where further direct</li> </ul>	



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6.ii	<p>involvement by the working group would be unnecessary or inappropriate.</p> <p><u>Woodvale Community League sign</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Al Aben reported that Woodvale Community League is concerned about the impact of a potential traction power substation on the community league's sign at the corner of 66 Street and 38 Avenue. The community league is proposing that if the sign (which is nearly due for replacement) is impacted, a replacement that is capable of being updated with messages be incorporated into an art project in a partnership arrangement.</li> </ul>	Jack
7.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following discussion regarding the potential for progress updates, it was suggested that a meeting in mid to late January would be useful.</li> <li>Leigh Makarewicz offered to reach out via MCARFA to a potential Grey Nuns contact/participant for the working group.</li> </ul>	

Notes by Jack Stuempel