

# **ARENA DISTRICT LOCAL ADVISORY MEETING**

Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Rogers Place Conventry Homes Club

## **Attendance**

### **Stakeholders:**

Reymund Palpal-Latoc	Central McDougall Community League
Chris Pilon	Downtown Community League
Craig Lidstone	Oliver Community League
Laurene Viarobo	North Edge Business Association
Randy Shuttleworth	Queen Mary Park Community League
Alfred White	Boyle Street Community League
Mike Van Boom	McCauley Community League
Richard Liukko	Chinatown Business Association
Bruce Fafard	Edmonton and District Labour Council
Dan Glugosh	McCauley Community League
Brent Guidinger	Boyle Street Community Services

### **Edmonton Oilers:**

Susan Darrington	Rogers Place and Oilers Entertainment Group
Natalie Minkler	Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation

### **City of Edmonton**

Rob Smyth, Deputy City Manager, Citizen Services  
Rick Daviss, Executive Director, Arena District Project Office  
Darrell Nordell, Community Recreation Coordinator  
Chantile Shannon, Director Neighbourhoods Branch  
Brian Murphy, Transportation Planning  
Ryan Pleckaitis, Director Community Standards  
Steve Ziele, Edmonton Police Service  
Laray Aryotte, Edmonton Police Service  
Walker Kubrak, Edmonton Police Service  
Treena Schmidt, Management Supervisor Neighbourhoods

### **Guests**

Mark Huberman, Bunt and Associates Engineering  
Catrin Owen, Calder Bateman Communications

- Rob Smyth opened the meeting at 6:33pm. Introductions were made and a summary since last time the group was together on August 15th was shared. Thanks to Oilers Entertainment Group for hosting the meeting tonight at Rogers Place.

- Rob talked about August 30<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting and a report back to City Council is due the first quarter of 2017.
- Rob reviews the agenda and asks for additional Agenda items.
- Question: Will minutes from August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting be reviewed tonight?  
Answer: Some of the items from August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting being reviewed as Catrin Owen from Calder Bateman Communications is here to help us walk through a review of our Terms of Reference. We may not have time to tackle other topics from August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Darrell Nordell will make sure at future meetings that past minutes are included, reviewed and Action items are reported on.
- Rob introduces Catrin Owen from Calder Bateman Communications. Catrin will facilitate the next two agenda topics.
- Catrin opens the discussion with recognition that Calder Bateman Communications is a third party facilitator for tonight's discussion and does not have a vested interest like the City of Edmonton and Oilers Entertainment Group.
- All stakeholders are recognized and thanked for their time given to be at tonight's meeting and discussion is open on table with respectful Norms in place.
- Catrin asks Edmonton Police Service representatives how things are going since Rogers Place opened in Downtown?
- Edmonton Police reported that for the most part everything is going well. Some improvements could be made with better communication between EPS and Downtown Businesses. More Special Duty officers inside Rogers Place would also help during bigger events.

### **Stakeholder Response to EPS**

- Comment: Positive interaction with OEG security noticed and Social Agency Clientele
- Comment: Chinatown Business area is still seeing some event night parking concerns and traffic issues
- Comment: Boyle Street notices parking issues when Citadel, Winspear and Rogers Place events are going on with on street parking.
- Catrin asks if there are other observations noticed.
- A list of observations include: **Parking, Traffic Flow and Disrespectful Patrons (Drug Increase)**

### **Stakeholder Response to Parking**

- Comment: McCauley is experiencing parking issues and something they are used to with Commonwealth but now getting it with Rogers Place on event nights.
- Rick Daviss from City Arena District Office asks: "Is the parking residential, business or an event issue?"
- Comment: Central McDougall has seen residential parking issues increase and the Parking Plan is still not rolled out as of yet. Walking though in Downtown is vibrant at night during events and that is a good thing.
- Comment: Boyle Street Community Services notes that clientele has had some good relationships with OEG and is making the relationship work. Still some concerns as clientele are crossing road at 105<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue can be dangerous. Both corners are marked cross walks.
- Comment: North Edge Business Association anticipated a garbage issues prior to Rogers Place opening and requested extra garbage cans. 35 cans were placed in the business district and the situation is being monitored.
- Comment: Downtown south of Jasper Avenue hardly notices when an event is on at Rogers Place. A lot of parkades are half full.
- Brian Murphy from City of Edmonton Transportation Planning recognizes that parking is the main issue when constructing a project like Rogers Place. Right now they are trying to figure out trends and how Rogers Place will work and times for parking bans that will work better than others.
- Catrin asks, "How long does an analysis take till change can happen? Brian answers, "four to six months to review". Keep bringing issues to this table as this group can help inform City Administration what is and is not working.
- Question: Do private parking companies let you know what their occupancy rates are? Answer: Not at this time however developing a parking strategy between Public and Private lots is an opportunity to explore.
- Question: Is there going to be a community impact survey after one year of operations? Maybe something you should consider.
- Comment: Each neighbourhood may need to be treated a little different with parking issues.
- Comment: If there are half empty parking lots out there maybe they are charging too much!
- Mark Huberman from Bunt and Associates Engineering comments, "Some off street parking is seasonable and with colder weather coming patrons will start to look at other options indoors".

- Question: Is there a Park and Ride for Rogers Arena? Answer: Not at this time as there is no place to stage all the buses. As well Downtown already has good access for LRT stops and already enhanced Edmonton Transit service so is not needed today.
- Question: Surface lot parking North of Rogers Place and where is OEG at with this parking? Answer: A long term parking lot is not desired by City Council and not supported however a short term lot is being considered.

#### **Stakeholder Response to Traffic Flow**

- North bound 101 Street / 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue after events needs to be looked at
- 101 Street / 102A Avenue Eastbound is also a hot spot issue
- 101Street / 105 Avenue is a problem cross walk
- 107 Avenue needs clarity around speed and lack of controls for speed

#### **Stakeholder Response to Disrespectful Patrons (Drug increase)**

- EPS has not noticed an increase in drug use or selling however more people are coming into Downtown area so this will need to be monitored closely.
- Some people in community feel that with more people in Downtown the opportunity to deal is increasing.
- Another community, Boyle Street, sees a decrease in on-street drug use as more people are in the area.
- Question: Is there a need for more public washrooms? Answer: This is a question that was heard before Roger Place was built.
- With some certain events come disrespectful patrons
- Question: Does OEG have a cleaning crew that is coming outside the building after games?

#### **Review of current Terms of Reference and stakeholder response**

- Catrin asks stakeholders for advice on current Terms of Reference? Perspective of how this group could work in the future.
- Comment: Can we give consideration to possible sub-committees from time to time?
- Comment: What can we put in the TOR that we have mutual accountability?

- Comment: Can we have in future meetings a copy of last meeting minutes so we can review them? Answer: Yes we certainly can include last meeting minutes and work to change minutes so they reflect Action Items and updates.
- Comment: Composition of group may want to consider more than one representative from time to time. Answer: Intent of this committee was to have community league, designated social agency and business association representatives at the table. Question might be, “Do we have the right compliment of people”.
- Comment: Possible to include more neighbourhoods? E.g. Parkdale Cromdale
- Comment: How does a representative make recommendations at this table?
- Chantile Shannon COE Director NE District asks, “What is the expectation of the membership going back to their community, agencies and business associations and reporting to their Executive and their neighbourhood”?
- Comment: Is it important that we stay pertinent to issues that affect only community?
- Catrin thanks everyone for their involvement tonight and says that a great list of comments and questions has been gathered. All information will be considered as a revised Terms of Reference is developed and shared with the committee in the coming weeks.
- Rob Smyth thanks everyone for attending and the next meeting will be scheduled for early in 2017.
- Meeting closed at 8:43pm

**Questions to follow up on from meeting:**

Item	Response	Action
MacEwan Relationship with Downtown Community Arena?	The Downtown Community Arena will be the home of the MacEwan University Men's and Women's hockey program. MacEwan University provided capital funds to develop dedicated dressing rooms and other support spaces. The University will be practicing and playing their home games out the Downtown Community Arena	No Action needed
Current stats for Downtown Community Arena?	<b>Early morning fitness skates</b> ranged from 0-2 people for the first 6 weeks of operation. Last 2 weeks stats show 4-6 people out	Continue to monitor

	<p><b>Adult Shiny</b> - Ranged from 0-4 people for the first 5 weeks and has shown steady increases since. Monday sessions are a little lower in attendance ranging from 4-10 people, but the Wednesday sessions have been between 14-24 people for a couple weeks now. For reference, 30 people would be a full session.</p> <p><b>Thursday Public Skate</b> - Has ranged from 22-32 people consistently for the past 5 weeks</p> <p><b>Friday Parent &amp; Tot</b> - Has been low attendance usually ranging from 3-8 participants.</p> <p><b>Friday Older Adult Skate</b>- ranging from 4-8 skaters since week 1.</p> <p><b>Saturday Public Skate</b> - This has been the busiest session ranging from 30-60 people. Average attendance is 38</p> <p><b>Sunday Downtown Community League Skate</b> - Ranges from 17 - 36 participants with average of 23.</p>	