

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

MINUTES

Meeting # 7	Location: Jasper Park Community League 8751 153 St (upstairs meeting room)
Date: March 21, 2019	Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Members	Attendance
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Jamie Post	Glenwood Community League	
Byron Kwasnitza	Jasper Park Community League	✓
Brandon Beringer	Meadowlark Community League	
Sharon Beitel	Lynnwood Community League	✓
Dawne Colwell	West Jasper / Sherwood Community League	
Nafisa Bowen	Rio Terrace Community League	
Dave Hennessey	FCR - Meadowlark Health & Shopping Centre	✓
Brent Dragon	Public at Large	✓
Jane Duffy	Public at Large	

Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓
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Guests		
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Eva Cheung	Valley Line West Project Manager	✓
Ginny Kulak	Valley Line Communications Support	✓
Brian Murphy	City of Edmonton Parking Services	✓

1.	Welcome & introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting participants introduced themselves. 	
2.	Confirmation of agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agenda was adopted as circulated. 	

3.	Previous minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as circulated. 	
4.	Status of action items (Jack)	
	<p>A. Tree species considered for adding diversity; also disposition of removed trees</p> <p>Linden trees, as well as oaks and some varieties of maple are being used to add diversity to the urban forest. Trees that are removed but not suitable for relocation are generally mulched which is used for landscaping purposes.</p> <p>B. Bus / LRT interface; bus network redesign</p> <p>Links for the bus network redesign were shared in the previous minutes. It was noted that because the bus network redesign targets the 2020 time-frame, it does not yet reflect the presence of - or interface with - LRT.</p> <p>C. Park & ride potential at Orange Hub</p> <p>A link to the park & ride guidelines was included in the previous minutes. The general approach is to keep park & ride facilities closer to the city’s extremities, on the assumption that once motorists reach a certain point on the way downtown, they will simply remain in their cars for the entire trip.</p> <p>D. Arrange Parking Services presentation</p> <p>Presentation has been arranged, as the next item on the agenda.</p>	
5.	Parking Services/Non-resident Parking	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brian Murphy of City of Edmonton Parking Services presented information on the City’s residential parking program. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes. ● Given concerns that neighbourhoods surrounding LRT stops might be used as informal park & ride locations, Parking Services intends to work with affected communities to assess and address potential and actual parking issues associated with the introduction of the LRT. ● (Post-meeting note: the City’s parking policy has undergone significant review since this meeting, and a Public Parking Action Plan is scheduled to go to Council’s Urban Planning Committee in May 2021.) 	
6.	Project Update & Discussion	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The federal government has formally announced \$948 million in funding for Valley Line West. This followed a previous provincial announcement of \$1.04 billion of the \$2.6 billion estimated expansion cost. The City’s portion is to be approved by Council in April. ● A Request for Qualifications to find qualified bidders was issued March 8 and closes in April. A shortlist of qualified teams will be established afterward, and a Request for Proposals will be issued by early summer. 	

	<p>The plan is to select a preferred proponent in spring 2020 for a Design-Build-Finance arrangement, with operations & maintenance arrangements to follow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A “Capstone” event to present the completed preliminary design & other information is now scheduled for April 9, 2019 at West End Christian Reformed Church, followed by an additional session at City Hall on April 18. • The City’s Network Operations area has been tasked with undertaking public engagement over neighbourhood short-cutting concerns, and to create “if this, then that” mitigation plans for possible short-cutting during & after Valley Line West construction. • Property acquisition is continuing, and pre-construction condition assessments of homes and other buildings near the right-of-way are to begin in the spring. More than 500 properties are to be surveyed; affected owners will be contacted in the near future. • An update was provided on the status of a several suggestions made by various Citizen Working Groups, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of a stop between 149 Street & 156 Street: This has been shared with ETS in context of the bus strategy. • A consistent speed limit on 111 Avenue: This has been considered by Network Operations. No change is anticipated in the current 50 kmh zones due to proximity areas (residential, schools, lack of service roads or median boulevard). • Eliminating N/S movements at SPR/136 Street: This is expected to be addressed as part of shortcutting study. • Counterflow lanes on 102 Ave.: This was covered in an October report to Urban Planning Committee, with administration to investigate “smart signals” instead. • The suggestion for a pedestrian “scramble” phase at 124 Street has been added to possible methods to be considered to address queuing concerns. 	
7.	Round Table	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was an extended conversation about the City’s approach to park & ride with some strongly-held views that, to encourage motorists to opt for transit/LRT, the City should consider more park & ride facilities, and not just at perimeter locations, at least on a transitional basis. • Discussion also included the nature of development that can be expected to accompany the establishment of the LRT line. 	
8.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group agreed that September would be a reasonable target for the next meeting, with detailed arrangements to be confirmed. 	

Notes by Ginny Kulak and Jack Stuempel