

Valley Line West - AGENDA

Citizen Working Groups I & J

Edmonton

Meeting # 14, October 18, 2023 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. | Aldergrove Community League

Members

Attendance

Zone "I"

Andrea Kendall	Misericordia Hospital (AHS)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mayou	Public at Large	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christine Belter	Summerlea Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karen Merkel	Elmwood Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pam Winski	Public at Large (lives in Thorncliffe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rusk Redmond	Summerlea Community League	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Quickfall	Thorncliff Community League	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Poole	West Meadowlark Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trevor Small	Misericordia Hospital (Covenant Health)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Zone "J"

Aaron Clark	Aldergrove Community League (alternate)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasmine Allen	Belmead Community League	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kelly Cromwell	Lewis Estates Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lorena Munteanu	Public at Large	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Edey	Aldergrove Community League	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maxime Belanger	Secord Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melvin Lacebal	Public at Large (Belmead)	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Paul Andrews	Rosenthal Community	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca Goldsack	Lewis Estates Community League	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Sowinski	Melcor Developments (West Henday Promenade)	<input type="checkbox"/>

CoE / MIP / Guests

Wade Wilson	Valley Line LRT Stakeholder Relations/CWG Facilitator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meilai Ha	Partnerships Manager, City of Edmonton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tania Gonzalez	Valley Line West LRT Communications Advisor, City of Edmonton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brad Baumle	Construction Manager, Marigold Infrastructure Partners	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lynley Kotyk	Senior Communications Advisor, Marigold Infrastructure Partners	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Sheehan	Communications Manager, Marigold Infrastructure Partners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	DISCUSSION ITEMS	ACTION BY:
1	Welcome & Introductions	Meilai
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief introductions Jasmine requested that email be updated as she had not received correspondence 	
2	Confirmation of Agenda	Wade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No concerns raised Agenda approved 	
3	Previous Minutes	Wade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No concerns raised 	
4	Action Item Review (see March 2023 Minutes)	Wade

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	<p>Intersection at 87 Ave and 170 Street. The COE will investigate the data and bring it back to the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meilai checked in with Safe Mobility colleagues and found that stats demonstrate crashes are decreasing over the last ten years ● The majority of crashes that have resulted in property damage were the result of poor driving behaviours (ex. vehicles following each other too closely) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not all traffic incidents can be recorded if they don't result in collision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ie. road rage, harassment, etc. ● Is working with safe mobility to provide solutions which address driver behaviours holistically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Since LRT construction began, community members have personally witnessed questionable behaviours, including illegal u-turns at traffic lights on 178 St. ○ Drivers are missing turn-offs to re-enter WEM and pulling u-turns ● LRT will work with safe mobility and policing to enforce traffic laws on a case-by-case basis ● There is constant monitoring of traffic at traffic lights <p>ACTION ITEM: Pam to submit intersection details and request that a “No U-Turn” sign be installed to LRTprojects@edmonton.ca.</p>	<p>Meilai</p>
	<p>CWG members to request tours from Jennifer Sheehan (MIP)(CWG members)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MIP reminds everyone that walking tours are available for schools and the community at large. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To date, not a single walking tour has been requested. ● MIP does not book tours for individuals, requires a group to organize a walking tour. Number of participants is negotiable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sharon: Community leagues might also be interested in walking tours for interested community members <p>► <i>For future consideration: Community members can organize walking tours from now until the weather drops and construction ends. They can also arrange for a tour in the spring.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gantry will be operational until the end of November. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pam: Would MIP be willing to decorate the gantry with lights for Christmas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MIP decorates equipment when specific asks are made <p>ACTION: Jenn S to investigate decoration of gantry during Christmas season</p>	<p>Jenn S.</p>

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<p>for community members.</p>	
<p>City will contact the River Cree about the 175 Street stop.</p>	<p>Wade</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bus stops on 178 St north of 81 Ave, which holds up traffic at that intersection ● The City cannot police how quickly riders get on and off the bus. 	
<p>MIP can share information for community newsletters and FB pages. Also, a safety presentation for schools is available. CWG Members are to ask for this info if required. (CWG members)</p>	<p>Jenn S.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MIP has responded to multiple inquiries from Community Leagues and provided details regarding safety along VLW. ● MIP is happy to facilitate safety training during construction. ● MIP has offered safety training at various times to all schools along VLW. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To date, not a single school has requested safety training. <p><u>Questions/Discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pam: Feels that training would be more valuable to schools when the train is operational rather than during construction ➤ <i>For consideration: MIP only facilitates safety training during construction. The City of Edmonton can facilitate safety training program once train is operational.</i> ● Mark: Aldergrove school might be interested in doing a walking tour with MIP (construction safety presentation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MIP can send someone from the safety team to give an interactive presentation for to teach safety during construction <p>ACTION ITEM: Mark to provide Aldergrove School with the option of MIP doing a safety presentation for the school. Email will include contact information for Jenn Sheehan so school administrators can get in touch with her.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rusk: Students from JP High demonstrated poor judgement around safety during construction for LRT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feels that after education should come enforcement. ● Wade: There will be a learning curve for Edmontonians along VLW. <p>➤ <i>For future consideration: Community members will have to work with EPS for enforcement as MIP is not responsible for enforcement.</i></p>	

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	<p>City will share that concern about placements of ETS stops with ETS. Not on edge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The message was passed on. The matter is now with ETS. ● Members shared concerns with ETS drivers not being aware of detours, so they miss picking up at the alternate stops. ● CWG members were instructed to email LRT Projects with specific incidents and details if stops continue to be missed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To date, the City has not received any complaints regarding missed stops. 	<p>Wade</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>City Update (presentation)</p> <hr/> <p>Stakeholder Relations Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing stakeholder meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government of Alberta re: Anthony Henday Bridge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ discussions include issues, concerns, traffic problems, etc. ○ West Edmonton Mall ○ Misericordia Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ bi-weekly meetings ■ discuss traffic issues around hospital, ensuring access for emergency vehicle ○ Meadowlark Mall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Work for LRT line is almost complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● were forced to reconfigure their entire parking lot ■ Meadowlarkl is being compensated for work ○ There is ongoing engagement with the Meadowlark Professional Building at 87 Ave and 159 Street ● Community Leagues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Valley Line West LRT Stakeholder Team would be happy to attend any community league meetings and answer questions regarding LRT construction ● Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We have not had alot of engagement with businesses in your zone besides Meadowlark Mall and West Edmonton Mall. ○ We plan to do small business stakeholder outreach again with the business plaza on 156 Street. ○ Will be meeting with businesses in the plaza on 87 Ave and 189 Street (plan to connect with them over the next few weeks ● MIP continues to engage with residents and business owners ● Both MIP and the City use data tracking systems to manage Stakeholder Relations 	<p>Wade</p>

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	<p><u>Questions/Discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rusk: Is there a permanent closure on Meadowlark Road? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are no permanent road closures on Meadowlark Road, there are only changes to road configurations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In many areas where traffic has been accommodated with two lanes in each direction, traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction and the LRT line down the middle. This change will be permanent. 	
	<p>Financial Loss During Major Construction Projects Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On October 4, 2023, a motion was passed for Administration to update a draft policy about “Financial Loss During Major Construction Projects” for consideration by City Council. ● The draft policy will focus on providing financial compensation to business owners, which will be repaid in years subsequent to construction completion should revenue increase to a level higher than pre-construction values. ● The draft policy is anticipated to be submitted to City Council for review in January 2024. <p><u>Questions/Discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mark: Hasn’t the City already compensated Meadowlark Mall? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wade: The City compensated Meadowlark for expropriating land. Meadowlark’s compensation is not related to Councillor Knack’s motion. 	<p>Meilai</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>MIP Construction Update (presentation)</p>	<p>Jenn S.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce disruption and inconvenience through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alternative planning and scheduling ○ Mitigating noise and dust ○ Reducing impacts to traffic ○ Lane restrictions & detours ○ Parking restrictions ○ Early morning work & potential for overnight work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Edmonton bylaw compliant ○ Noise & dust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mitigation efforts in effect ○ Other works in the area include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Upgrades to Misericordia Community Hospital Emergency Department ■ Construction of the pedestrian bridge 	

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- Movement of dirt
 - Mitigation efforts in effect
- Snow Clearing
- MIP requests that residents to inform them if they witness any vandalism
- MIP has created a look-back video, which will be shared with the City shortly.
 - Video highlights the work that has been completed
- Construction Updates:
 - 159 St & 87 Ave intersection to remain in this configuration throughout the winter
 - Elevated Guideway construction continues. Span over 170 St will be complete soon.
 - The work is scheduled to occur overnight
 - Major considerations for the area include access for First Responders
 - Access to the Misericordia Hospital during construction is a top priority
 - Making great progress on both Misericordia & West Edmonton Mall Stations
 - 182 St is expected to re-open by middle of November
 - Cross-over construction on Anthony Henday Dr to support LRT Bridge girder erection is complete.
 - Anthony Henday girder erection will occur this winter
 - SPR Girder install is currently underway to completed by end of November
 - SPR Bridge is inline to meet its deadline of November 2024 but is working the complete the work ahead of schedule
- MIP will continue to work until the weather makes continuation of work difficult due to safety concerns and quality control.

Questions/Discussion:

- Pam: The signage indicating closure of 170 Street for girder installation has been unclear. The road was closed when it was supposed to have been open.
 - Jenn S: Due to unforeseen circumstances, only one day's notice was provided ahead of work commencement, which is not typical of the usual amount of time provided ahead of closures (which is 5, 10, or 20 business days, depending on scope of work.)
 - The work will happen overnight

ACTION ITEM: CWG members should sign up for MIP's newsletter

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	<p>► <i>For future consideration: MIP suggests sending an email if there is a concern, rather than waiting until a meeting is scheduled to address it.</i></p>	
7	Round Table	All
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharon: Number of panhandlers has increased at major intersections along the LRT line <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jasmine: They meander through the vehicles and slow down traffic <p>ACTION ITEM: CWG members should submit concerns to LRTprojects@edmonton.ca</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mark: As CWG volunteers, it can be difficult to assess the best way to host meetings with stakeholders when they have passionate concerns. Should CWG members facilitate meetings with groups within the community to address major concerns? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wade: We are trying to create an environment as Stakeholder Relations that allows folks to ask questions and provide answers, vs. not giving them a direct line of communication with project leaders. ○ Jasmine: It would be beneficial to have a working group meeting and host multiple communities at a time to encourage more perspectives ○ Mark: A meeting should be arranged in the Spring and provide plenty of advanced notice to meet community members. <p>ACTION ITEM: Mark and Jenn S to work together to coordinate a meeting in the Spring.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pam: Signage indicating closures are not always placed in visible locations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jenn S: All sign placement follows traffic accommodation requests, which is coordinated with the City of Edmonton Traffic Operations Team. There are many factors that are taken into consideration in sign placement. <p>► <i>No action required.</i></p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mark: At some point, both access points to Aldergrove will be closed. Some residents are concerned about emergency access, and he relays information regarding MIP's prioritization of emergency access points.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pam: These closures will lead to traffic increases in front of Thorncliff school, police enforcement should be made a priority. <p>► <i>For consideration: MIP is not responsible for police enforcement. Residents are encouraged to speak with principals and ask them to contact their EPS contacts for enforcement.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pam: Some lights on the construction sites are not pointed away from incoming traffic and can be blinding to drivers. <p>ACTION ITEM: Pam to send an email that specifies the exact location/intersection of the problematic lights.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mark: Regarding 189 Street and 87 Ave:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Would it be possible to have a local-traffic only request on 95 Ave?<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Lots of commuter traffic■ Accessing the Henday driving up 95 Ave turning left onto 189 Street and then turning right onto 87 Ave to avoid traffic on 170 and 178 Street■ Functionally, this means residents can't leave the community during rush hour as they cannot turn left<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Residents have to drive straight through, turn left onto businesses and then exit on the right <p>ACTION ITEM: Mark to submit an email to MIP with the details of intersection. A sign can be installed once details are provided.</p> <p>► <i>For consideration: Any request for signage that's not directly along the alignment becomes a matter for the City. Concerns can be sent to LRTprojects@edmonton.ca</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Jasmine: Is it possible to request that signs be placed outside of the school just off the alignment?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ MIP only provides signage along the LRT alignment. <p>ACTION ITEM: Jasmine to submit an email to LRTprojects@edmonton.ca with the details of intersection. A sign can be installed once details are provided.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Jasmine: Would like some "Local-Traffic Only" signs to deter people from cutting across 178 St, 187 St and 189 St.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Would like some "local traffic only" signs <p>ACTION ITEM: Jasmine to submit an email to LRTprojects@edmonton.ca with the details of intersection. A sign can be installed once details are</p>	

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	<p>provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharon: Has a poor experience with worker vehicles blocking access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Was told they'd only be there for a few minutes. Blocked in resident for an extended period of time when the resident had to catch a flight. <p>➤ <i>No action required.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharon: There was a workplace injury and residents wanted an update on the worker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MIP issued a statement on social media and to the media to address the matter ○ Unfortunately, the worker lost a leg ○ Worker has since returned to work. <p>➤ <i>No action required.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rusk: On 95 headed East to West on 170th, there are no left-right turning lights. This causes backed-up traffic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The intersection in question is not along the main VLW line. <p>ACTION ITEM: Citizens should submit the concern via 311, who will send it directly to Traffic Ops to address it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rusk: The new pedestrian pathway from Wem to the Misericordia Hospital features rocks that are big enough to take over the pedestrian walkway and drop it onto traffic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This has not happened yet, but citizen is concerned that it will occur in future. <p>ACTION ITEM: Meilai will raise this issue with the right contact as this is a capital project, not a VLW project.</p> <p>➤ <i>For future consideration: Community members have been instructed to submit inquiries via main LRT email at LRTprojects@edmonton.ca for immediate response rather than waiting for CWG meetings to raise issues.</i></p>	
8	Next Meeting	Wade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Preference is for an in-person meeting ● Date TBD 	