



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

MINUTES

Meeting # 2	Location: Mill Creek Room Mill Woods Town Centre
Date: December 21, 2015	Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Members		Attendance
Leigh Makarewicz	North Millbourne Community League	
Mariah Samji	North Millbourne Community League	
Minla Sadasiwan	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	✓
Charles Penney	Lakewood Community League	
Michael Neuherz	Public at Large	✓
Paul Conway	Public at Large	✓
Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓

Guests		
George Kosowan	Member of the Public	✓

1.	Introductions & confirmation of agenda	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting participants introduced themselves, the agenda was confirmed, and the group welcomed the guest observer. 	
2.	Previous meeting minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as circulated. 	
3.	Status of Action Items	
3.i	<u>Working Group Composition</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts continue to fill gaps in the composition of the group, notably 	



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<p>3.ii</p>	<p>the education sector and Grey Nuns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was also considerable discussion regarding a concern previously raised over the relative lack of cultural diversity on the working group. It was noted that members have been appointed by their respective organizations or elected in a public meeting rather than assigned by the City. The group felt that while more diversity would be welcome, the process was open to all and that the results are therefore acceptable. <p><u>Terms of Reference</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was dealt with under #5 below. <p><u>Alignments/Station locations rationale</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group had asked about the rationale for the location of the LRT alignment and stops. While it wasn't possible to have an engineer in attendance at this meeting, it was explained that the route and stops were designed to achieve the highest possible ridership based on the City's growth expectations. Stop locations, for example, are intended to be within walking distance of as many people as possible. The group expressed concern over potential parking issues in the area of the Mill Woods Town Centre if there are no park & ride provisions nearby. Members also questioned if the project plans are being kept sufficiently up-to-date to reflect the evolving development environment. 	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Project Update - Preferred Proponent</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group received a brief project update that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on TransEd Partners, the consortium selected by the City as the preferred proponent to complete the design and construct, operate, maintain and partially finance the Valley Line. TransEd met the financial and technical criteria, as well as criteria for "sustainable urban integration" which is the principle of integrating the Valley Line LRT into the character of the surrounding communities as much as possible. It was noted that the Project Agreement, which reflects commitments made by the City to the community, will be released publicly (except for content protected by privacy legislation) after it is finalized in early 2016. The Project Agreement also contains various incentives and penalty clauses to help ensure the project is delivered on time and as specified. The light rail vehicle will be the Bombardier Flexity. A six-month look-ahead construction schedule is expected soon after the contract is finalized. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the Project Agreement includes an obligation for TransEd to undertake public communications and public engagement, and the contractor will also be a participant in the Citizen Working Groups. It was re-emphasized there will be very little opportunity left to influence final designs, as the City carried out extensive consultation during the planning and design stages. However, there should be opportunities for input that may help mitigate neighbourhood and traffic impacts during construction. 	
5.	Revised Terms of Reference	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group reviewed the revised terms of reference. Most revisions reflected input from all groups, and included the revision of boundaries between the 85/83 Street zone and the Upper Mill Creek (formerly referred to as "Whitemud") zone. A major revision addressed the desire for greater transparency, with provisions to accommodate attendance by non-members. These provisions included rules or guidelines with respect to non-member speaking opportunities. After extensive discussion, it was agreed that a three-minute allotment applied with discretion by the working group should suffice, and that persons wishing to speak should provide two working days' notice. (It was noted that this assumes agendas are issued far enough in advance.) 	Jack Stuempel
6.	Public Art on the Valley Line	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Edmonton Arts Council is issuing calls for public art and offering opportunities for public participation on juries to select public art. Some of these calls are specific to the Valley Line. Those interested can find details at http://edmontonarts.ca. 	
7.	Round Table	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group briefly discussed the initiative to daylight Mill Creek in the river valley. It was explained that the daylighting project was not capable of being integrated into the Valley Line project, but the Valley Line will not interfere or preclude the daylighting initiative from taking place. There was a discussion of access closures being implemented by the City via bylaw to prevent uncontrolled traffic over the future LRT tracks. Some of these closures have caused concerns for the Mill Woods Golf Course; however alternative arrangements have been worked out. The golf course remains concerned over landscaping along the LRT right-of-way adjacent to the course. It was noted that landscaping detail would probably not be available until after the contract with TransEd has been finalized and implemented. There was a question regarding the second stage of the Valley Line (from downtown to Lewis Farms). It was explained that the second phase is in the same state of development as the downtown to Mill Woods stage had reached prior to procurement. The City is currently 	



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	in the process of determining its future LRT priorities.	
8.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested that the next meeting should occur after a project schedule is available (expected by late March). 	
9.	(Added) - Observer questions	
	<p>Q. What can the City do to improve communication of engagement opportunities?</p> <p>A. Although results may not be consistently reliable, the City is working on improving its outreach in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was an observation from the group that it would be useful to be informed about relevant information and opportunities that might not be strictly Valley Line-related. 	

Notes by Jack Stuempel