

UNIVERSAL ACCESS-ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Bonita Zarrillo, Chair
Councillor Mae Reid, Vice Chair
Robert Bottos
Kiyo Breiting
Steve Leung
Natalie Lisik (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)
Pete Stone, Community Ventures Society (Alternate)
Matthew Sebastiani

REGRETS: Sally Comin
Sandi Pawar
Ross Renaud, SHARE Family and Community Services Society
Pat Roy, Canadian Council of the Blind – Dogwood Chapter

ABSENT: Navjot Sanghera

STAFF: Canisius Chan, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer
Steve Gauley, Planner 3
Sawngjai (Dear) Bhokanandh, Planner 2
Jeri Hohn, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee changed the Order of Business so that item 2 preceded item 1.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS

2. City Centre Area Plan Update – Presentation

The Chair welcomed the presenters to the meeting. The Planner 3 introduced himself and the Planner 2 and spoke to the purpose and structure of the presentation.

The Planners provided a joint on-screen presentation, referring to slides titled as follows:

- City Centre Area Plan Update
- What Is An Area Plan?
- Approach to CCAP Update
- Area of Focus

- Building on Past City Centre “Big Moves”
- Scope of Work
- City Centre Area Plan Update Timeline
- City Centre Area Plan Update
- Survey Outreach
- City Centre – Opportunities for Improvement
- City Centre – Future Aspirations
- Draft Aspirational Principles
- Draft Aspirational Principles – Downtown Economy and Housing
- Draft Aspirational Principles – Mobility and Access
- Draft Aspirational Principles – Public Space & Amenities
- What We’re Doing Now
- Discussion
- Next Steps
- Thank You!

A newspaper insert titled “Re-discovering City Centre”, a postcard titled “A Plan for City Centre”, and a draft document titled “City Centre Area Plan Update/Draft Aspirational Principles” were circulated on-table during the presentation.

The Planner 2 spoke to the public consultation currently underway and invited the Committee members to share their thoughts regarding how the City Centre, through the City Centre Area Plan, could become more accessible to everyone.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Accessibility concerns and the desire that the main transportation corridors leading to and from residential areas and the City Centre Area be made more pedestrian-friendly
- The desire for mobility demographics and whether the City’s online City Centre Area Plan (CCAP) survey asked respondents about their mobility
- Whether the 2016 census data could be helpful to staff regarding identifying the mode of transportation used by those living in/around the City Centre Area
- The community engagement being conducted relative to the CCAP and the suggestion that some pop-ups be held in Port Coquitlam and southwest Coquitlam
- The desire that “year-round accessibility” be part of the City’s considerations regarding improving accessibility for pedestrians because persons with mobility challenges often experience accessibility limitations during the fall and winter months
- The principle differences between the pedestrian paths around Lafarge Lake and Como Lake
- The desire for new high-rise developments constructed within the City Centre Area to include some main floor public parking
- The belief that amenities for senior pedestrians and wheelchair accessibility in the City Centre Area are important, and the suggestion that installing more benches (of varied heights) within the downtown core could help accommodate their needs
- The understanding that some European city centres have benches that convert to homelessness shelters overnight and the versatility of such accommodation

The Chair thanked the Committee members for their input and encouraged them to complete the CCAP online survey.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018**

The Minutes of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS CONT.**3. Review of Education and Awareness Events**

The Chair invited the members to provide feedback regarding the Education Event held on May 24, 2018 and the Accessibility Event held on June 2, 2018.

Accessibility Event: BC Access Awareness Day – June 2, 2018

A Working Group member noted that in celebration of BC Access Awareness Day, members of the Committee volunteered at the Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex (PSLC) on Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., where they shared information with the public regarding building accessibility and inclusivity in the community.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Possible improvements to the future location of the Committee's table and/or a change in venue for 2019
- The lacrosse tournament activity at the PSLC on the day
- The belief that displaying a Committee banner could have generated greater traffic flow to the Committee's table during the event
- The display of SPARC BC tools (posters) and Committee postcards during the event and the suggestion that some of the other promotional materials/handouts be updated
- The suggestion that the 2019 Committee (Working Group) consider contacting other community groups and societies regarding their possible participation in the event
- The suggestion that the Committee could improve youth engagement by providing giveaways such as Coquitlam pins and/or accessibility tattoos
- The suggestion that the 2019 Committee (Working Group) could contact SPARC BC or the Insurance Corporation of BC regarding giveaways such as pepper plant pots and/or reflectors for pedestrians
- The suggestion that the 2019 Committee (Working Group) consider the Coquitlam Farmers Market as a possible venue for the 2019 event

The Chair thanked the Working Group members for promoting BC Access Awareness Day and organizing the Committee's display table for the Accessibility Event.

Education Event: An Evening of Dialogue “Social Inclusion and Accessibility” – May 24, 2018

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The audio challenges with the handheld microphone noted during the event and whether a headset microphone could be made available to speakers during future events
- The desirability and comfort of the tables/seating
- The excellence of the speakers, the Mediated Academy youth band, and the food
- Appreciation for the dialogue regarding social inclusion and accessibility that occurred amongst attendees following the speeches
- The suggestion that the Committee (Working Group) invite a greater number of agencies to attend the 2019 event
- The understanding that the City’s Community Services Supervisor could help disseminate event invitations to community agencies and groups
- The desire for the City’s advisory committee members to be invited to future UAAC Education events

The Chair noted the overall success of the event and thanked the Working Group, Committee members, and staff involved in organizing the event.

4. **Transportation Updates**

The Senior Transportation Planning Engineer provided updates regarding transportation accessibility in the City, referring to on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Transportation Updates
- Agenda
- Municipal Scan
- Garbage/Recycling Bins
- Bus Stop Accessibility Future Planning
- Pipeline Road
- King Albert Greenway

In follow-up to the Committee’s April 3, 2018 discussion of the memo from the Manager Community Recreation and Culture Services dated March 22, 2018 and titled “2018 Mental Health and Recreation”, the Senior Transportation Planning Engineer provided information regarding the key findings of PRCS staff’s municipal scan of mental health support programs targeted to people with mental health conditions/illnesses.

In response to a previous question regarding garbage and recycling bins blocking City sidewalks, the Senior Transportation Planning Engineer noted that such blockages are a bylaw violation and noted that the most efficient way for members of the public to report infractions of this nature would be to call Engineering Customer Service or send photo proof via email to wastereduction@coquitlam.ca.

The Senior Transportation Planning Engineer displayed the City’s new GIS internal mapping tool onscreen and noted that it allows staff to review a colour-coded spectrum of current

amenities offered at city bus stops.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- That the size of the dots displayed on the map depicted the volume of riders getting off and on buses at specific stops
- The various bus stop amenities displayed via the GIS mapping tool
- The City's annual budget for bus stop amenities and the cost-sharing that occurs between the City and TransLink
- The future closure of Como Lake Avenue to accommodate Fortis pipeline upgrades along the route
- The suggestion that improvements to bus stop amenities along Austin Avenue be scheduled shortly in order to accommodate the upcoming closure of Como Lake Drive
- Where the buses that normally travel along Como Lake Avenue could be rerouted
- The desire that TransLink be asked to provide the City with new bus routes relative to the upcoming closure of Como Lake Avenue
- That the GIS mapping tool is being tested and, therefore, is only being used as an internal tool at this time
- The desire for census data to provide demographics regarding local respondents' mobility in order to inform transportation planning in the City
- The belief that the need for improvements to bus stop amenities increases the further one travels east from the City Centre Area

The Senior Transportation Planning Engineer spoke to two upcoming transportation projects to take place in the City – the widening of Pipeline Road and enhancements to the King Albert Greenway.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- The Open House being held at City Hall on June 6th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. regarding the Pipeline Road project and that an online public survey would be available for feedback until late June
- Details regarding the location and particulars of the proposed Pipeline Road improvements, and that all consultation materials would be posted on the City's website
- The City's plans for the dirt parking area located in front of the tennis courts along Pipeline Road
- The timing of the King Edward Greenway project design and construction
- Whether public consultation regarding the King Edward Greenway project would be conducted by the City
- Information regarding the project and possible alternate routes
- Details of the King Edward Greenway plans, including the new pedestrian/bicycle bridge to be constructed across Como Creek
- Whether the new bridge would be level, or incline/decline, and what the multi-use path surface would be made of
- The minimum widths established for multi-use paths in the city
- The desire that the new bridge be given an "all-weather" surface to make it accessible to wheelchairs during all types of weather
- The long-term plan to have the multi-use path extend to (and through) the Riverview Lands

5. Accessible Communities Emerging Issues & Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair called for items of information, however, no items were shared.

The Chair noted one additional item of business and it was added to the agenda as OB-1.

OTHER BUSINESS**OB-1 2018 BCAA Play Space**

The Chair spoke to the topic, noting that Committee members could visit the website bcaaplayhere.com to vote for Mediated Learning Academy to be the recipient of a new playground.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, September 18, 2018

The Committee discussed the next meeting date. It was agreed that the previously proposed July meeting would not be required, therefore, the final Committee meeting of the year would be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018.

At this time, a discussion ensued regarding the Committee's Work Plan. Further to the PRCS' memo titled "2018 Mental Health and Recreation" discussed during the April 3, 2018 Committee Meeting, a Committee member expressed the desire for a dialogue to be held between the Committee and Parks, Recreation and Culture Services (PRCS) staff regarding mental health initiatives in the City.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The availability of PRCS staff to discuss the feedback provided to the above-noted memo and/or meet with individual Committee members offline
- The items yet to be presented by PRCS staff as part of the 2018 UAAC Work Plan
- The past efforts made by City Council to highlight the need for mental health services in the community

The Chair noted her belief that, going forward, issues of mental health could be addressed through the Tri-Cities Healthier Communities Partnership (TCHCP), and further noted that the Partnership had recently made a recommendation to the municipal partners of the TCHCP regarding dementia-friendly planning in the community.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- The complexities involved in dealing with issues of mental health, including social inclusion, accessibility, removal of barriers, enforcement, and the need for professional medical assistance
- The understanding that issues of mental health are the purview of the Province of BC
- The public nature of TCHCP meetings and that Committee members could attend as members of the audience
- The availability of TCHCP Meeting minutes

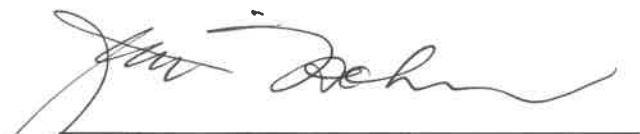
- Information regarding the City’s Advisory Committee News email service
- The desire for a topic titled “TransLink Strategic Plan Update – Presentation” to be considered as an item for the draft 2019 UAAC Work Plan
- The belief that the proposed TransLink update could provide information regarding TransLink’s plans for upgrades and improvements to various SkyTrain stations, buses, and bus stops in the community over the next number of years

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR



Jeri Hohn
Committee Clerk