



Meeting Minutes

Monday April 24, 2023

5:30pm - 7:30pm Remote/Virtual Meeting

Meeting No. 23.04

Prepared by Mag Leung

Members Present:

Giselle General (Chair), Serena Tang (Vice Chair), Bob Turner, Emily Batty, Joshua Jackman, Mudasser Seraj, Madeleine Stout, Zohra Jabeen

Regrets:

ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:

Councillor Erin Rutherford, ETSAB Council Advisor
 Sarah Feldman, ETS Staff Liaison
 Marc Lachance, ETS Staff Liaison - Regret
 Mag Leung, ETS P&S Admin

External Liaison:

Steve Bradshaw (President, ATU 569) - Regret

External Presenters:

Alex McFarlane

Materials & Attachments:

- Meeting Agenda
- ETS Branch Highlights Report

Land acknowledgement - M. Peters-Jones	
CALL TO ORDER 5:38 PM	
AGENDA REVIEW DECISION	
<i>MOVED: by M. Seraj to approve the April 24, 2023 agenda.</i>	<u>CARRIED</u>
MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING DECISION	
<i>MOVED: by E. Batty to approve the March 27, 2023 minutes.</i>	<u>CARRIED</u>

Transit Improvement Recommendations from Edmonton Resident

- **Presentation - A. McFarlane**

Alex' presentation on Conceptual YEG-spress & Central Transit Hub Plan discussed the following:

Overview

The Conceptual YEG-spress & Central Transit Hub Plan aims to fulfill multiple key roles that are either not presently existent, or under-served, in the current Edmonton Transit layout. The main focus in this concept is the YEG-spress network, a series of six express routes that would operate akin to Bus Rapid Transit, while effectively being an overhaul of the existing Express bus service. All six routes would terminate in suburban Edmonton neighbourhoods located near city limits, and travel to Government Centre transit station, where a

proposed two-storey hub would replace the existing bus shelter on site. The YEG-spress routes would allow outlying towns and communities to test their own shuttle services connecting to these routes, providing the framework for a future regional transit network. The new Government Centre hub would provide an all-in-one space for YEG-spress, regular ETS routes, and intercity bus service, to terminate at, and include pedway connection to LRT services for three lines.

- Summary of Proposed changes
 - Replace 120X, 130X, and 150X with YS3/Route 303
 - Extend 140X to terminate at Castle Downs; re-route 52
 - Replace 900X with YS1/Route 301
 - Eliminate 700X with introduction of YS2/Route 302
 - Merge 910X/930X to focus on Hamptons/Ormsby/178 Street
 - Create bus-only lanes and modify traffic light patterns along most YEG-spress paths
- Existing Government Transit Centre
 - Summary of Proposed changes:
 - Demolish current transit shelter
 - Construct simplistic two-storey facility with open-concept concourse
 - Intercity bus services to now connect at Government Centre
 - Routes 5 (short-turn), 9, 500X, 523, and 901 to feature re-routing into Government Centre, Route 701 to continue service
 - Designated shuttle and taxi areas

Q&A

What other goals trying to achieve aim for? providing service for outer regions of the city, other municipalities working together, Regional Transit

How was the Government Centre selected? location key? began with EMTSC initially proposed when they were going through their plans. Presented landscape and opportunity to rebuild outdated shelter.

Using downtown as a hub did you consider this would cause traffic concerns? Will the hub downtown have park and ride?

How would the plan look when the West end LRT line is complete? Will the lines work alongside LRT?

What are the next steps? S. Feldman suggests board to gather information/ideas from presentation that they would like City admin to look into

Action item for board members - Any items that they would like to bring forward for city admin to consider from this presentation. G. General will forward this on. ETSAB will follow up in a few months to get feedback from city admin on components of the recommendations that are feasible.

New Business/Updates:

Annual Report & Work Plan Presentation

- ETSAB's Annual Report and Work Plan presentation was held on Wednesday April 12 for the Office of the City Clerk (OCC) . 5 minutes was allotted to discuss the board's activities over the last 12 months and work plan activities for the next 12 months.
- G.General mentioned to Council that the Board decided to have their retreat 6 months earlier therefore half of the board's work outlined in their workplan was completed early.
- Council took time to express their appreciation to the ETSAB board on the work they have completed over the past year.

New Board Members Final List

- Update from G. General, has not received the new board member final list. The board will be expecting 3 new members for a total of 12 members.
- S. Feldman mentioned that ETSAB recruitment was discussed by the Urban Planning Committee April 19,
- Action item:
 - M. Lachance to follow up with OCC for an update

- M. Leung to follow up on start date

Onboarding Training: Input from members

- Onboarding of 3 new members
- S. Tang mentioned to review the onboarding/training list that the board created previously, can add to the list
- G. General will clarify email etiquette - expectations/recommendations to responding to emails within 24-48hrs?

Grad Student Liaison Applications

- G. General working to get Grad student onboard (Letter of Understanding), she is planning for this grad student to begin for the next upcoming 2 subcommittees.

DATS Advisory Group liaison Partnership

- G. General followed up with DATS Chair and was not able to get in touch. She will continue to follow up.
- S. Feldman mentioned that DATS Advisory Group is an advisory group to City administration and is not a formal board to the Committee of Council, therefore does not advise to Council. There is no rule or requirement for ETSAB to have this liaison but ETSAB acknowledges the value based on experience in the past.

CUTA Planning and ETSAB Participation

- Board waiting to hear back on updates
- S. Feldman mentioned that program/sessions are determined by CUTA. They will have a call out for presentations to be submitted in late spring/summer. ETSAB will need to decide if they would like to participate and to then submit an application if they would like to present.
- Clr Rutherford and Knack will be attending
- Action item:
 - G. General would like to know ETS' presentation topic when decision has been made
 - Mag - Confirm the total number of Board members to approved to attend based on available budget

Bi-Annual Lunch with City Councillors

- Board planning to see when would be the best time to book Bi-annual lunch
- Clr. Rutherford mentioned that Council will be on recess for 4 weeks starting mid July (3 weeks in July and 1 week in August). She suggested June.
- Action item:
 - G. General will follow up with the board on dates.

Sub Committee Updates

Subcommittee Meeting Process Change Effective May 2023	G. General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Boards subcommittee meetings will need to be held publicly as per the Municipal government Act (MGA) SECTIONS 197 to 199 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Under section 145 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Council may by bylaw establish Council committees and prescribe rules for their conduct and procedure.</i> ○ <i>Council committees are any body created by council, and this includes the advisory committees.</i> ○ <i>Under the Municipal Government Act (MGA) sections 197 to 199 set out the requirements that allow for Council to allow electronic meetings of Council Committees. This includes the requirements:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Council committees must conduct their meetings in public, unless closed for FOIP reasons. Section 197(1).</i> ● <i>Everyone has a right to be present at council committee meetings conducted in public unless the person chairing the meeting expels a person for improper conduct. Section 198.</i> ● <i>A council may by bylaw provide for council committee meetings to be conducted by electronic means. Section 199(2).</i> ● <i>A bylaw under section 199(2) must, except in the case of a meeting that is closed to the public in accordance with section 197, specify a method by which members of the public may access the meeting and make submissions. Section 199(3).</i> ● <i>Where a meeting is held by electronic means in compliance with a bylaw under section 199(2), or a regulation under subsection (5), [note: there are currently no regulations] the meeting is deemed to be conducted in public for the purposes of Section 198 of the MGA.</i> ● <i>The City complies with these requirements through section 13 of Bylaw 18155, which requires a live stream of all council committee meetings.</i> ■ <i>These rules also apply to any subcommittees established by an advisory committee.</i> ● G. General mentioned that 2 new subcommittee will start in June and will need to discuss further in how this will be supported. ● Action item: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S. Feldman/ M. Lachance will be following up with the Office of the City Clerk (OCC) to sort out the process, particularly the additional city administrative staff capacity to host at minimum two additional meetings per month. 	
Budget	J. Jackman
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Budget subcommittee has completed their final phase of the report ● Board members voted <p>Board Motion to approve Phase 2 Report of the Budget Subcommittee: MOVED: <i>by B. Turner to approve Phased 2 Report of the Budget Subcommittee</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The final version will be provided to Mag which will be forwarded to City Council. 	
Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton winter	S. Tang
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subcommittee is currently working on their report ● S. Tang waiting on some information request from M. Lachance 	

External Updates	
ATU 569	S. Bradshaw
Not available to update	

S. Feldman presented on the following topics:

- Ridership - Total bus boardings for March 2023 was at 5.53 million, representing a 1% increase over March 2019 bus boardings which were at 5.48 million. Compared to March 2022, bus boardings increased by 33% in 2023. ETS remains one of the first large transit agencies to fully recover to pre-pandemic ridership levels.
- Bystander Awareness Campaign - April 5, the City of Edmonton launched One Strong Voice, a bystander awareness campaign aimed at reducing gender-based violence and harassment in transit spaces.
- Advancing Edmonton's Safety and Security - report will be presented to City Council on May 1, 2023. Report discusses three topics related to safety and security:
 - Downtown vibrancy
 - Chinatown recovery
 - Transit safety and security
- Government of Alberta Transit Safety Actions - April 4, the Government of Alberta announced an additional 100 police officers dedicated to public transit security in Edmonton and Calgary will be hired over the next 18 months.
- ETS Annual Service plan launched on April 11 available to the public
- April Service Adjustments - April 30, ETS will implement regular spring service adjustments to various bus routes and On Demand Transit.
- Capital Line South Update
- Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) replacements procurement update

Q&A

-G. General would like board members to send their feedback/ concerns regarding the Bystander campaign board so she can compile and send to City Admin

-Outdated advertising on the bus should be removed- S. Feldman/M.Leung to forward concern

Councillor Emerging Issues Update

E. Rutherford

- Clr. Rutherford shared about the motion that was passed at Council to receive monthly updates on Transit Safety. These updates will be provided to council members until further notice.

Accessibility Advisory Committee - AAC

Z. Jabeen

Doug's update:

- 4 members of the AAC board had a tour of the Valley line transit vehicles
- AAC board made a couple recommendations to enhance visibility to the grab bars. They are currently high visibility yellow, to an individual with low vision they will not be able to see this.
- They discussed external accessibility - locating doors, distinguishing between doors and articulations
- Doug mentioned that CNIB vision loss rehab also made similar recommendations to visibility of lighting alongside train to locate doors, audible tones for doors opening/closing
- Deaf community will need to give their feedback
- Lots of focus has been on the Valley Line
- Discussions regarding Safety and Security in LRT terminals within downtown and accessing LRT terminals after 6pm for persons with mobility impairments
- Issues with elevator within LRT terminals - there is a lack of elevator access due to repair equipment
- Inconsistency with audible announcements externally on the buses - how to report this issue? This can be reported to 311.
- S. Feldman suggested the board (AAC in collaboration with ETSAB liaison Zohra) gather and start a list of concerns. List will then be shared with ETS staff.

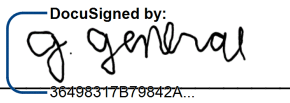
Monthly Branch Update with Carrie

G. General

- G. General was not able to meet with Carrie this month. Will schedule a meeting in May to align with the orientation of new board members.

Topics of the Night	S. Tang
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation from Alex McFarlane• Annual work plan was presented in council in April• Budget subcommittee report was approved• Process change for future subcommittee	

Motion to Adjourn 7:42pm

CHAIR SIGN-OFF  36496317879842A...