

### Citizen Working Group -Zones “F” (Downtown/Groat) + “G” (Stony Plain Rd)

#### MINUTES

Meeting # 8	Location: Canora Community League 10425 152 St NW, Edmonton, AB T5P 4P1	
Date: March 10, 2020	Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	
Members		Attendance
<b>Zone “F”</b>		
Andrew MacIsaac	Downtown Edmonton Community League	
Derek Macdonald	Oliver Community League	
Jared Candlish	Oliver Community League	
Derrick Forsythe	Queen Mary Park Community League	
Karen VanDerLaan	Queen Mary Park Community League	
Robert Summers	Westmount Community League	
Jeff McLaren	124 Street Business Association	
Sarah Proudlock	124 Street Business Association	✓
Dan Young	City Market Downtown	
Cadence Bergman	Edmonton Chamber of Commerce	
Dave Rogowsky	First Capital Realty - Brewery District & Long Street	
Nadia Meyer	First Capital Realty - Brewery District & Long Street	
Adam Brahim	Altus Group / BentallGreenOak - Oliver Square	✓
Tony Nunes	Altus Group / BentallGreenOak - Oliver Square	✓
Susan Radford	Edmonton City Centre	✓
Ian O’Donnell	Edmonton Downtown Business Association	
Kajsa Duke	Public at Large	✓
Thomas Oster	Public at Large	
<b>Zone “G”</b>		
Peter Doell	West Jasper / Sherwood Community League	✓
Currently unassigned	Glenora Community League	
Allan Bly	Grovenor Community League	✓
Rod Matheson	Crestwood Community League	
Tony Lovell	Canora Community League	✓
Barb Busse	Britannia Youngstown Community League	
Todd Janes	Stony Plain Road and Area Business Association	✓
Salim Keshwani	Stony Plain Road and Area Business Association	
Christine Lefebvre	Old Glenora Conservation Association	✓
Corie Martin	School sector - Glenora School Parent Advisory Council	✓
Dinah Plamondon	Public at Large	✓
Taylor Soroka	Jasper Place Wellness Centre	

Jack Stuempel	Community Relations Advisor (Facilitator)	✓
Guests		
Mariam Ibrahim	Communications Advisor, Valley Line West	✓
Hazel Battad	Valley Line West Project Team	✓
Eva Cheung	Valley Line West Project Manager	✓

1.	Welcome & introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After a pause to respect the memory of Group “G” member Rosalind Sydie, who had recently passed away, meeting participants introduced themselves.</li> </ul>	
2.	Confirmation of agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The agenda was adopted as circulated.</li> </ul>	
3.	Previous minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of the previous meetings were accepted as circulated.</li> </ul>	
4.	Status of action items (Jack)	
	<p><u>Group “F”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Follow-up meeting with Westmount Community League (Jack) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This item, related to traffic pattern changes, has been set aside while City Operations considers shortcutting mitigation strategies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Parking Services presentation (Jack) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This item has also been set aside while the City’s overall parking strategy undergoes review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Group “G”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Property Services presentation (Hazel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This may be considered on a future occasion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Urban Planning presentation (Jack) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new City Plan has been under development to replace “The Ways” series. Jack provided a brief overview. Detailed information, including explanatory videos, can be found at: <a href="https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_vision_and_strategic_plan/city-plan">https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_vision_and_strategic_plan/city-plan</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>c) Intersection safety decision trees (Eva) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This item was covered during the discussion of shortcutting mitigation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>d) Pre-construction assessments - Glenora School (Jack) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due to its distance from the LRT right-of-way and planned construction activities, the Glenora School building is outside the normal threshold for physical condition assessments.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
5.	Project update	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City issued an updated Request for Qualifications in January 2020 for teams to demonstrate their ability to deliver Valley Line West as a design-build-partial-finance project.</li> <li>• A short list will be announced shortly. Teams on the short list will be invited to submit bids on a Request for Proposals.</li> <li>• A winning team is expected to be announced by the end of the year, with construction to begin in 2021. Completion is expected in 2027.</li> <li>• Light rail vehicles will be procured separately. They will be fully compatible with vehicles used on Valley Line Southeast.</li> <li>• Advance work to relocate utilities will continue to occur along the LRT alignment. There were 140 relocations in 2019, with a further 130 to be completed in 2020.</li> <li>• Building condition assessments were performed on 430 properties in 2019, with the remaining 250 to be surveyed by summer 2020.</li> <li>• Over 70% of properties required by the City have been purchased to date, with virtually all of the remaining purchases to be completed by the end of the year.</li> <li>• Vacant buildings on City-owned properties are being removed, with 17 such removals having already occurred in 2019.</li> </ul>	
6.	Shortcutting mitigation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Operations is reviewing neighbourhood shortcutting concerns, and City Council has directed Administration to engage affected communities sooner rather than later.</li> <li>• An initial meeting was held in Glenora in 2019</li> <li>• A marked/signed crosswalk was installed at 135 St / 103 Ave near Glenora School in 2019, and neighbourhood speed limit reductions are under consideration.</li> <li>• Members of the Glenora community reiterated concerns over north-south traffic at the Stony Plain Road / 136 Street intersection.</li> <li>• It was explained that intersection layouts and laning arrangements are constrained by balancing available space, the need to provide reasonable access to the neighbourhoods, and the ability for signal timing to allow reasonable flow for all types of traffic.</li> <li>• Further engagement and review by Network Operations is to occur.</li> </ul>	
7.	Temporary parkettes or community gardens in acquired properties	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has been suggested that vacant properties might be converted to community gardens or parkettes until they are directly affected by construction.</li> <li>• Where land is subject to early works construction, such alternative uses are not considered feasible as they would be extremely short-term.</li> <li>• It was suggested that if affected neighbourhoods are sufficiently supportive, they might contact the City’s community gardens resources (<a href="mailto:communitygardens@edmonton.ca">communitygardens@edmonton.ca</a>) to assess the potential for other vacant lands.</li> <li>• Group members emphasized that the underlying desire is to prevent unsightliness in areas awaiting or undergoing construction.</li> </ul>	

8.	Business impact mitigation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A business impact mitigation strategy is under development, as the City also reviews practices in other jurisdictions</li> <li>● A report on Montreal’s approach is scheduled for Council’s Executive Committee in March.</li> <li>● As a related item, a report on notification procedures for future projects, to allow access concerns to be raised, will go to the Community and Public Services Committee, also in March.</li> <li>● The City is considering how to involve Business Improvement Areas and other representatives of the business sector.</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	
9.	Valley Line Southeast construction lessons learned	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion on this item focused on the need for coordination with other projects, and the desire to minimize disruption, including access to local businesses.</li> </ul>	
10.	Round Table	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Members emphasized the importance of extensive communications with neighbourhoods and community leagues. Short blurbs for newsletters from the City would be very welcome, but community leagues are also welcome to link materials on the project website.</li> <li>● It was suggested that as the project progresses, it would be helpful for the project team to periodically brief 311 staff.</li> <li>● It was noted that Urban Forestry has continued its work to avoid or minimize impacts to trees, and to identify opportunities for trees to be relocated.</li> <li>● There was a brief discussion about continuing to hold meetings of Groups “F” and “G” jointly. Members agreed to continue doing so, at least for the time being.</li> </ul>	
11.	Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The group agreed to target June 9 for the next meeting, subject to confirmation.</li> </ul>	

Notes by Jack Stuempel