



City of Surrey

Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes

Councillor's Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2007
Time: 6:35 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

S. Deo
C. Dragomir
K. Keshvani
S. Li
D. Maher
G. Sangha
W. Stewart
B. Stillwell
Councillor Bose

Absent:

F. Perello
H. Locke

Staff Present:

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

Agricultural Advisory Committee
Representative

Absent: S. VanKeulen

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Councillor Bose acted as Chair until the elections for Chair and Vice-Chair.

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Environmental Advisory Committee ("EAC") - Minutes – January 17, 2007

It was Moved by C. Dragomir
Seconded by K. Keshvani
That the minutes of the Environmental
Advisory Committee meeting of January 17, 2007 be adopted.
Carried

There was some discussion regarding the availability of the EAC members to act as Chair, Vice-Chair and EAC representative for the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC).

D. Maher joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

The following appointments for the 2007 calendar year were made by acclamation:

- Bill Stilwell, Chair
- Donna Maher, Vice-Chair

It was agreed that the appointment of an EAC representative to the AAC would be deferred until the next meeting.

B. Stillwell assumed the position of Chair.

B. DELEGATIONS

Consideration of future delegations was not discussed.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**1. South Fraser Perimeter Road ('SFPR') and
Highway 1/Port Mann Twinning Project
BC Environmental Assessment Office
File No.: 0410-20; 8630-30**

Note: See Correspondence item F.1 of this agenda.

The Drainage & Environmental Manager provided an update on the above, with drawings of where the SFPR is, and noted the following:

- The SFPR goes across Surrey connecting the Port Kells industrial area through 176th Street to Elevator Road at the Surrey/Delta border.
- At BC Environmental Assessment office, M. Allison and C. Baron have participated as the City's representatives as part of the Environmental Assessment Stakeholders group.
- There are more than 3000 pages of environmental reports encompassing the entire Fraser alignment with regard to the SFPR.
- Currently in the final phase of the preliminary work (approx. 45 days).
- The Environmental Assessment Office is waiting to hear back from the Gateway community in regards to responses to initial stakeholder comments on the reports. More than 50 pages of comments need to be addressed before going forward to the Minister.
- Meetings are quite frequent as the timeframe for the preliminary work is only 180 days.
- One of the big issues is the end result if the SFPR project advances and the Port Mann twinning does not.
- With or without the Port Mann project, almost every big highway project is hitting Surrey; 176th Street will be affected the most.
- Surrey heritage has not been addressed at all. A request to have the information on this project brought, by way of a delegation, to the Surrey Heritage Advisory Committee is anticipated.
- Reports/documents regarding fisheries, flood-proofing, etc. is available from C. Baron if needed.

With regard to the Highway 1/Port Mann Twinning Project, C. Baron provided the following information:

- The Port Mann project has not been formally submitted to the BC Environmental Assessment Office yet.
- M. Allison and C. Baron are the City representatives for this review process similar to SFPR. Only early meeting on draft documents have occurred to date.

- A request has been put forward to have the public open house forums for the Port Mann project held at completely different times from those for the SFPR to differentiate the projects.
- Port Mann twinning is not just a twinning of a bridge, it encompasses highway upgrades from 216 Street in Langley to Hastings Street in Vancouver.
- Every structure and interchange along the route will be impacted.
- Some industrial land in Surrey will be lost where the new bridge crosses (west of the existing bridge) which is vacant land right now.
- Added features to the new bridge will be dedicated transit lanes and bike/pedestrian access.
- There is a possibility of a transit exchange on the Surrey side of the bridge.
- Alignment issues are being worked on.
- There are many interchange details that are still conceptual that give an indication of the impact this project will have on Surrey.
- Need to determine how the tolls will also affect traffic flow.

Further discussion ensued regarding the SFPR and the following comments were provided:

- Gateway has a group of consultants that are doing the assessment. They are bringing all the permitting parties together to collect comments and permits identified to ensure everything is addressed both provincially and federally.
- The City does not have permitting power but comments can be made and the City's by-laws can be raised.
- The project does require the approval of both the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Environment.
- An outline of the Environment Assessment Office is laid out on their website; C. Baron will provide a copy of this information and the projects that are being filed for the EAC at the next meeting.
- Construction on SFPR is expected to start in the fall 2007.
- If the Port Mann project does not go ahead and the SFPR does:
 - A further environmental assessment will be required as the environment assessment for SFPR (noise, traffic, air quality, etc.) was based on the Port Mann project going ahead;
 - There will be more congestion at Pattullo and through Fraser Heights to access Port Mann if the Port Mann project does not proceed.
 - Air quality will not be better because of the extra congestion created due to a traffic flow pattern that will not match that which was modelled.
- It has been requested that a review of the impacts to the community of Surrey is done if the SFPR goes ahead without the Port Mann project (in terms of air quality).

Additional comments were provided regarding the Port Mann project as follows:

- A recent decision indicates that there will be tolling of the Port Mann and Golden Ears.

- The question of tolls, no tolls should be based on working best to manage traffic; the regional district takes that position.
- There is considerable resistance to tolling.
- The question of tolling is on the environment assessment for Port Mann, however the SFPR would be difficult to toll due to the number of access/connection points. There are no tolls planned for SFPR.
- Gateway is anticipated to submit a formal application on March 15; the Environment Assessment office has until April 15 to screen the application; the earliest for permission to go ahead will be April 23; public comment would start in May and June; and July would be when Gateway would have to give back responses to public comments.
- Would like to start construction on 2008.
- Environment compensation will be shown in the purchase of land and the ongoing maintenance of that land.
- Compensation is by an agreement of the agencies; DFO will not accept cash as compensation.
- Compensation will be suitable to the requirements (walls, roads, noise reduction, air quality issues, etc.); quiet pavement can be used for certain roads, a giant bridge (causeway) can be used to cross wetlands in order to keep environment habitat, etc.; these all become part of the compensation negotiations.
- There is a budget, but that information is not released.
- In order to have the comments of the EAC regarding the project to be heard, it will be necessary to run parallel and to provide C. Baron with the comments or, alternatively, to have the comments brought forward in person at the public meetings.
- It would be beneficial to attend the public house information sessions and to incorporate the comments made there with the comments of the EAC.

It was

Moved by D. Maher

Seconded by G. Singha

That the parties responsible for the design work on the Highway 1/Port Mann Twinning project appear as a delegation to the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Carried

It was further noted that there should be enough time set aside to make a proper assessment of the information provided by the delegation. C. Baron will advise the EAC prior to the presentation of any concerns already identified in order to give the EAC a better sense of the direction being taken. Comments should be contained to the affects to Surrey only.

It would be preferable for the EAC to receive a copy (via email) of the presentation that will be made to the EAC two weeks prior.

2. Sustainability Charter

The Drainage & Environmental Manager provided an overview of the City's web page for the EAC noting the references and reports that are available to print. Additional comments were as follows:

- The EAC is asked to review the information provided on the web page and to report any comments to C. Barron at the next meeting.
- EAC needs to establish who the stakeholders will be.
- There needs to be a higher profile on sustainability everywhere.

3. EAC Workshop

Further to the EAC Workshop held on January 20, 2007, the following information was provided by the Drainage and Environment Manager:

- As requested, the EAC has been copied with the information (web links, etc.) as discussed at the workshop.
- The minutes from the workshop have yet to be distributed.
- To facilitate further workshops, the Committee was asked if there was a preference to hold the workshop(s) on a weekend day and if a half day or a few hours would work better to encourage full attendance from the EAC.
- A projected meeting/workshop schedule and locations on sustainability should be addressed as an agenda item at the next EAC meeting.

4. Erosion & Sediment Control By-law

The Drainage and Environment Manager provided an update on the Erosion & Sediment Control (ESC) By-law and samples of water showing the various levels of turbidity regarding the above. Additional comments were as follows:

- Brochures have been developed and will be printed in two colours to differentiate:
 - o red –permitting; and
 - o blue –permit not required.
- The ESC by-law applies to all projects in Surrey.
- Contractors and consultants were invited to attend a summary that was given on the new by-law; developers had access to the venue to see the sources that are available to them to assist in abiding with the by-law.
- A fine of up to \$10,000.00 per day and/or a stop work order and having access to the site can be enforced once the by-law is in place.
- The ESC by-law has gone through Council for three readings.
- A similar by-law has been established or is being produced many municipalities.
- The small information pamphlets have been produced in English and translated to Punjabi, with a goal to translate to other languages in the future.

Discussion ensued pertaining to the translation of the smaller pamphlets. It was noted that the pamphlet is an information resource that is not meant to be

technical in terms. It should be easily understood in the language that it is printed. Further comments were provided as follows:

- The information should be provided in the local newspapers.
- Translation to other languages should be done by someone that speaks the language and has the editing ability to ensure that the information is translated in a format that is easy to understand
- There should be some review process that captures the meaning of the brochures.
- The pamphlets are printed in-house, which provides the ability to update/revise at any time.
- G. Sangha noted that he will review the Punjabi brochure and will provide his comments in due course.
- It was further noted that the pictures incorporated in the brochures are of definite assistance in understanding what is being read.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Erickson Creek Integrated Stormwater Management Plan Meeting

The Chair advised of his attendance at the Erickson Creek Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP) meeting on February 13, 2007 and provided the EAC with the following information:

- A portion of the meeting covered development land, industrial, with large parking structures, etc using proper engineering techniques.
- The new technology will provide more infiltrate into the soil than what is currently there.
- The new procedures will achieve greater success; improvement for the Grandview Heights area and considerable improvement to Campbell Heights.
- It is possible to minimize or reverse the impact in some cases.
- The focus is on developed industrial land and then residential land.
- Will not be able to infiltrate provincial sites.
- With reference to shallow water, the question of how to detain the water and maintain wetlands in regards to detention ponds for the wildlife and having what is necessary in place to avoid contaminating the grounds is being considered.
- A further meeting will be held at the end of March.

C. Baron noted that water quality is a concern in this area with hobby farm practices one of the issues.

2. Delegation from China

S. Li initiated discussion regarding the possibility of a delegation from China as an introduction of Surrey to China. There is specific interest in land management,

land use, land pricing and sustainable development. It was noted that contact should be initiated from overseas to the Mayor's office.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

**1. Malcolm Smith, Environmental Manager, SFPR, Gateway Program,
Ministry of Transportation**

File No.: 0410-20; 8630-30

Letter dated January 26, 2007 from the above advising of comments on the SFPR Environmental Assessment Application.

Note: See Business Arising item C.1 of this agenda.

2. City Clerk, City of Surrey

File No.: 0290-05 GC

The Chair noted the letter dated February 1, 2007 from the City Clerk regarding the Good Citizen Award and advised the EAC that the recommendations can be made as a committee or as an individual.

It was requested that Staff provide a history of awardees to the EAC via e-mail.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

H. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. EAC 2007 Priority Items & Work Plan

A copy of the Draft (3/15/06) EAC 2006 Priority Items & Work Plan, as extracted from the EAC Retreat Summary was provided as a guideline to establish a plan for 2007. The Chair reviewed the guideline with the EAC and the following comments were provided in establishing a draft 2007 Work Plan:

In order of highest priority:

- Sustainability
- Continuing input to 2007/08 Environmental Stewardship Program (this item incorporates the Nature Matters program)

- BC Hydro Waste Permit (note: latest PCB report not viewed; waiting for next PCB report)
- Monitor status of selected environmental projects:
 - Campbell Heights (ISMP)
 - Grandview Heights (breaking off into ISMPs)
 - GVRD sewage containment (Cougar, Campbell, Erickson, Fergus, Highland); (C. Baron to provide update at next meeting)
 - ISMPs
 - Large item pick up/Surrey Reuses (C. Baron to request staff delegation to provide an update, discuss changes to the contract and receive feedback from the EAC)
 - Riparian area regulations (action on this item is anticipated in 2007)
 - Others
- Ongoing Neighbourhood Community Plan reviews
- Transportation/Transit Plan issues
- Strategic Policy Development Meetings – Purpose TBD (sustainability to get more involved)
- Flooding/snow issues
- Development Advisory Committee membership
- Public consultations (included in Environmental Sustainability programs)
- City of Surrey Almanac

It was determined that it would be beneficial to have a delegation from the Transportation Section of the Engineering Department twice a year to brief the EAC on the progress of various projects and issues (traffic calming, changes to the Transportation Plan), similarly, an update on waste management practices and recycling twice a year from the Engineering Operations Division.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the EAC will be held on March 21, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

L. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by B. Stilwell
That the Environmental Advisory

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Chairperson (name and Committee)