

Present:

Councillor Starchuk - Co-Chair
S. Jahan-Chaudhary, DIVERSEcity
M. Drozda
Dr. B. Lalli
S. McIntosh, Seniors Come Share
K. Noonan, COSCO
J. Schmalz, BC CEAS
K. Weber, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board

Absent:

Chair – Councillor Steele
M. Cross
R. Cross
D. Darrell, Sources
L. Lange, FH, Adult Abuse &
Neglect
A. Poon, BC Securities
Commission

Staff Present:

J. Tyler, Community & Recreation Services Mgr, Guildford
S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, CSC, North Surrey
K. Huffer, Community Services Assistant
P. Bellefontaine, Manager, Transportation Planning
S. Caley, RCMP District 5, CSO
C. Bejtovic, Legislative Services

The meeting began with no quorum. Quorum was achieved when J. Schmalz arrived at 9:20 a.m. at which time the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of February 3, 2015 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by K. Noonan

Seconded by K. Weber

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory &
Accessibility Committee meeting of February 3, 2015, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

1. **Charlotte Barat, Project Coordinator
French Speaking Lawyers Association of BC**

In attendance before the Committee to provide a brief overview of the Elder Project Proposal.

The following comments were made:

- The Elder Project is a Pilot Project in Vancouver that looks at prevention and restorative justice approaches to fighting elder abuse and access of justice in French in BC. The Project started in 2012 with a booklet on how to fight elder abuse, what the laws are, and what actions can be taken.
- Initially created by the French Speaking Lawyers Association of Alberta, it is a national project and has been implemented in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta.

- The goal of the French Speaking Lawyers Association of BC is to assume a leadership role in Vancouver in the field of conflict resolution about elders in French, to promote restorative justice in Vancouver, and to fight and prevent elder abuse.
- In 25 years 1/4 of the Canadian population will be elders. One Canadian in five believes they know someone who is a victim of abuse, and based on police reports, 2,800 Canadians 65 and older are victims of familial violence.
- The traditional justice system can be a long process and emotionally hard to manage. Restorative justice is an approach that focuses on the needs of the victims and the offenders. Victims take an active role in the process while offenders are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions. All participants must consent to the process which encourages discussion in the community. There are individual and collective models of restorative justice and the principles include respect, inclusion, responsibility, reparation, restitution, community participation and consent.

Joyce Schmalz arrived @ 9:20 a.m. - establishing quorum

- Restorative Justice has its challenges and limits. It is time consuming, and there is some question as to whether the community would support this approach. It is not for all situations.
- The Committee to fight elder abuse includes partners from the BC French Speaking Elders in Victoria; the Province of BC Francophone Programs; and the French speaking health organizations that promote access to health in B.C.
- Funding provided will be used for training members of the committee; administrative expenses; and salaries. Salaries will be minimal as most members will be volunteers.
- The delegation is asking for a small show of support (\$2,000). In recognition of this support, the City's logo would be placed on all marketing documents and in each project.

2. **P. Bellefontaine, Transportation Planning Manager, and M. Fitzgerald, Transportation Planner**

In attendance before the Committee to provide an update on the Transportation Plebiscite.

The following comments were made:

- The Mayors' Plan is centered around growth in Metro Vancouver with the population expected to increase by one million by 2045. The City of Surrey is expected to see an additional 330,000 residents.

- There is a significant increase expected in job growth, and transportation is an important means to support this growth and economic development. While there is an increase to the number of residents coming to Surrey, 40% of all trips made by Surrey's residents are to other municipalities.
- The Plan is a comprehensive and integrated plan with Surrey being one of the more significant beneficiaries. It is a multimodal plan inclusive of drivers, cyclists, and transit users with improvements to accessibility, fewer delays waiting in traffic, and improved access to services and health care.
- Surrey Mayor and Council support the Mayors' Plan and also support the 0.5% tax increase to fund the Plan.
- The cornerstone of the Plan is the introduction of LRT within the City of Surrey, a 27 km network of surface rail. LRT is the preferred technology for Surrey partly due to its affordability. In terms of performance, LRT is very competitive with Skytrain. The Fraser Highway corridor to King George Skytrain takes about 35 to 40 minutes, whereas with LRT that time is reduced to 27 minutes. LRT is accessible, low floor trains, and integrated with the street.
- The first stage of the Plan is the L-Line from Guildford City Centre down King George Boulevard to Newton, which would happen in seven years; then the Fraser Highway Line, from King George Skytrain through to Willowbrook and into Langley City, which would be a 12 year plan.
- The investment in bus improvements would see a new B-Line network which stops every four or five stops with a frequency of six to seven minutes. A new line is proposed for Fraser Highway extending the 96 B-Line on King George Boulevard to Semiahmoo Centre in White Rock.
- The Plan will see a 20% increase in bus service hours; an 80% improvement to night bus service; and a one-third increase in HandyDART service.
- Within the region there is the Major Road Network (MRN) jointly funded by municipalities and Translink. Improvements to the MRN include new sidewalks, new bike lanes, and new bus stops with shelters and seating. Seventy-five percent of Surrey's bus stops have been categorized as fully accessible, i.e. wheelchair; the target is to get to 100%.
- The Plan allows for expansion to the new Pattullo Bridge to six lanes in the future if required.
- Completion of the Plan as identified will move Surrey from having 27% of residents within walking distance of frequent reliable high quality transit to 56%.
- The Mayors' Plan will have a robust governance structure where money will be dedicated to the Plan as identified, with independent audit

regularly undertaken and reported to the Mayors' Council, reported to the public, with annual reports on expenditure.

- Should there be a successful outcome to the referendum money will be available for improvements to transit and the road network almost immediately; the purchase of new buses might take a bit longer (usually around 15 months).
- The Plebiscite will commence on March 16 and continue for ten weeks. Elections BC will be administering the process and sending out information about what the Plan contains.

Discussion

In response to a question by the Committee, staff advised that there will also be an increase in community shuttles and secondary routes. Parts of the City that have little or no transit service, for example Clayton and Port Kells, will see new service. Seniors will benefit from improved service as well.

Guildford has been identified as the first stage for LRT. Identifying the stages of the Plan required a lot of assessment; the Business Case indicated that Guildford has the numbers, the growth, and the density. The LRT is important to support this growth, but it also shapes growth.

At a regional level the Plan improves journey times and reliability for students travelling to UBC and SFU.

On average per household the cost would be 35 cents a day depending on the tax bracket. The Mayors looked at many different funding options including carbon tax, insurance and parking. The PST model was identified because it was most affordable. In direct comparison, had this been an increase to property tax, it would have cost the average family about \$250/year. The PST cost for the same average family would be \$120-125 per year.

In terms of bridge tolls, staff advised that the Pattullo Bridge will be tolled even if the yes vote wins. Surrey sees tolling as a temporary condition. Moving forward there will be further dialogue regionally about how transportation is funded.

Concern was expressed about the potential for this plan to increase the number of people who cross the border to shop. Staff noted that many small businesses were concerned initially about the PST model, more because of the potential administrative costs; however, it will be wrapped in to the existing tax so there will be no additional cost to them. A tremendous amount of research was done in terms of people going out of the region to shop. The Chambers of Trade are supporting the Plan as they see the benefits of reliable transportation.

For the LRT, the assumption is that regional funding is one-third, with one-third from the Province and one-third from the Federal Government. Surrey is currently in discussions with the federal government with respect to their contribution. It was noted that 45% of the funding will be coming to Surrey.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**1. Focus on Seniors Forum - Cloverdale, April 11, 2015**

- Potential topics for discussion at this forum are financial, legal, and real estate. Attendance by Leanne (Fraser Health) and the lawyer have been confirmed. The "Ellen" video has been shown in Cloverdale, however it would be beneficial to ensure we show the video again.
- Feedback from prior evaluations indicates the day is too long and could be shortened by ending the day at 2:30 instead of 4:00 p.m.
- Forums are booked for April and September so far. The March Planning Session will bring more clarity around the direction of the Committee.

2. Grace Community Church - Mini-Conference, April 16, 2015

- Staff are working with the Korean Church to host a variety of workshops on topics including diabetes, Alzheimer's and cancer. The workshop will go from 9:00-1:00.

3. Mature Drivers Workshop

- Three workshops are scheduled: April 22 in Fleetwood; May 20 in Guildford; and June 9 in Cloverdale. ICBC has guaranteed a driver examiner for the June workshop.
- Concern was expressed that there are no forums scheduled in the appropriate languages for Indian and Pakistani seniors. Fall forums have not been scheduled yet and there will be discussions at the Planning Session about Mobile Outreach and bringing a forum to the Temple.

4. Roof Over My Head Workshop

- Workshops: March 26 at Guildford; and April 17 in South Surrey.

5. Caregiver Workshops

- April 8 at Guildford and May 13 at Fleetwood.
- A Caregiver Workshop on dementia was held last month at Chuck Bailey. It was very successful and saw lots of positive feedback. "Taking care of yourself while caring for another" will be a topic for the future.

- Two more abuse awareness sessions are planned: March 23 and April 1.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. SAAC Planning Session, March 10, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The following comments were made:

- The Committee discussed the agenda for the Planning Session on March 10. The facilitator has been confirmed.
- Members of the Committee were asked to complete a short questionnaire and bring it to the Planning Session, and to advise Sahra-Lea or Claudette if they are planning to attend.
- The session is being held at Green Timbers, 140 Avenue and Green Timbers Drive. Sahra-Lea will send details to Claudette.

2. Transportation and Mobility Symposium, April 2015

- The Transportation and Mobility Symposium is an educational tool covering topics such as scooter safety, mature drivers, and how to fill out forms for HandyDART. Marketing and promotion needs to be done.
- The use of shuttle buses needs to be promoted as many seniors are not eligible to use HandyDART.
- Staff would like to propose holding the Symposium after the Referendum vote so as to avoid any confusion. The Symposium needs to have its own identity separate and apart from the Referendum.
- The Symposium will engage people from ICBC, Translink and Travel Smart Connection.

3. June 6 Conference

- J. Schmalz would like to create a brochure, single page, with guidelines and information on the steps to take when one loses a spouse, and suggested holding a workshop for widows/widowers, Mobile Outreach, Service Canada, Revenue Canada. This workshop would also cover issues around how to look after yourself when your spouse dies, in terms of loneliness, boredom, depression, and mental health.
- Sahra-Lea confirmed that Joyce Schmalz is scheduled to speak at this Conference.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEM

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Vehicle Registration Guidelines

Committee members are requested to complete a new Vehicle Registration Form (attached).

2. 2015 Good Citizen Award

Members are invited to submit the name of an individual they feel would be a candidate for the 2015 Good Citizen Award. (Nomination form is attached to the agenda package.) The deadline for nominations is March 30, 2015 @ 4:30 p.m.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by K. Weber
Seconded by S. Jahan-Chaudhary
That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Acting Chairperson, Councillor Starchuk
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee