



# City of Surrey

## *Council-in-Committee*

### *Minutes*

Council Chamber  
City Hall  
14245 - 56 Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
**MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2004**  
Time: 3:30 p.m.

#### **Present:**

Chair: Councillor Steele  
Mayor McCallum  
Councillor Villeneuve  
Councillor Tymoschuk  
Councillor Higginbotham

#### **Absent:**

Councillor Hunt  
Councillor Priddy  
Councillor Watts

#### **Councillors Entering the Meeting in Progress:**

Councillor Bose

#### **Staff Present:**

City Manager  
City Clerk  
General Manager, Planning & Development  
City Solicitor  
General Manager, Engineering  
General Manager, Finance, Technology & HR  
Interim General Manager, Parks, Recreation  
and Culture

## **A. DELEGATIONS**

- Pam Ryan, Manager of Program Development for the Gateway Program  
Garry Dawson, Director, South Fraser Perimeter Project &  
the Port Mann/Highway 1 Project  
Ministry of Transportation & Highways  
File: 0410-20 (MOTH); 0550-20-10**

Garry Dawson, Director, South Fraser Perimeter Project & the Port Mann/Highway 1 Project, Ministry of Transportation & Highways was in attendance to make a presentation regarding South Fraser Perimeter Road.

Gary Dawson provided the following comments:

- That Gateway provides a suite of three transportation projects: North Fraser Perimeter Road, South Fraser Perimeter Road, and the Port Mann/Highway 1 improvements.
- That the South Fraser Perimeter Road Project (SFPR) will provide an efficient new route for commuters and travelers wishing to access the borders and ferries and provides a connection with Highways 1, 15, 91, 99 and 17 as well as the future New Fraser River Crossing.
- That the Gateway program is an initiative of the Ministry of Transportation to address transportation issues and provide relief to key congested roads, which impact local economies, quality of life and discourages tourism.

Councillor Bose entered the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

- That the program would also improve access to industrial developments including Tilbury Industrial (Delta), Fraser Surrey Docks, Bridgeview industrial area, CN Rail inter-modal yard, and the Port Kells industrial area.
- That the 8th Avenue interchange and border crossing would involve upgrading funded by the Federal government and TransLink involvement.
- That the program would also involve other minor upgrades in other intersections in the Lower Mainland.

- That the Gateway program will cover the eastern part of the North and South Fraser Perimeter Roads, Port Mann Bridge, and Highway 101.
- That some of the worst congestion in Canada occurs around the Port Mann Bridge and the East-West route along the Fraser River.
- That Transport Canada estimates that traffic congestion costs \$750 million to \$1.5 billion per year; a significant increase from \$110 million per year in 1993.
- That International trade and travel is important to providing a greater economy noting that currently there are 200 million tons of cargo, air and cruise ship travelers being moved every day.
- That there has been significant migration of residents and industries in the area; now well serviced by Transit, and will only continue to grow with the increase in employment and project population growth North and South of the Fraser River.
- That people must leave communities to find work resulting in a dramatic growth in the movement of goods.
- That the Surrey Fraser Port Authority have indicated they will be upgrading their docks.
- That the Port Mann Bridge is congested 12 to 14 hours a day in both directions, often 7 days a week.
- That by 2021, the morning peak period along the Port Mann Bridge will extend from 4:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will join up with the evening traffic peak period, resulting in more significant queues extending to 216 Avenue.
- That the North Fraser Perimeter Road will provide a continuous reliable route from the Queensborough Bridge to the new Fraser River crossing and feature a new Pitt River bridge.
- That improvements along sections of United Boulevard in New Westminster will be undertaken by TransLink.
- That the Port Mann Bridge project proposes upgrades from Highway 1 to Langley.
- That improved interchange patterns will be improved based on traffic patterns of today and the future.
- That Highway 1 is a barrier to communities looking at providing community connectivity.
- That solutions are being reviewed for the 104 Avenue and 60 Street interchange.
- That improved transit and cycling opportunities will be provided.
- That the South Fraser Perimeter Road expansion will address extension of Highway 99 to the Delta Port and find alignment in the South Western section with the Corporation of Delta.
- That the South Fraser Perimeter Road will cut travel time to the ports.
- That the current status of the project is the completion of technical analysis and the development of analysis for environmental traffic studies.
- That a comprehensive consultation program will start shortly after the technical studies have been completed.
- That integrated solutions that benefit cyclists crossing the Port Mann Bridge and pedestrians, improving access to transit, and improved interchange upgrades.

- That the South Fraser Perimeter Road project will address alignments, identify specific concerns including land use, environmental impact, technical issues, and traffic analysis.
- That current funding is not in place for property acquisition, but acquisition of the CN Rail property is actively being pursued at this time.
- That field and consultation work is being undertaken for the environmental assessment.
- That feedback will be sought through community consultation.
- That the next step is to complete negotiations relative to the CN Rail property in order to achieve a good alignment for the Fraser Heights area.
- That the Gateway program is working with local governments and communities to develop an integrated transportation network that will contribute to a healthier economy and help make Greater Vancouver a better place to live and work.
- That they would like to hear Council and staff's comments and concerns.

**2. Sukhpreet Singh Heir, Secretary  
Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Darbar**  
File: 0330-20; 0550-20-10

Sukhpreet Singh Heir, Secretary of the Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Darbar was not in attendance to make a formal presentation regarding the Festival of Vaisakhi.

**3. B.J. Birch on Behalf of  
Colleen McCann & Mary Van Veen**  
File: 5080-01; 0550-20-10

B.J. Birch, on behalf of Colleen McCann, and Mary Van Veen were in attendance to discuss concerns regarding the Frontroom Shelter in Surrey.

B.J. Birch provided introductions of other members in attendance and provided the following comments:

- That Car 67 is a mobile crisis response car responding to psychiatric crisis and domestic violence situations, operating between 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. 365 days a year.
- That it is a community partnership between Surrey Health Services Mental Health and the Surrey RCMP and serves the City of Surrey, and Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen First Nations reserves.
- That the Front Room has 36 beds, which are allocated for nightly use between November 1 and March 31 of each year.
- That other than those specific times, the beds are not available to homeless people.
- That they would like Council to consider the possibility of opening those beds 365 days of the year.

- That the problem in achieving this solution is not funding but that the beds are not licensed by the City of Surrey.

Mary Van Veen then provided the following comments:

- That Operation Clean Sweep operating in Whalley has increased the focus to provide interventions in trying to promote business and clean up the Whalley area, making it people friendly and trying to contain the problem.
- That the problem will not disappear and that about 1/3 of the poor are mentally ill.
- That the problem is going to get worse.
- That in the late 1800's, mentally ill and other homeless people were left in the community and if criminalized, placed in jail.
- That with the movement in the late 1800's, institutions were built and the mentally ill were being treated somewhat, were segregated and housed.
- That medications in the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's provided opportunities for the move to de-institutionalization.
- That decreased transfer payments, skyrocketing costs, decrease in hospital beds have also promoted a move to de-institutionalization.
- That the end result has been a reduction in resources for the numbers of people that institutions cannot or are unable to serve, including hospitals and shelters.
- That there are an increasing number of individuals with major mental illness roaming the streets untreated and many addicted to substances.
- That current statistics for individuals with a mental illness indicate between 55% and 60% are afflicted.
- That persons in difficulties with nowhere to go also make up those numbers for the homeless.
- That there will be a review of social assistance benefits to individuals and the amount of homelessness will increase.
- That Riverview hospital will close in 2007 increasing the number of patients out on the street.
- That there were 6,335 people in Riverview hospital in the 1970's and there are now only 700 people.
- That the Front Room provides a no-barrier service to individuals and that many shelters do not accept individuals if they have had one drink of alcohol or are acting in a bizarre manner.
- That in the summer months, they attend calls with individuals sleeping in doorways and parks.
- That a tour by Lions Park on any given night last summer found 20 to 25 individuals camped out near the playground.
- That these individuals suffer medical concerns such as edema in the legs, ulcerations, other health problems, sleep deprivation, sleeplessness and psychiatric disorders.
- That the Front Room services on average 1,000 people per month and that 81% of those individuals live in Surrey.
- That 59.2% were not on income assistance but were so thought-disordered they could not fill out the appropriate forms.



The Interim General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture submitted a report concerning improvements to the North Surrey Recreation Centre and the Surrey Sport and Leisure Centre.

The Interim General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture was recommending that the report be received for information.

It was

Moved by Mayor McCallum

Seconded by Councillor Tymoschuk

That Corporate Report C002 be received for

information.

Carried

**D. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

**E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Councillor Tymoschuk

Seconded by Councillor Higginbotham

That the Regular Council meeting do now

adjourn.

Carried

The Regular Council adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Certified correct:

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City Clerk

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Mayor