



City of Surrey

Council-in-Committee

Minutes

Council Chamber
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2008
Time: 4:31 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Bose - Chair
Mayor Watts
Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor Steele
Councillor Gill
Councillor Martin
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Higginbotham

Absent:

Staff Present:

City Manager
City Clerk
Deputy City Manager
General Manager, Planning & Development
City Solicitor
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance & Technology
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Human Resources

A. DELEGATIONS

1. Michelle Candido Ride-Share Week Consultant, TransLink File: 0550-20-10; 0630-02

Michelle Candido, Ride-Share Week Consultant, TransLink was in attendance to provide a PowerPoint presentation regarding Ride-Share Week. Comments were as follows:

- Ride-share week is a national campaign this year taking place across Canada. It is a week of promotion and awareness of ride sharing. In British Columbia it is officially being called TransLink Ride-Share Week.
- Traffic congestion, slow speeds, long commute times, stress, single occupancy and green house gas emissions, all contribute to the daily commute.
- Jack Bell Ride-Share is a ride-sharing, non-profit organization which offers two different types of services:
 1. Ride-share in one of the Jack Bell fleet vehicles. Passenger vans for six to seven passengers to share the van and who negotiate costs and split the costs of the commute.
 2. Casual ride-sharing. Choose to either offer a seat in your vehicle or, as a passenger, you find a seat in someone else's vehicle.Both of these services can be done through the free on-line ride-sharing service at www.ride-share.com.
- TransLink and its predecessor, BC Transit, have partnered with Jack Bell since 1992 to promote carpooling and vanpooling. This transportation option, which currently serves over 4,000 commuters, not only saves the participants money, it contributes to the sustainability of the environment.
- Over 10,000 Metro Vancouver commuters have formed more than 1,000 ride-shares, established from the ride-share website, eliminating over one million trips from the region's roads in the past three years.
- Jack Bell also offers businesses opportunities for their employees to find ride matches within their own workplace as well. Businesses are the target market as the commute times are much similar.

It was Moved by Councillor Hepner
Seconded by Councillor Steele
That the promotional posters for the
TransLink Ride-Share Week be received.
Carried

The delegation was thanked for their presentation, noting that the information provided will be posted on the City's internal intranet so that it is available to all employees and the posters received will be promoted throughout City Hall.

2. Food Action Coalition of Surrey and White Rock

- **Merlin Chatwin, Project Coordinator**
- **Natasha Raey, Community Capacity Facilitator - Fraser Region
Community Capacity Building Strategy**
- **Deirdre Goudriaan, BC Healthy Communities**

File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

Merlin Chatwin, Natasha Raey and Deirdre Goudriaan, representatives of the Food Action Coalition of Surrey and White Rock ("FAC"), were in attendance regarding food security and sustainability initiatives. A PowerPoint presentation was provided and comments were as follows:

- The FAC was formed in 2005 and is made up of numerous organizations from the social service sector, government agencies and citizens of Surrey. It is guided by three main themes: to decrease hunger; increase local food system sustainability; and to promote the health of our citizens.
- The City's Parks, Recreation and Culture department has been one of the key partners since the beginning of the FAC, working hard to address food security.
- Funding organizations include the United Way of the Lower Mainland, BC Healthy Communities and Fraser Health.
- There are many definitions of food security and ideas of what a food security community looks like.
- Food security is now listed among the social determinants of health and is clearly a determinant of a lot of things, including dignity, equity and sustainable development.
- Food security ensures community members living in low income situations have access to healthy, fresh, culturally and dietary appropriate foods and decisions don't have to be made between cost and health.
- By being less dependant on food import, the food secure community is better positioned to react to situations of natural disasters, fuel crisis or border closures. It creates a community that better understands and is connected to who produces its food, where it comes from and the whole process. This connection to the origins of the food, along with the ability to access healthy choices, creates a vibrant and healthy community, both economically and socially.

- Creating a food secure community is a big undertaking and the FAC has chosen food policy as the method to work towards community food security.
- In response to the needs assessment done in 2005, the FAC developed a set of food policy resources. A tool kit was developed that provided information for organizations to integrate food policies into their organizations and home (e.g. healthy meetings, buying local, supporting local food banks, etc.).
- Since 2007, regular bi-weekly educational breakfast meetings have been held for individuals and organizations to enhance education on food security. These breakfast meetings have been quite successful with the City of Surrey being an integral part by providing the meeting space for those sessions and by having a huge presence in terms of staff involvement.
- Food security is an issue that is important to both sustainability and the reduction of our carbon footprint.
- The FAC also works in conjunction with the South Fraser Harvest Box to deliver good food boxes to citizens of Surrey. This is primarily for low income citizens but the program is open to anyone. The City supports this through advertising and accepting payments for the program through the City's leisure guide and recreation centres. Both recreation centres and community schools serve as depots for this program.
- Surrey is being seen a leader in terms of the work done in food policy and food security. Other communities are wanting to learn more which is why the seed has been planted to develop a Fraser Valley food network.
- In addition to the collaborative efforts of the City and the FAC, the time is right to join forces and make the best of the synergies that have been created by really having the two groups work together in a more formalized way. Four possible opportunities have been identified:
 - FAC can develop a tailored City of Surrey tool kit;
 - Food security could be housed in the sustainability office at the City;
 - Assist with the development and promotion of a Food Policy Charter with the City of Surrey (a copy of the Prince Albert Charter was noted as an example); and
 - Development of a Food Policy Advisory Committee (staff, council members and community members).

The delegation noted that they would be providing a further presentation to the Surrey Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting in early October. It was requested that the same presentation also be provided to the Social Planning Committee and that there may be opportunities to broaden the partnership with the food security tool kit through the City's Economic Development office with the Farm Fresh Guide.

The Chair thanked the delegation for their extremely informative presentation noting that there will be a Staff response to the suggestions made for Council's consideration.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

D. DELEGATION REQUESTS

E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Mayor Watts

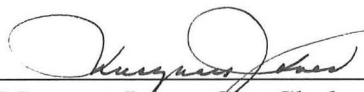
Seconded by Councillor Higginbotham

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:04 p.m.



Margaret Jones, City Clerk



Councillor Bose, Chairperson