

Present:

Chairperson – Councillor Bains
Mayor Locke
Councillor Elford
Councillor Kooner

Absent:

Councillor Nagra

Staff Present:

V. Lalonde, City Manager
L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
D. Jones, General Manager, Investment and
Intergovernmental Relations
P. Sanderson, Manager, Strategic Planning Responses
Y. Asadian, Community Enhancement Manager
L. Blake, Assistant City Clerk

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

B. DELEGATIONS

This section had no items to consider.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

This section had no items to consider.

D. NEW BUSINESS**1. Welcome – Mayor Locke and Councillor Bains**

The Task Force spoke to the purpose of the Focus Newton Task Force and noted the following comments:

- The Task Force will identify potential issues and opportunities related to Newton and provide a report with proposed solutions.
- The Task Force will focus on small, medium and large projects and prioritize long, medium and short term goals.
- The City is making a significant investment in Newton with the new Newton Community Centre.
- While the Task Force will focus on Newton as a Town Centre, there are several distinct neighbourhoods within Newton.

2. Review of Draft Terms of Reference

The Task Force reviewed the proposed Terms of Reference and requested the following changes:

Section 2: Functions

- Item a): add "transportation and congestion" after park amenities;
- Remove Item b)

In response to questions from the Task Force, staff provided the following information:

- Initiatives identified by the Task Force can be implemented before the final report is provided to Council. In addition, an implementation committee could be established after the Task Force concludes to oversee the deployment of initiatives and projects identified by the Task Force.
- Task Force members were requested to identify community associations and organizations that will be important to engage with during the Task Force's process.
- In addition to consulting with local stakeholders, staff can conduct additional community engagement such as open houses and surveys.

3. Review of Draft Work Plan

The Task Force reviewed the proposed Work Plan and requested that the first activity in Q1 be reworded from "Problem Statement" to "Opportunity Statement".

The Task Force requested that staff provide past reports that have address resident complaints and Plans specifically related to Newton. The Task Force also requested that staff regularly report out to Council regarding the Task Forces' activities.

4. Task Force Meeting Schedule

The Task Force requested that meetings be scheduled monthly on non-Council Mondays. Meetings that require stakeholder engagement can be scheduled in the evening. The Task Force requested that the next meeting be scheduled for the week of March 6 – 10.

Legislative Services staff will reach out to the Task Force to coordinate meeting dates for evening meetings.

5. Roundtable

A roundtable of discussion was held.

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

This section has no items to consider.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

This section has no items to consider.

G. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Focus Newton Task Force is to be confirmed.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.