
Present:

Chairperson – Councillor Bains
Councillor Elford
Councillor Kooner
Councillor Nagra
Councillor Annis

Absent:**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
D. Jones, General Manager, Investment and Intergovernmental Relations
T. Waterhouse, General Manager, Community Services
S. Neuman, General Manager, Engineering
R. Costanzo, General Manager, Corporate Services
J. Lehman, Deputy Chief, Fire Services
Y. Asadian, Community Enhancement Manager
L. Shulamie, Administrative Coordinator
L. Blake, Assistant City Clerk
A. Sodha, Administrative Assistant

A. ADOPTIONS**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was Moved by Councillor Elford
Seconded by Councillor Nagra
That the agenda of the Focus Newton
Task Force Committee meeting of March 17, 2023, be adopted.
Carried

2. Adoption of the February 28, 2023 Minutes

It was Moved by Councillor Elford
Seconded by Councillor Kooner
That the minutes of the Focus Newton Task
Force Committee meeting held on February 28, 2023, be adopted.
Carried

B. PRESENTATIONS**1. Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture**

Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan and highlighted the following information:

- The Newton Sustainability in Action Plan was adopted by Council on November 18, 2019, and was implemented through funding from the FCM. The Plan was a neighbourhood-wide pilot planning project and engaged residents in identifying ways to make Newton a more thriving, green, and inclusive community. Parks and Recreation worked with partners, stakeholders, and residents to create a sustainable neighbourhood action plan for Newton. Two years of active engagement included:
 - Community Events at Newton Day;

- City Speaks online Survey;
 - I Love Newton walls;
 - Pop- up Conversation Stations;
 - Stakeholder action planning meetings;
 - Kwantlen Polytechnic University student engagement;
 - City Transportation Forum; and
 - City staff implementation meetings.
- A list of actions were identified that will further Newton's progress as part of a thriving, green and inclusive Surrey and organized by the eight themes of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0:
 1. Built Environment and Neighbourhoods
 2. Economic Prosperity and Livelihoods
 3. Ecosystems
 4. Education and Culture
 5. Health and Wellness
 6. Inclusion
 7. Infrastructure
 8. Public Safety
- A number of capital investments have been made in Newton, including facility construction, park amenities, and cultural amenities. Completed Capital Investment projects include:
 - Newton Athletic Park – synthetic turf field – (\$3.17M)
 - Newton Athletic Park – walking track – (\$890K)
 - RA Nicholson Park – new playground adjacent to Strawberry Hall – (\$140K)
 - Unwin Park – interim dog park – (\$52K)
 - Unwin Park – Jumpstart Playground – (\$1.2M)
 - Joe Brown Park – dog park – (\$250K)
 - Kabaddi Park – outdoor volleyball courts - (\$189K)
 - Kabbadi Park – upgraded walking loop – (\$434K)
 - Goldstone Park – picnic shelters – (\$100K)
 - Goldstone Park – tennis Court resurfaced – (\$75K)
 - Roberston Drive Park – new picnic shelter – (\$70K)
 - Kennedy Trail Park – tennis Court resurfaced – (\$50K)
 - Colebrook Park – boardwalk, trail, washroom, and parking lot expansion – (\$740K)
 - Tamanawis Park – turf replacements – (\$2M)
 - Tamanawis Park – covered bleacher with weather protection – (\$150K)
- Short Term Goals were presented that range between 2023-2024:
 - Newton Athletic Park – new mini fieldhouse (South);
 - Newton Athletic Park – tennis court lighting upgrade (LED conversion);
 - Strawberry Hill Park – high mast netting; and
 - Edmund Drive Park and Whippletree Park – new neighbourhood parks.
- Medium Term Goals were presented that range between 2023-2025:
 - New Newton Community Centre;

- Newton Athletic Park Fieldhouse including public washrooms; and
- Strawberry Hill Hall Renovation – childcare and day camp space.
- Long Term Goals were presented that range between 2025-2027:
 - Unwin Community Park – new master plan for site planned;
 - Newton Youth Park;
 - Tamanawis Park – third field hockey turf field; and
 - Tamanawis Park – changeroom.

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

- Repairs to the Strawberry Hill Hall are included in the current budget. As the Hall was damaged due to a fire, some funding will be able to be recovered through insurance.
- A third field hockey field is proposed for Tamanawis Park, which would require existing baseball fields to be relocated.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Revised Terms of Reference and Work Plan

The Task Force reviewed the revised Terms of Reference and Work Plan.

It was	Moved by Councillor Elford
	Seconded by Councillor Kooner
	That the Focus Newton Task Force (FNTF)
approve the revised FNTF Terms of Reference and work plan as presented.	
	<u>Carried</u>

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of Newton-based Plans, Initiatives and Capital Projects

The Task Force reviewed Newton-based plans, initiatives and capital projects that have been provided by General Managers. The following projects from each department were highlighted:

Parks, Recreation and Culture

- Love Where you Live (LWYL);
- Tree sales;
- Community murals, banners, and seasonal lighting; and
- Community Enhancement Partnership programs.

Engineering

- Arterial and collector road widening;

- New road construction; and
- Storm sewer diversion.

Community Services

- Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment;
- South Asian Strengthening program;
- The parent education series;
- Yo Bro and Yo Girl;
- Supportive housing; and
- Overdose support and prevention services.

Corporate Services

- Illegal dumping;
- Snow removal;
- Street Smart Team; and
- Bylaw enforcement, including noise regulation and illegal construction.

Investment and Intergovernmental Relations

- Use and development of industrial lands; and
- Commercial and retail spaces.

Planning and Development

- Newton Community Centre;
- Newton Town Centre Plan revisions; and
- TransLink routes and elevated transit.

Library Services

- Community outreach and programs

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

- Engineering staff work closely with the Fire department during construction to ensure proper access is provided for emergency service vehicles.
- Engineering staff are reviewing options as there is a need for a significant sanitary lift station around Bear Creek Park.
- A 240-litre garbage can is provided for a single-family home, while a 340-litre garbage can is provided for a single-family home with a suite, at an additional rate. Homes with unregistered suites may not have enough capacity in a 240-litre garbage can, which can result in illegal dumping.

- Community beautification teams that pick up garbage cans contact the Green Team for garbage pickup along illegal dumping hotspots.
- Staff can review the maintenance of the Newton Softball Park and consider increasing the park ambassadors assigned to the park.
- The highest percent of shelter users are men aged 34 – 50. International students generally do not use shelters but will often live at overcapacity in suites.
- Staff can review their enhanced programs and services for the homeless with a Newton lens.
- High-risk fire locations can be identified, and risks can be mitigated. Working smoke alarms alone can reduce the risk of fire by 68%.
- An opioid response truck will operate out of Fire Hall No. 9.
- Fire Services are always seeking new team members who can speak additional languages, particularly Punjabi.
- Staff can look into providing a Welcome Centre and welcome programs specific to international students. These programs could be offered through libraries or recreation centres.

2. Review of Newton-based Stakeholders

The Task Force requested that staff create a schedule of meetings on different topics and that applicable stakeholders be invited to attend meetings as needed.

3. 2023 Meeting Schedule

Meetings with Task Force members have been scheduled on various Mondays each month at 12:15 p.m.

Meetings that require stakeholder participation have been scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month and will be held in the evening (specific times are to be determined).

It was

Moved by Councillor Nagra
Seconded by Councillor Kooner
That:

1. The Focus Newton Task Force amend the 2023 meeting schedule by removing the March 31 meeting; and
2. The meeting schedule be adopted as amended.

Carried

4. Roundtable

The Task Force noted that there is a growing parking problem in the Newton area, often due to multiple suites. This issue should be considered by Council as it is outside of the Task Force's scope.

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

This section had no items to consider.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

This section had no items to consider.

G. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Focus Newton Task Force is scheduled to be held on Monday, April 24, 2023, in 1 East – Meeting Room B.

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Nagra
Seconded by Councillor Kooner
That the Focus Newton Task Force

Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Focus Newton Task Force Committee adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Councillor Bains, Chairperson