

Citizens' Advisory Panel

Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2013
Time: 7:30 – 8:30 AM
Place: Victoria City Hall – Committee Room 1

MEETING NOTES

Attendance

Members: Sid Chow, Margaret Lucas, Richard Linzey
Staff: Peter Sparanese, Katie Josephson, Ken Jarvela, Bridget Frewer, Kate Friars, Doug Demarzo, Terri Askham, Laura Baker (recording secretary)

1. Agenda and Call to Order

Ken thanked everyone for coming and called the meeting to order at 7:35 am. There being no additions to the Agenda, it was adopted as circulated.

2. Approval of CAP Minutes

Copies of the notes for the meeting held March 13, 2013 were distributed to the Panel for the purpose of having them approved; the absence of any comments, the minutes will be adopted as distributed.

3. Project Update

Staff provided a progress update on the project, which remains within the approved budget. The area around the bridge is now an active construction site in which crews are preparing for the arrival of equipment and construction of the first temporary trestle, which is expected to start in the coming weeks. Underground utility work is expected to begin later this summer; work will initially begin on Harbour Road in an effort to eliminate as much work as possible in the downtown area during peak tourist season.

4. Communications

Communications provided an update on recent communications activities. Two recent public information sessions, one at Swan's Hotel and one at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort, outlined the construction schedule and possible impacts. Most questions received addressed noise, parking, traffic, and possible bridge closures. Staff continue to explore tools and opportunities to communicate the message that the bridge will remain open during construction.

In addition, meetings were held with neighbouring hotels and neighbourhood associations. A groundbreaking media event was held with Honourable Ron Cannan, the City of Victoria, and PCL on May 17th to mark the start of the construction of the project.

5. Public Art / New Public Green Space

The bridge replacement will create new public spaces and opportunity for a new piece of public art. Parks provided an overview of the public art process. The City's staff will oversee the process and will be guided by the City's Art in Public Spaces Policy and the art will utilize a piece of steel from the rail bridge.

The process consists of a three stage jury selection process; the timeline is as follows:

- Fall 2013: Call for Expression of Interest
- Spring 2014: Short-listed artists submit proposals
- Fall 2014: Finalists submit proposals
- Early 2015: Artist announced
- Early 2016: Art installation and unveiling

An email to CAP members will be sent out later this summer regarding the availability of two positions on the Public Art Selection Panel to be served by community representatives from the Citizens Advisory Panel. At this time, interested members will be able to contact staff from Parks to gain more information regarding the possibility of serving on the Panel.

Parks staff also provided an overview of the new public green space on the s-curve lands (Victoria West side of the bridge). An engagement plan will be developed by either winter 2013 or spring 2014 to involve the community with the design. While it is too early to say what the final project will look like, the following conditions will guide the green space development:

- Maintaining a 3:1 grade or less
- Preserving the railway corridor
- Road access to the Delta Hotel and green space
- Pathway connections to the bridge
- Retaining a remnant plaza space on the old abutment
- Downtown Core Area Plan identifies the s-curve lands as a waterfront outlook
- The Official Community Plan identifies the s-curve lands as a proposed park

6. New Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 am. The next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 7:30 am.