

Citizens' Advisory Panel

Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2010
Time: 9:00 am to 10:00 am
Place: Victoria City Hall – Committee Room 1

MEETING NOTES

1. Welcome and Approval of the Minutes

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Recap of Public Engagement Process to date

Katie Josephson discusses the Open house and the Johnson Street Bridge Mail out that has been distributed to City of Victoria residences. The mail out asks for a reply no later than August 3, 2010 in order to have the responses before Council at their August 12th meeting.

Katie added that in addition to this mail out, all information related to the Johnson Street Bridge, technical, heritage, costs estimates, etc. for both options are readily available on the City's JSB website.

The city is also getting into the media with Joost Meyboom of MMM group giving interviews about the options for the Johnson Street Bridge options. Katie noted how important it is that we get out what will happen in the referendum doesn't pass as it is a worry that people don't understand that the bridge would close and the ramifications that a closure would have on the city.

3. What have the CAP members have been hearing in the community.

Pretty quiet in the community, both the Heritage community and the Chamber are not very vocal on the issue.

Discussion of rehabilitation advocates – this is healthy. We don't want anybody to feel that they have lost. We want to make sure that the City will provide an amenity that reflects the values of the community.

4. Draft questions for the next Ipsos Reid Poll.

The next Ipsos Reid poll begin around July 22nd. City Staff are working with an Ipsos Reid representative to draft the questions for the next poll.

Katie Josephson runs through the draft questionnaire.

It was agreed that because cost was the #1 concern for citizens should a note be made regarding the tax implications of the options on the poll.

It was discussed whether a “Do Nothing” option should be put to the people taking the pole as this would be a telling number that could be what defeats the referendum.

It was mentioned that the costs should be mentioned. If a respondent would like the rehabilitation option would they still approve that option if the \$21 million in federal funding is not available for that option.

City staff will discuss with Ipsos Reid and try to understand what options are available to people if they have questions while taking the poll.

5. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the CAP-JSB should meet again before Council meets on August 12 to make a decision on which option to move forward to the referendum. The date agreed upon is August 6th.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.