

Citizens' Advisory Panel

Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2013
Time: 7:30 – 8:30 AM
Place: Victoria City Hall – Committee Room 1

MEETING NOTES

Attendance

Members: Margaret Lucas, Don Prittie, Richard Linzey, Jim Kerr, Ken Kelly
Staff: Ken Jarvela, Dwayne Kalynchuk, Katie Hamilton, Bridget Frewer, Laura Baker (recording secretary)

1. Agenda and Call to Order

The meeting was called 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 September 17, 2013 were distributed but not reviewed. Approval of the minutes is deferred until the next CAP meeting.

3. Overview

Each member of CAP was contacted prior to the meeting to share thoughts regarding panel membership, process to date, and the next steps of the project. A summary of the feedback was presented.

There is a general sense that there is a desire to generate enthusiasm and highlight the positive aspects of the project. The panel wish to seek a better understanding of how the new bridge fits into the bigger picture of the cultural landscape and adjacent developments. Planning staff may be brought in to explain these concepts at future meetings. A desire for greater information sharing regarding aspects of the project such as the public realm, lighting, public art, and development of the s-curve lands was also expressed. It was indicated by staff that the updated renderings of the bridge should be received within the next couple of weeks. Once they are available, another meeting with CAP will be convened.

4. Composition of Panel

All members expressed that they would like to continue their membership with the panel. Current members are listed as follows: Don Prittie, Ken Kelly, Margaret Lucas, Richard Linzey, Sid Chow, Jim Kerr, and Iain Russell. It was noted that Katie Hamilton will act as the Interim Chair for the panel until the City Manager position is filled.

5. Terms of Reference

A copy of the CAP Terms of Reference was distributed to the panel for review. The following suggestions were proposed by staff:

- Remove "... [future] passenger rail service into the downtown" from the Objectives;
- Remove the Director of Finance from the Composition of the Panel and add the Director of Parks, Recreation, and Culture;
- Remove "... (36 to 48 months)" under Term of Appointment.

6. Review of Bridge Contract Award Process, Design Optimizations, and Value Engineering

The January 2013 technical briefing was presented. This facilitated discussion in terms of distinguishing the difference between the terms "optimizations" and "value-engineering":

- *Optimizations* are what the contractors proposed to the City during the procurement process (six were accepted in the end: bascule pier – reduction in size; hydraulic mechanical system; rest pier – simplified geometry; simplified truss section; concrete approach spans rather than steel, multi-use trail (concrete instead of steel)). Each of these optimizations was described in detail.
- *Value engineering* refers to further potential opportunities that could be explored to encourage cost savings, but are not things that would change the appearance of the bridge. Value engineering opportunities regarding the west abutment, bridge lighting, west pier, number of piles under the bascule pier, and the east abutment were explained. It was noted that savings from value engineering opportunities will further increase project contingency.

7. Moving Forward

Future consultation with CAP will include discussions on positive information sharing; how to tell the story of the history of the crossing; the public art process; outreach opportunities (i.e. school programs, viewing platforms, public tours); green spaces in Vic West; community opening of the bridge.

The panel will continue to meet on a quarterly basis, with some supplemental meetings in between as needed. The City expressed the need for more positive information about the bridge. The panel will continue to serve as a forum for honest and candid discussion. Appreciation was extended to the CAP for their continued involvement and enthusiasm in the project.

The next CAP meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, November 26th at 7:30 am, but a meeting may be called earlier once updated renderings are received.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 am.