



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)

## Council/Board Liaison Committee Public Minutes

Tuesday, MARCH 10, 2009

8:30 a.m.

City of Richmond  
Anderson Room

Present: Trustee Donna Sargent, Chair  
Trustee Carol Day  
Councillor Linda Barnes  
Councillor Greg Halsey Brandt

Regrets: K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer, SD 38  
E. Thorleifson, Manager of Facilities, SD 38

Also Present: B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools, SD 38  
T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning, City of Richmond  
M. Daykin, Sustainability Manager, City of Richmond  
R. Humphreys, Deputy Secretary Treasurer, SD 38  
V. Jacques, Acting Director, Recreation and Cultural Services,  
City of Richmond  
D. Semple, Director Parks and Public Works Operations, City  
of Richmond  
V. Wei, Director Transportation Department, City of Richmond  
G. Young, Director, Legacy and Integration, City of Richmond  
K. Littlewood, Executive Secretary, SD 38

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

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**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded

**That the agenda for the meeting of Tuesday, March 10, 2009 be approved as amended.**

**2. MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/Board Liaison Committee held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 be adopted as circulated.**

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **3.1 Traffic Safety Advisory Committee – Proposed 2009 Initiatives**

- A brief overview of the new initiatives by the advisory committee was provided.
- The Woodward's Road V-com device, traffic calming projects, traffic safety, vehicle design and specifications, electric vehicles and their safety standards, pedestrian safety and crosswalks, audible signals for pedestrians, overhead illuminated street signs, school zone traffic safety, Canada Line project, Richmond Parking Advisory Committee, working with ICBC, innovation and best practices are all initiatives being considered by the Committee.
- Crosswalks with audio will be placed in areas where there are people with hearing issues. Richmond Committee for Disabilities (RCD) works closely with the City to help determine the location of these crosswalks. The District should let the Transportation Department know of any students needing this service.
- Canada Line start-up – currently the opening date is not known. It looks like the start up will be early September. The City may not know the exact date until early summer. A contact name at In-Transit BC will be provided to the Superintendent.
- The lack of bike helmets being worn was noted. This is an on-going problem. It was felt there is not a good solution to solving this problem.
- Suggestions for designing cities for people and not cars should be considered. Examples of cities currently doing this were provided.
- It was felt messaging and public awareness are key. Critical mass of shifting will be required before redesigning of roadways is undertaken. Intentionally reducing parking, roadways, increasing gas prices, increasing parking costs, and taxing vehicles are all means of influencing such a shift.
- STARS materials could be reviewed again and become a vehicle for information on sustainability. The District will provide staff to work with the City on this.
- Through the GIS program, schools can identify walking paths through to their schools.
- The HASTE program has replaced Way To Go. The suggestion was made to have a greater presence by the RCMP at school locations. Specific school locations and times should be provided to the Traffic Safety Committee if it is felt there are safety concerns. Traffic Safety Alerts are given to the community and the RCMP are aware of this.
- Trustees had a number of recommendations for traffic safety.

- The Chair thanked Mr. Wei for his work on the Traffic Safety Committee and appreciated the committee's work on behalf of schools.
- The suggestion was made to have Mr. Wei attend a Principal's meeting and provide the traffic safety report at that time.
- There was further discussion on Translink and it was noted their 10-year plan would be released to the public soon. Public input will be sought at that time.

### **3.2 TransLink Transportation to and from the Hamilton Area**

- In follow-up to the previous meeting a letter from both staffs is being sent to Translink concerning additional transportation to and from the Hamilton area.
- It was noted that proving regular ridership throughout the year would have to be demonstrated in order for changes to occur.
- The District is hosting a public meeting in the Hamilton area on April 7, 2009 at 7:00 pm. The meeting is aimed at families of youth, including 410 bus riders and school bus riders. Translink will be invited as well as City representatives. The intention of this meeting is information. A summary will be provided by the District following the meeting and a copy will be available to the City.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1 O-Zone Change of Venue – Impact on Board/City Offices**

- There is some concern that District staff will have difficulty getting to the Board Office with the change of venue of the O-Zone.
- City will work with District staff and discuss the planning. City will have a liaison person for this.
- A traffic plan will be developed but it has not been considered as yet.
- It was noted that late afternoon and evenings will be when events occur at the O-Zone.
- District has business operations and program involvement to consider. A formal process will be needed.
- It was suggested that a communication process between the City and the School District be developed regarding the O-Zone prior to May 6, 2009. The Superintendent and Mr. Young would contact and discuss.

### **4.2 Opportunity to Advance Civics in School Curriculum**

- This report talks about including local government in education. Local governments may provide feedback.
- Citizenship, local government in the current curriculum and providing a joint response would be helpful.
- The request was for local governments to respond to this but Council is asking for input from the District.

- There does not appear to be a deadline for responses. The Superintendent will liaise with Vern Jacques to draft a response.
- Vern Jacques to contact Marie Crawford and say a response will be drafted and ask about a timeline.
- This was seen as an opportunity to work together.
- This will be put on the District's Education Committee.
- The Association of Former MLAs was noted and they may be willing to go into classrooms and discuss government. This was noted as a beneficial resource.

#### **4.3 Neighbourhood School Strategy.**

- Due to an increasing tendency for the public to "shop for schools", the District is interested in promoting neighbourhood schools as there is not a significant difference between schools.
- Creating a neighbourhood school strategy and enhancing community identity was discussed.
- The District would like to work with the City to enhance the profile of the neighbourhood community.
- Looking at common ground will be necessary. The suggestion was made to have Elizabeth Ayers meet with the District to discuss.
- A trustee suggested various neighbourhoods in the City be identified with signage noting this creates pride in an area and it is felt this would encourage students to stay within their neighbourhood.
- The suggestion was made to add an item on the Council agenda to have a trustee or staff member speak on the meaning of neighbourhood schools.
- Staffs strategizing and working together would be helpful because there are a number of elements involved.

Terry Crowe left the meeting 9:50 am

### **5. JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT / STANDING ITEMS**

#### **5.1 Joint School District / City Management Committee**

- The City general managers are not able to attend this meeting because they meet Tuesday mornings.
- Nothing to report at this time.

#### **5.2 LAND - City School Land Planning Committee**

- No meeting since last Council Board Liaison Committee meeting.

#### **5.3 PROGRAMS**

- No meeting since last Council Board Liaison Committee meeting.
- Child care assessment report will be brought to this committee. The School District could be part of the gathering of information.

## **6. INFORMATION / STANDING ITEMS**

### **6.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule**

- Nothing new to report.

### **6.2 2010 - Olympic Planning Committee / Olympic and Paralympic Support**

- The City thanked the District for its support during WinterFest.
- Students visiting the Oval on a regular basis were noted.
- World speed skating occurs this week and a number of students are involved. Community acceptance was noted. 4,000 seats have been sold.
- Torch relay planning continues.
- Paint the Town Red continues to build momentum.
- Speed Skate Canada Tour and Beijing Torch in the schools are two on-going programs.
- The City would like to support the District at the meeting of the host venue cities to consider joint programming and best practice reviews. This will be April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Oval.

Terry Crowe rejoined the meeting at 10:10 am.

- It was noted the District is somewhat overwhelmed with all the issues.
- Trustees met as a Metro group and have been pushing VANOC and the Ministry asking for help. The District requested financial help from City Council and received a letter saying there was no financial help available. The District asked the City for ideas for additional sources of funding.
- The City is stretched financially also but the suggestion was made that letters be sent to the provincial government and VANOC requesting financial support for joint district City sponsored events at the host venue. City staff would include in the letter joint projects that are being worked on.

**RECOMMENDATION** – That this Committee recommends to their respective bodies that a joint letter be sent to appropriate government bodies and VANOC in support of the need for financial assistance as it relates to the Olympics.

**AGREED**

- It was suggested if the District had a specific event that they would like funded, it may be possible to send some money from the City for this type of event.
- A number of suggestions for events taking place during the Olympics was discussed.

- Sponsorship possibilities, logistics, working together, joint plan on revenue generation were all noted.
- Exchanges of staff time, in-kind resources are in agreement but the City is not able to fund a position for the District.
- It was noted that some VANOC money in the Vancouver school district was given to schools and community associations.
- Gary Young will review the O-Zone budget with his staff. The good relationship between staffs was noted. Mr. Young's office will connect with the District to discuss sponsors and Olympic rules.
- The district acknowledged Mr. Young for his support and thanked him for his hard work.

**RECOMMENDATION:** A recommendation be referred to City Council for further discussion on ways to engage the community, specifically, ways to support the School District.

**AGREED**

### **6.3 Transportation Plan for 2010 Olympics**

- With the relocation of the O-Zone, transportation plans have had to be changed.
- Both the Oval and O-Zone sites were discussed. Aberdeen Station and Brighthouse Station will be gateways to celebrations.
- The transportation plans for the games will be rolled out on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Richmond does not anticipate significant changes to transportation plans because the Oval events will take place in the evenings.
- Concerns about safety in and around schools during the Olympics was mentioned at the last meeting.
- Richmond does not expect a surge in traffic during the morning commute. There may be some added traffic during the afternoon. Finishing time at the Oval will be 2:00-3:00 pm.
- Currently no decisions have been made concerning road closures.
- A computerized tool will be available for citizens to view transportation routes. "Know before you go". [IMOVE.COM](http://IMOVE.COM)
- O-Zone, rather than the Oval, will have the most impact on traffic.
- There is concern about getting in and out of the Administration Building and the RCMP office during the Olympics. District staff will be contacted.

Dave Semple departed for a meeting with McNair students; Gary Young left the meeting at 10:40 am

### **6.4 City Centre Area Plan**

- Nothing new to report.
- The Plan is still the same as it was at the public hearing.
- Pinnacle Project at Capstan Station was terminated by Council.
- Finding a new school site has been discussed by both staffs. The new Brighthouse Elementary school will help with this process.

Councillor Halsey-Brandt and Victor Wei left the meeting at 10:45 am.

- There was discussion on creative school sites and it was explained that Ministry of Education staff have no interest in putting a school inside another building.
- Re-zoning land for school sites was queried.

#### **6.5 LAND - OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy**

- Nothing new to report.
- Development applications have dropped considerably.

#### **6.6 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES**

- 1<sup>st</sup> phase of framework development being completed. All goal areas will soon be brought to Council. The vision will be on the City website and will help the community see what is being done.
- Partnerships with the District will come out of this.
- Climate change adopted by Council in 3 areas.
- March 28 – Earth Hour, 8:30-9:30 pm. Global initiative to lower energy. Strategy to involve the schools – posters and the City Energy Manager will send posters directly to individual schools. Posters will come to the Board office, Superintendent’s attention, and he will send out. Superintendent will send out a pre-alert.
- Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> was noted.

#### **6.7 LAND – Redesignation of South McLennan Lands**

- The District was surprised this did not pass 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading at Council.
- Staffs are meeting to discuss.
- This has been discussed at Council Board Liaison meetings several times. Mayor and Council supported this and the District is disappointed it did not pass.
- Board Chair thanked Mr. Crowe for his work on this project.
- Mr. Crowe commented it was a pleasure working with District staff. City staff was also surprised it did not pass. He feels it was the proposed height of buildings that caused a problem.
- Amending the OCP is the next step.

### **7. NEXT MEETING**

- Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 am, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Administration Building.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded

**That the meeting adjourn at 11:08 am.**