Date:

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Place:

Anderson Room Richmond City Hall

Present:

Councillor Derek Dang, Chair

Councillor Linda Barnes

School Trustee Linda McPhail School Trustee Sandra Bourque School Trustee Donna Sargent

Also Present:

B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools, School District No. 38 (Richmond)

K. L. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, School District No. 38 (Richmond)

E. Thorleifson, Manager of Facilities

D. Semple, Director - Parks & Public Works Operations

T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning (9:40 a.m.)
D. Chan, Manager, Transportation Planning

M. Daykin, Sustainability Manager F. J. Ashton, Recording Secretary

Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1. It was moved and seconded

That the agenda for the meeting of Tuesday, June 17th, 2008, be adopted as circulated, with an amendment to add under New Business, as 4.4, correspondence received regarding food services at Minoru Park.

CARRIED

MINUTES

2. It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison

Committee held on Tuesday, April 29th, 2008, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Traffic Initiatives - Errington (RSD - Update - Oral Report)

The Manager, Transportation Planning, Donna Chan, advised that as a result of an invitation received from School Trustee Linda McPhail, she, along with Doug Newton, the Acting Supervisor of Traffic Operations, School Principal Reka Gibbs, 2 PAC members met to discuss the traffic issues relating to Errington Elementary School. She then displayed a site map of the area surrounding the school to explain these issues, during which she reported that:

- the school was surrounded by lanes on three sides and a row of houses along the west edge; the school did not directly front a full road
- ¼ of the school population was cross boundary (64 of 258)
- a daycare and a Playschool/creative expressions class also occupied the school
- parking along the lanes was such that the driver would have to back out into the travel area, or back in
- during dropoff and pickup times, driveways were blocked; problems occurred with backing out and 'fender benders'; picking up students was worse than dropping off
- rainy days were the worst for congestion
- other considerations were fire lane requirements and garbage pickup locations.

Ms. Chan advised that City would review the overall site to determine if it would be feasible to incorporate a dropoff and pickup route on-site. She noted however that this could be a problem because there may be an impact to trees on the property. In speaking to this matter, Ms. Chan encouraged the use of alternative means of getting to and from school to reduce the amount of driving which was taking place in the area of Errington School.

Reference was made to a request for the construction of a sidewalk on Herbert Road, and advice was given that such requests were typically paid for by development or by the neighbourhood through a Local Area Service Program, with the property owners agreeing to fund the cost of the sidewalk. Ms. Chan noted that approximately three years ago, a walkway and extruded curb had been constructed along the school driveway from Herbert Road to Errington School.

Reference was also made to a request to change the direction of the traffic on the roadway to a one-way system, and Ms. Chan advised that the neighbourhood would have to be in 100% agreement.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Considerable discussion then took place among Committee members and staff on the traffic situation, and in particular on:

- who would be responsible for initiating a Local Area Service Program request (advice was given that one of the property owners residing on the street in question would have to initiate the request, however, only the property owners living on the street and not the entire neighbourhood would be required to sign a petition requesting the sidewalk)
- whether there were any parking restrictions in place on nearby roads
- the request to change the direction of traffic movement to implement a one-way system
- possible reconfiguration of the school parking lot and whether this option could be considered
- the use of the back field by the community, if any, and the lack of visible access to the site from the rear of the school property (advice was given during the discussion which took place on the issue of community use, that the site was wholly owned by the School District)
- the rationale for the fencing of the rear portion of the property and the feasibility of installing a pathway along the lane
- the impact, if any, that transfer students were having on the current traffic situation
- the need to encourage the parents of those students who live nearby to use alternate methods to get their children to and from the school
- the feasibility of denying access to the road leading to Errington School, and requiring parents to drop their children off in a particular area and having the students walk in
- action which could be taken, such as reorganizing the dropoff zone; providing a more convenient access on the west side of the property by creating an on-site drive-through; encouraging students to walk or bicycle to school; installing curb and gutter along the streets; reducing speed limits in the area; and the installation of marked bicycle lanes leading to the school
- the feasibility of closing the entire street leading to the school and designating this area as a 'no stopping' zone; whether a plan could be developed with input from the surrounding neighbourhood to pilot low-cost alternatives to the current situation
- the lack of sidewalks and stop signs in the area, and who would be responsible for the cost of construction sidewalks; whether a gravel sidewalk would be a suitable alternative
- whether traffic calming would be beneficial to reduce traffic congestion

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

(The Manager, Policy Planning, Terry Crowe, entered the meeting at 9:40 a.m., during the above discussion.)

During the discussion, emphasis was placed on the need for community support on any plan which was developed to deal with the traffic situation. Comments were also made that if parents were going to be asked not to drive their children to school, then a 'bubble zone' would have to be created around the school, with parents being advised that they could not park in this area and that their children needed to get out and walk the remainder of the way to school. Another suggestion was made that a 'bubble zone' be created in front of the school. A further comment was made that without a plan in place, parents would continue to drive their children to school.

Discussion then took place on the matter of trying to encourage local parents to allow their children to walk or cycle to school, with a comment being made that perhaps the City's policy on the construction of sidewalks should be reviewed, as it was felt that residents were not going to pay for sidewalks or walking paths. It was noted during the discussion that parents and students did not feel safe walking to school and questions were raised as to whether parents would even use sidewalks, if they were available for use.

Discussion continued, with comments being made that any plan developed to deal with the traffic situation would most likely be used as a template to resolve similar situation at other local schools. Information was provided that City Transportation Section staff had been working with different schools to address traffic issues on an individual basis.

In response to questions, advice was given by staff that the Transportation Section would provide technical advice and determine whether options could be provided. Advice was given that cost could be an issue which the School Board would have to consider. Also addressed was the length of time which would be needed to develop a plan and obtain feedback from the school, the PAC and local residents prior to implementation.

A request was made during the discussion that prior to the implementation of any plan, that the City's Traffic Advisory Technical Committee be given the opportunity to review it. In concluding the discussion, the Chair requested Ms. Chan to ensure that any plan be forwarded to the Traffic Advisory Technical Committee for its review.

3.2 Brighouse Elementary Replacement (RSD - Update - Oral Report)

The Manager of Facilities, Eric Thorleifson, reported that approval had been obtained to proceed with the upgrade to Garden City Elementary School, and that as a result, possible replacement of the Samuel Brighouse School was now under scrutiny.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Advice was given that the Ministry had appointed a Senior Executive from the Ministry to review the seismic program, and that an indication had been given by the Minister that the school was targeted for a capital project agreement by the end of 2008.

Discussion then ensued, with information being provided about a meeting between Ken Morris, Terry Crowe and a ministry official to review the Board's Capital Budget submission and the City Centre Area Plan. It was indicated that there was concern that a new school would have to be constructed slightly outside of the City Centre area. Advice was given that the Board had always indicated that any school would have to be constructed as large as possible; that the Board wanted to proceed with construction as quickly as possible; and that the Ministry of Labour was also interested in the replacement of Brighouse Elementary School and was urging the Ministry of Education to move forward on this project. A further comment was made that support from the City on the replacement of this school would be most appreciated. It was noted that the Ministry of Education was considering the inclusion of daycare centres in the schools.

Discussion took place among Committee members and staff on the proposed new school, and in particular on whether any information was yet available on the design, size and possible location of this school, and whether there had been any discussions with the City on this matter. Also addressed was the question of whether other programs, such as performing arts, theatres, etc., could form part of the new facility. Also discussed was the rationale for the interest of the Ministry of Labour in the new school.

3.3 Old Mitchell

(RSD - Update - Oral Report)

Ken Morris reported that a celebration had been held to mark the 100th year of the school building which had been well attended by many former students. He further advised that the School District had applied to the City for a demolition permit, and that following approval of the permit, the building would be demolished in July. Advice was given that deconstruction specialists were working with the City Archives Division with respect to items of interest and to record the history of the building prior to demolition.

Reference was made to the many traffic accidents which were occurring at the intersection of No. 5 Road and Cambie Road, and information was provided that the School District was proposing to relocate the entrance to the existing school to Greenland Drive, as well as subdividing and selling the corner section.

Reference was made to the celebration, and information was provided that the event was held in part, to ensure that the surrounding community was aware that the building was to be demolished. Further advice was given that an overwhelming number of people had attended the event.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Reference was made to the proposal to demolish the building in July, and City staff were asked to provide assistance in obtaining approval of the permit as quickly as possible.

3.4 Community Initiated Projects – Quilchena School (COR - Oral Report)

Information was provided by the Director, Parks & Public Works Operations, Dave Semple, that a program was in place to ensure that any City playground equipment improvements complied with current CSA standards.

At this point in the meeting, the Chair advised that due to time constraints faced by Mr. Crowe, the Committee would now deal with Item 6.3 – City Centre Area Plan, at this time, as well as any other items on which Mr. Crowe had to report.

6.3 City Centre Area Plan (COR – Terry Crowe)

The Manager, Policy Planning, Terry Crowe, advised that this matter was the subject of a report to the Planning Committee meeting to be held later on this day. He further advised that the staff recommendations, if adopted, would be considered by City Council at its June 23rd, 2008 meeting, and if approved, the City Centre Area Plan (CCAP) would be forwarded to public hearing on July 21, 2008. Mr. Crowe added that following approval by Council, the proposed CCAP would be submitted for comment to the School Board, with the request that any comments be provided to the City by July 15th. He further advised that City staff would be happy to meet with the School Board and District staff to explain the plan to them.

With reference to a new school for the area, Mr. Crowe advised that the CCAP included one new elementary school, the location of which was still to be determined. He added that City staff would be pleased to work with School District staff to help select an appropriate location.

During the discussion which ensued, information was provided that any changes to the proposed CCAP as a result of the Planning Committee meeting which related to School Board matters would be conveyed to the School District as soon as possible. Concern was expressed about the short turn-around period given to the School Board to review and make comments on the proposed area plan, and a brief discussion took place on this matter.

6.4 LAND - OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy (COR - Terry Crowe, RSD - Ken Morris)

Mr. Crowe advised that he had nothing to report on this matter.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

6.4A CITY CENTRE AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(COR - Terry Crowe; RSD - Ken Morris)

Mr. Crowe circulated to members of the Committee, a copy of a draft Work Program which had been prepared in response to a request from the Joint Management Committee, which would help to determine the location of a new elementary school in the City Centre. A copy of this Work Program is attached as Schedule A and forms part of these minutes. The proposed plan was then reviewed in detail by Mr. Crowe. Mr. Morris also spoke about the proposed Work Program, noting that development of the program had been collaborative in nature, and had an aggressive time frame in which to complete the work.

With reference to the Work Program, advice was given that updates would be provided at future Committees meetings on the progress of this Program.

A brief discussion ensued, during which City staff were thanked for their work on the new CCAP and the report which had been provided to the School Trustees. Concern was expressed however about where children would attend school within the CCAP, the availability of funds from the Ministry of Education for a new school, and the potential timeline for construction as a new school would not be constructed for four to five years.

As a result of the discussion, the following motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the following recommendation be forwarded to City Council and to the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) for approval:

"That approval in principle be given to the location of a new school within the City Centre Area Plan, and that the process to find a location for this facility be commenced as soon as possible."

CARRIED

(Mr. Crowe then left the meeting (10:53 a.m.), and did not return.)

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Underutilized Space in Schools (RSD · Update - Oral Report)

Designated Speaker: Ken Morris

Mr. Morris reviewed the correspondence received from the Ministry of Education regarding underutilized space in local schools, and which indicated that 'the Ministry of Education supports the expanded utilization of school assets to benefit the community and wants to ensure that excess school space is used effectively to meet the needs of the surrounding community.'

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Mr. Morris advised that this information was had been provided to District staff and to the Board, and shared with community groups when addressing the schedule of charges established by the School District.

During the brief discussion, a suggestion was made that a copy of this letter be provided to the person responsible for booking schools, as well as all management staff and the Parks and Rental Facilities clerk.

4.2 Sidewalks on Granville Corridor (RSD - Update - Oral Report)

Mr. Morris reviewed the history of the situation which had resulted in the letter being issued to parents within the Henry Anderson School catchment area that school bus service would not be provided for the 2008/09 school year. He noted that the area of concern was Granville Avenue, between No. 4 Road and No. 5 Road, which currently did not have any sidewalks, but only dividers to separate the pedestrians from the motor vehicle traffic.

Information was provided that a response had been sent to the letter writer, advising that the School District had reversed its decision and that school bus service would continue. Further information was provided that the letter writer had been advised that sidewalks for this area were included in the City's long term capital plan but not in the current five year plan.

Discussion ensued among Committee members and staff, with concern being expressed about the lack of even a path for pedestrians and the high speed of traffic in this area of Granville Avenue. Further comments were made about the lack of a project within the City's current five year plan for sidewalks in this area, and the suggestion was made that the sidewalk construction program should be reviewed as it was felt that the letter now being considered was going to be the first of many received from the community about the lack of sidewalks. City staff were encouraged to reconsider its sidewalk construction plan.

As a result of the discussion, the following referral motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the issue of sidewalks on Granville Avenue, between No. 4 Road and No. 5 Road be referred to the Public Works & Transportation Committee and to the Traffic Advisory Technical Committee for review.

CARRIED

Discussion continued, with reference being made to a significant traffic issue at Henry Anderson School, that being the safety of those students heading northbound into the parking lot who cross Granville Avenue, and the suggestion was made that a pedestrian controlled signal should be installed. Reference was also made to the dangers presented by speeding traffic on No. 4 Road as parents and students were turning into the school property, and comments were made about the need to address this issue with some form of traffic calming on No. 4 Road.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

In response, City staff advised that they could address this particular issue with the RCMP.

(Mr. Morris left the meeting at 11:00 a.m., and did not return.)

4.3 West Richmond Hugh Boyd Park Plan Update (COR · Oral Report)

Park Planner Yvonne Stich used display boards and material circulated to the Committee to talk above the overall vision of the park and to explain the improvements proposed for the West Richmond Hugh Boyd Park. During her presentation, Ms. Stich talked about the new adult fitness centre which was to be created outdoors. She indicated that staff hoped to construct the new areas in mid-August to September of this year, and noted that the School Board would be considering the new park plan at its June 30th meeting.

Discussion then ensued among Committee members and staff regarding the proposed improvements to Hugh Boyd Park. In response to questions, the following information was provided:

- the new adult fitness equipment would be located south of the daycare centre and would be very visible from the drop-off area; signage would be erected to direct potential users to this equipment
- signage would be put in place to advise visitors about events and specific areas in the park, and especially on paths leading to the shopping centre at No. 1 Road and Francis Road
- staff were hopeful that the improvements to the parks would encourage students to remain on-site rather than going off-campus to the nearby shopping centre
- a staff person would be in attendance and this person would be responsible for training those people who use the new fitness equipment; signs would also be posted to explain how to use each piece of equipment.

During the discussion, comments were made about the importance of including children in the development of the park plan to encourage them to have pride in the final plan and to give them the feeling of ownership in the project.

4.4 Provision of Food Services at Minoru Park (COR - Oral Report)

Reference was made to correspondence received from John and Susan Smith regarding the provision of poor quality food being served at the concession stand in Minoru Park during a recent elementary track meet.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

Information was provided that the concession stand was operated by the Kajacks Track & Field Club. Discussion then ensued on the new health food regulations which had recently been put into place. Further information was provided that the track meet had been sponsored by the Kajacks and was not a School District or City operated event. As well, advice was given that City staff were in the process of meeting with community groups about the provision of better quality food services, and that the correspondence in question would be on the next Sports Council agenda for discussion.

The discussion concluded with the comment being made that these food issues needed to be addressed.

5. JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT / STANDING ITEMS

5.1 Programs

(COR - Vern Jacques; RSD - Bruce Beairsto)

Advice was given by Bruce Beairsto that the Committee was continuing to meet, and that plans were now underway to create the program for the opening ceremonies. He stated that the challenge would be to find the time to develop this program. Further advice was given that Margo Daykin would be sitting as an ex officio member of the Committee to address environmental issues.

6. INFORMATION / STANDING ITEMS

6.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule (RSD - Eric Thorleifson)

Eric Thorleifson briefly reviewed the schedule with the Committee, during which he advised that the upgrades to Garden City Elementary would commence in late August, and that six portables would be brought on-site to accommodate those students who would have to be relocated while the construction work took place. He indicated that the baseball diamond could be impacted by the location of these portables.

Bruce Beairsto advised that funds had been received to undertake construction in the foyer area of Hamilton Elementary School. He added that the school would soon require expansion and that the School Board may have to approach the City in the future about relocating classrooms into community space.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

6.2 2010 - City's Olympic Planning Committee (COR - Kate Sparrow)

Advice was given that an update would be provided at the September meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee.

6.3 City Centre Area Plan (COR – Terry Crowe)

Please see Page 6 of these minutes for discussion on this matter.

6.4 LAND – OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy (COR – Terry Crowe; RSD – Ken Morris)

Please see Page 6 of these minutes for discussion on this matter.

6.5 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES: Special Events – Recycling; Mandatory Recycling for Private Park and Event Rentals

(COR - Margot Daykin; RSD - Ken Morris)

Sustainability Manager, Margot Daykin, spoke at length about the steps being taken by the City with respect to environmental and sustainability issues, to use resources wisely and pursuing those actions which offered the best value for the City and the community. She also advised that the City was focussing on climate change and that City Council had adopted a three pillar approach in its efforts to encourage the entire community – residents and the development industry, to take charge of their actions.

Discussion ensued among Committee members and staff on the issue of sustainability and the need for joint cooperation between the City and the School District at the staff and Board/Council levels. Comments were made about the many areas where the City and School District could work together relating to sustainability and climate change issues. Discussion also centred around opportunities for students to participate in some of the programs.

Also addressed was the need to address issues relating development and zoning as they related to sustainability and climate change.

6.6 LAND – REDESIGNATION OF THE SOUTH MCLENNAN LANDS

(RSD - Ken Morris - Update)

Bruce Beairsto advised that seven options had been provided and would be considered by the School Board at its June 30th meeting, at which time an option would be selected and acted upon.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

7. PENDING ITEMS

None.

8. FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee is scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 23rd, 2008, in the Anderson Room, Richmond City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded That the meeting adjourn (11:57 a.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee held on Tuesday, June 17th, 2008.

Councillor Derek Dang Chair

Fran J. Ashton Recording Secretary

SCHEDULE A TO THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2008.

June 11, 2008 5pm

DRAFT

WORK PROGRAM To Determine The Location Of A New Elementary School In the City Centre Richmond School Board [SB] and City Of Richmond [City]

1. Directives

2.

3.

(1.)	Dire	ective # 1: From the City - SB Joint Directives Management Committee - April 10, 2008 To prepare a discussion paper and schedule, for SB and City collaboration, for selecting a new elementary school form, size and location in the City Centre.
	0	form, size, location and implementation for this school. The idea is to be prepared with a 'road map' for the next Board and Council for dealing with this issue.
		The draft will be brought to the joint management committee by TC and KM for review.
(2.)	Dire	ective # 2: School Board - May 20, 2008 CCAP Implementation Strategy Highlights: THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) direct staff to continue to meet with the City of Richmond and to prepare a report by the end of June/early July regarding acquiring a school site that will be brought to a future meeting of the Board CARRIED
Pui O	This eler	e Of This Report s report outlines a work program, by which the SB and City can collaborate to select a new mentary school form, size and location in the City Centre. there are many possible options, the solution may be either in or near the City Centre.
		ork Program facilitate the completion of the Work Program, it is proposed that: Richmond Council /School Board Liaison Committee (CSBLC) address this issue by holding special meetings, perhaps twice a month
	-	SB and City staff prepare information in summary from, and draft Work Program below may be lengthened to accommodate: any extra time for City, SB and Provincial consultation and approvals, and any community consultations.
(3)	A fir	nal school site decisions are anticipated to made in 2009.

Topic	Who does It?	Schedule (Done By
Draft Work Program (this report)	SB and City	June 30, 20
Need For New School		
Statement of Need – Why is a new school needed?		T
When will the new school be needed? (e.g., in 5, 10 years?)		By July 31, 2008
□ Demographics	- SB	
□ Other		
General New School Considerations (Facts, Pertinent Points)		
(1) Relevant BC MoE initiatives and policies		
(2) BC Maximum Allowable (school site and building)		ļ
- (e.g., for 300 children - 2ha. + .2 ha for every +50 children)		
(3) Review Existing City and SB Resolutions and understandings regarding	-	
land acquisition and the recent refinements of those understandings.		1
(4) BC School Site Selection Guide	-	†
(5) Walk-Limits		
(6) Busing	-	
(7) Transfer students	+	
(8) Portables	4	
(9) District Programs	-	İ
(10) Preliminary Preferences:	-}	
- Board		D A
- City	SB	By August 3
- Provincial		2008
- Community		
(11) Funding sources:		
- SSAC,		
- Provincial \$\$\$,		
- Sale of SB lands.	-	
 Possible Senior Gov't & Other Green Initiatives \$\$\$ 	* 1	
Possible Senior Gov't & Other Green Grants		
(12) Cost considerations:	-	
- Land		
- Construction	1	
New School Type Option: For each option:		
Describe the nature of the possible school/educational experience): Pros.		
Pros Cons	<u> </u>	
- Conclusion per Option		
(1) New School with maximum allowable (7 acres)	-	
- single storey	<u> </u>	
- two storey		
(2) New School with minimum size (3 acres?)	SB	By August 31, 2008
- single storey		
- two storey		
(3) Only expand existing schools through renovation		
(4) Use Portables	*	
(5) Bus students anywhere in the City that has space		
(6) Require parents to transport to existing facilities (within walk limits)	9	
(7) Relocate the French Immersion program @ Anderson		
(8) Other		
(o) One		

Topic	Who does It?	Schedule (Done By
Inventory Of New School Type & Site Options Sites may be in or near the City Centre. For each option: Describe the nature of the possible school/educational experience): Pros Cons Conclusion per Option Inventory School with maximum allowable (7 acres) Inventory	SB & City	By Sept 30, 2008
Cost Options	SB & City	By Sept 30, 2008
Determine How To Pay	SB & City	By Sept 30, 2008
Rank School Type and Site Options (1) Ranking 1 - By Preference [quality of facility & educational experience] (2) Ranking 2 - By Cost [highest ~ lowest] (3) Ranking 3 - By Practicality [all factors][(4) Conclusions (e.g., preferred solution - all factors) (5) SB & City staff recommendation SB - City Liaison Committee decision and recommendation to SB & City.	SB & City	By Sept 30, 2008

Work Program To Acquire A New Elementary School In the City Co	entre	
Topic	Who does It?	Schedule (Done By)
10. SB Decision		In 2009
11. City decision		In 2009