

Memorandum

Planning and Development Department
Policy Planning

To:

Mayor and Councillors

Date:

October 28, 2010

From:

Terry Crowe

File:

Manager, Policy Planning

Re:

2041 OCP Update Activity

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to update Council on recent 2041 OCP Update activities.

"LetsTALKrichmond" Activity (July - October 2010)

The public is responding favourably to the "LetsTALKrichmond" web discussion forum as indicated by the following statistics:

- "LetsTALKrichmond" News Page:
 - Number of page views 41,648
 - Number of visits 2,907
 - Number of visitors 2,169
 - Number of registered visitors 158
 - Average number of visitors per day 18.1
- "LetsTALKrichmond" OCP Forum:
 - Number of page views 15,142
 - Number of visits 1,848
 - Number of visitors 1,222
 - Number of registered visitors 95
 - Average number of visitors per day 10.2.

"LetsTALKrichmond" is proving to be a very useful tool to provide and receive information.

Completed Surveys To Date (Deadline is Nov. 5, 2020)

- Complete Online Surveys 118 (Oct 6 28, 2010),
- Completed mailed in surveys 78.
- Total to date = 198.

OCP Open Houses and Meetings

City staff have just completed five OCP open houses (City Hall, Thompson, Hamilton, East Cambie, South Arm) to discuss new housing options outside of the City Centre (i.e., coach houses, granny flats, duplexes) and possibly densifying around the shopping centres.

The attendance was: 93 - South Arm, 40 - City Hall, 35 - Thompson, 30 - Hamilton, 25 - Cambie, for a total of 183, about three times more than at the Fall 2009 open houses. At each meeting, there was a presentation followed by discussion. There were many favourable comments, some cautionary comments and some may not support all the options. Below are some common open house comments:

- that the opinions of one neighbourhood should not prevent housing options in other neighbourhoods,

- concern about the Steveston Highway overpass and traffic congestion,
- more emphasis should be placed on transit and buses and better connections from Steveston to the Sea Island and Templeton stations,
- make sure that there is enough park space,
- people will continue to drive in Richmond and there should be improvements for car drivers.

Residents are encouraged to complete the surveys by November 5, 2010. Staff will review the findings and report to Council later in the process.

As well, City staff met with the Urban Development Institute (UDI) and the Greater Vancouver Home Builders Association (GVHBA) representatives regarding the above options and invited them to comment. Those who attended like the options. Staff will be meeting with the Richmond small home builders on Monday, November 1, 2010.

Future Fall Open Houses

Later this year, City staff will be hosting agricultural viability and sustainability open houses.

At Planning Committee on November 2, 2010, I will be available to clarify the above.

Terry Crowe

Manager, Policy Planning

TTC:ttc

pc:

- TAG
- Victor Wei, P. Eng. Director, Transportation
- Jamie Esko, Park Planner, Parks Planning and Design
- Holger Burke, MCIP, Development Coordinator
- June Christy, Senior Planner