



City of Richmond

To Public Hearing
Date: <u>Jan 18, 2010</u>
Item # <u>2</u>
Re: <u>Bylaw 8557</u>

SCHEDULE 5 TO THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR
PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 18, 2010.

Memorandum

Planning and Development Department
Policy Planning

To: Mayor and Council

Date: January 15, 2010

From: Brian J. Jackson, MCIP
Director of Development

File: RZ 09-484669

Re: **Public Open House – Application By South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority (Proposed Translink Operations and Maintenance Centre in Hamilton)**

Background

At the regular meeting on December 22, 2009, Planning Committee directed that TransLink representatives should host an Open House for Hamilton residents to be informed with regard to the facility.

This memo reports back on the efforts to notify Hamilton residents and set up the January 13th, 2010 Open House. It also provides a summary of the key comments made by attendees to the Open House.

Open House Arrangements

- Translink arranged a mail drop notice via Canada Post to more than 1200 addresses in Hamilton.
- Translink placed notices in the Richmond Review and the Richmond News during the second weekend editions in January.
- With the assistance of staff at the Hamilton Community Centre, notice of the meeting was placed on their Read-o-Graph between Jan. 4 and Jan. 14th.
- Notice of the meeting was inserted into the local School News Letter which was emailed to all the school children's parents in Hamilton.

Open House Attendance

- The Open House was held on January 13, 2010, at the Hamilton Community Centre between 6:00 and 8:30 pm.
- Six Translink staff, one consultant to TransLink and one Coast Mountain staff member plus four City staff were in attendance at the event, for a total of twelve resources for people to speak to.
- Approximately 63 people attended (53 signed in).
- Attendees were primarily from the Hamilton area with some from Queensborough (New Westminster).

Summary Of The Comments/Issues Raised By Attendees

Traffic (approximately 80% of the questions)

- Traffic is the number one concern of the residents of both Hamilton and Queensborough.
- Residents are concerned about increased bus and vehicular traffic.
- Questions were raised about the capacity of and congestion at the Howes Street interchange in New Westminster.
- Capacity of, and congestion along Westminster Highway between Boundary Road and the interchange including the intersection of Westminster Hwy/Howes Street were also identified.
- When probing the issues it appears that the problem is actually associated with the traffic backing up from the freeway at peak hours and concerns that the buses will add to the congestion.

- Some residents also indicated that future development growth in New Westminster / Queensborough would add to the congestion on the road and highway network.
- Questions were raised regarding what the road improvements were that come with this application.
- Concerns were raised regarding fumes from buses and the impact on the Hamilton residents.

Pedestrian safety (approximately 10% of the questions)

- The Hamilton community wants the pedestrian sidewalk/walkway to connect into their community.
- They made suggestions as to connecting to the proposed trail and continuing the walkway along Westminster Highway all the way to Gilley Road.

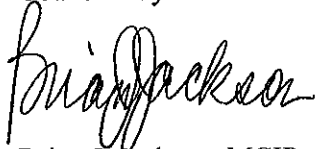
Parks

- There were questions as to the design and location of the potential trail connection through the new park space.
- Most seemed pleased with the connection to the waterfront and the possibility of a future trail along the water.

Day Care (approximately 10% of the questions)

- The community appears to be mostly in opposition to day care (either the need for it in general or this particular location).
- There were many questions about the access to the daycare and whether it would be located at the east or the west side of the site.
- The community feels that this stretch of Westminster Highway is unsafe now and putting in a vehicle access at this point is dangerous.
- There were also comments about the "modular" nature of the daycare.

Staff will be available at the Public Hearing on January 18th, 2010, to address these issues and any questions Council may have on the application.



Brian J. Jackson, MCIP
Director of Development

BJ:dcb

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