

HUB - New Westminster  
Draft Minutes of Meeting (Wednesday November 28, 2018)  
Judy Darcy's Constituency Office Meeting Room, 301-625 Fifth Avenue, New Westminster, BC

Present: Brad Barber, Garey Carlson, Andrew Feltham, Shane Griffin, Jenni Lynnea, Marion Orser, Patrick Parkes, Stephane Popescu, Peter von Riedemann, Shirle Schweers, Fulton Tom (Minutes), Robert Wong

Special Guest: George Benson, City of New Westminster

Call to order: 6:30 PM

1. a) Review of Agenda – Approved.  
Brad will take on lead in identifying HUB-NW's cycling priorities.
- b) Review of Minutes (October 24, 2018) – Approved.

2. Advocacy Topics

- a) "Experience the Fraser" Waterfront Greenway Project - George spoke on the Riverfront Connection, which includes a 6 metre wide floating greenway that will link Sapperton Landing and Westminster Pier Park. The Riverfront Connection is also intended to connect to other bicycle routes in the area.

The City is seeking widespread support for the project. Getting additional funding will require branding (eg Experience the Fraser: Hope to the Salish Sea) and highlighting the project's benefits to tourism, economic development, active transportation, the environment (eg erosion control, habitat protection), First Nations reconciliation and connecting two hubs (Sapperton and Downtown).

The City expects to do work on the periphery initially as the Pattullo Bridge is replaced. The Riverfront Connection is expected to be completed in 2025.

The City wants HUB-NW to provide either a general letter of support or a letter directed to a specific person (eg MLA Judy Darcy) by the end of January and can provide a letter template. Support from other HUB committees is warranted due to the project's regional benefits.

The City's casino funds must be spent around 2020. Some of these funds have been reallocated to the Riverfront Connection, which is consistent with the spirit of the original intended use (ie Q2Q Bridge). Mayor and Council have prioritized this project. Other possible bicycle network gaps may be of higher priority to cyclists but the City would have to go back to the Province to approve another allocation of the casino funds.

HUB-NW believes the project must serve commuter and recreational cyclists and address different conditions (eg freshet, fog, freezing). Some commuters might bypass the Riverfront Connection to avoid the hills leading to the Fraser River by using Columbia Street.

HUB-NW raised concerns of the City constructing poorly-built greenways (eg Braid Street to Bailey Bridge) and ignoring cyclist suggestions. HUB-NW wants to view drawings of projects before they are built and to provide expert input throughout the projects' implementation.

- b) HUB-NW Letter to Mayor and new Council – Garey read out a draft of the letter at the meeting

and asked for suggestions.

Action: Garey will send a revised draft of the letter for review.

- c) RAC Update/Pattullo Bridge Update – Brad and Garey represent HUB-NW on the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). They are also on Pattullo Bridge Working Group, a sub-committee of RAC.

RAC discussed the BC Parkway detour in South Burnaby and New Westminster. RAC is forming a Brunette to Port Mann Working Group and is seeking members.

The Pattullo Bridge replacement will be upstream of rail bridge. The 3.2 metre wide pedestrian-cyclist path will be at grade with motor vehicles on both sides of the bridge. It will be one-way for cyclists and two-way for pedestrians. The path will also have belvederes (or bays) where users can stop and enjoy the views from the bridge.

The Province rejected HUB's suggestion of locating the path below the bridge deck as the bridge would need to be higher to accommodate ships. HUB also recommended a noise and pollution barrier but faced pushback. The Province accepted recommendations for more direct and gently-sloped connections with greenways.

If the bridge is later expanded to six lanes for motor vehicles, the pedestrian-cyclist path would be cantilevered off of the structure.

HUB-NW would like a greenway along the eastside of McBride Boulevard from the bridge to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and a multi-use path west of the bridge on the north side of Royal Avenue that connects to Granville Street or First Street. These routes would allow cyclists headed toward Uptown to avoid dropping down to Agnes Street.

HUB-NW would like two-way bicycle travel on each side of the bridge. One-way travel is not enforceable and would make bicyclists scofflaws. HUB-NW also wants to be involved in the design of the bridge when the design-build contract is awarded.

There was insufficient time to cover the other items on the agenda. Some of the items may be covered at an informal December meeting.

Adjourned: 8:50 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday January 23 at 6:30 PM in Judy Darcy's Constituency Office Meeting Room