



QUAYSIDE COMMUNITY BOARD

Special Meeting

February 24th 2021

Meeting Location: Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/99419495523?pwd=cDlxVTdlN2s4Z1JwYlA2QlpZYWI0dz09>

Meeting Information

Special Meeting with Jonathan Cote to discuss issues at the Quayside.

General Update

City is close to finding a site for a vaccination centre, working with Fraser Health. Expecting an announcement soon on a larger location in New West.

Fire in Pier Park - the City has completely cleaned up fire site, largely funded through insurance. Likely re-opening in April for newer part of park. Emergency vehicle access issues is the biggest challenge.

Fire revealed the need to better protect the river, future planning to mitigate risk.

Recently Council approved budget COVID has had a significant impact due to loss of casino and parks/rec revenue. Feeling much more comfortable than any time over the past year.

Canada Games Pool - largest project on the City's books, was paused due to COVID, but anticipate project will start up again this year.

Rail project

Whistleblowing (?) in progress at majority of rail crossings across the city. There have been some successes. Prioritized areas close to residences, and have now been achieved in Quayside area and Begbie. Encourage any interested residents to go to City website for more information on processes, investments, approvals, agreements etc.

Fencing on northern side of Quay, on railway property.

City in close contact with railroad companies, community needs to keep up pressure on the railroads. For ten years have been working with rail company and Translink on a particular concern for a decade and they have finally had some success.

Boardwalk

Leveling, lighting replacement etc. - there has been some boardwalk replacement, and it has become a more active part of the capital budget. Some further work will ramp up this year.

Lighting 2022/23 is the expected timeline for upgrade of all lighting. All being integrated into capital plan.

Overpass



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Pedestrian demand is very high. Long term plan is to expand to have a large sidewalk and also return to two lanes of traffic. It is anticipated that Begbie will have to close for 3-4 months due to construction, so work on overpass will commence once the Bosa project is completed.

EV Charging stations in Quay

City recognizes and supports trend towards electric vehicles.

Challenges with older multi family buildings. On an ad hoc basis a # of charging stations have been added, but need a more holistic strategy. Had hoped to engage last year but that didn't happen due to COVID, but climate team has a goal of determining EV goal and strategy especially in multi family older buildings.

Mayor will take comments about engaging Quayside Board back to the climate team.

Public charging stations - comments/ideas from Board to City would be very helpful. As well, anticipate further engagement opportunities for the general public.

2-3 sites had been scoped out, any possibility of getting those set up soon. Mayor will follow up on the specific ones referenced.

Community Centre/Gathering Spot on Quay

No current plans. Not contemplated in 2008 Master Plan, but they are looking at refreshing the plan.

Intend to develop new Parks & Rec Master Plan, starting point for community to engage.

Obvious location site at end of Quayside Drive, jointly owned by City & Metro Vancouver.

Need input on what kind of amenities and spaces the neighbourhood is looking at.

Timing - this Council term, plan was to engage in this but COVID threw a wrench; the intent is to work on the Master Plan in 2022.

Traffic calming

Recent review by staff. Councillor McAvoy will follow up with staff and get back to the Board.

Cyclists created some huge challenges with increased use of Boardwalk. Staff made a positive change with making Quayside Drive a bicycle route. Potholes don't provide the safest route for cyclists which should also be considered.

Mayor confirmed they have eye on Boardwalk, reserve for recreation and ensure the space is kept safe.

Skytrain noise

Northern perimeter, challenges with screeching in May/June due to maintenance on tracks.



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Mayor has connected neighbourhood with noise mitigation team and they have been very responsive. Concerns can be flowed through the City and they can connect with the noise mitigation team. Email engineering operations at the City,

Dogs

Have become more prevalent during COVID. City recognizes need for facilities. There is a temporary dog park with future development expected to include dog park. There will be a small area in Pier Park for dogs. Royal & 8th - more recent dog park for people for the downtown area. There is an ongoing need to address dogs in New West.

Linden Trees

17 trees had been recommended for removal but are still standing. They will take away and get back to us with an update on status.

Currently 2020 issues

1. Rail Companies

- Quayside cleanup

We understand that the City has received funds to partner with rail companies for fence replacement on Quayside.

We are waiting for the confirmation for the commencement of the work in Dec/Jan? This is correct, the city has entered into a contribution agreement with Transport Canada to replace the fencing along Quayside Drive abutting the rails corridor to deter trespassing. Some co-funding has also been provided through the rail companies (CN/CP). To streamline this work, we are working with CNs civil contractor – Hunter Construction, to complete this work. This work is anticipated to begin in Q1 of 2021. (Salar Zulfiqar sent directly to resident)

-Front St. cleanup

We are waiting for confirmation that the rail companies will replace the fencing and do cleanup on the Front St. side?

The contribution agreement from Transport Canada also takes into account the fencing work along Stewardson way/Front Street from Begbie Street to the 3rd Avenue overpass. This will be completed in the second phase of the project, after Quayside Drive has been completed. (Salar Zulfiqar sent directly to resident)



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-Laguna rail crossing

The City has completed all the work required but still no permit for train whistle cessation. *Do you have a date for when it will happen?*

Whistle cessation has now been achieved at this location. (Salar Zulfiqar sent directly to resident)

-Stewardson Cleanup

When is the rail company going to do maintenance work under the Skytrain guide lines east of River Rd. past Third Ave.?

- This is a great question, I will follow-up with the railway companies to determine who manages that area, and question them about the maintenance.

- From my understanding, the BC parkway / Multi-use-path that runs along Stewardson Way is maintained fairly well and kept clean. Are you referencing to that path or are you referring to the boulevard space between the multi-use-path and Stewardson Way? (Salar Zulfiqar sent directly to resident)

-Safe Walkway on Stewardson

Would the rail companies allow usage of the now removed section of rail ties as a safer walkway for pedestrians and cyclist?

- The current Multi-Use-Path built adjacent to Stewardson Way that accommodates pedestrians and cyclist, and is built further away from the road to provide a safety buffer between vehicles. Building additional infrastructure requires additional maintenance work which I'm not sure the railways would want to take on. (Salar Zulfiqar sent directly to resident)

2. Quay Boardwalk

Wooden Plank replacement

Will the City be budgeting for the completion of the wooden plank replacement in 2021? Due to the significant length of the boardwalk, the repair/replacement of the decking will be undertaken over multiple years. The City will be undertaking another section of deck repair/replacement in 2021. (EUGENE WAT has not responded directly to the resident yet)

-Brick boardwalk leveling

Will the City be budgeting for the completion of the leveling of the bricks on the boardwalk in 2021?

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A: There are funds in the budget for the next few years to perform repair and reconstruction work on the esplanade and boardwalk. There will not be sufficient funding to complete all of this work in 2021. The funds are for pile posting, pile caps, timber decking, bulkhead and sinkhole repairs. The leveling of the bricks will not fall under this budget unless it specifically relates to another sinkhole. Staff perform annual inspections of sidewalks and pathways and address any defects as outlined in the inspection program. In the last couple of months staff re-inspected and repaired the areas that were brought to the City's attention by you. (DAVE COLE responded directly to resident)

-Lighting replacement on boardwalk

Does the City have a date for the LED lighting replacement on the boardwalk? Note: the base on many of these light standards is rusted out.

Yes, the City does have plans and budget for LED lighting replacement along portions of the Esplanade. We anticipate this project will commence in two phases, planning and design phase in 2022 and implementation of replacement lighting in 2023-2024. (ERIKA MASHIG – not yet sent to resident?) -

Rail Painting

Will the railing leading to the wooden boardwalk and accessibility ramps be painted in 2021? Q: Will the railing leading to the wooden boardwalk and accessibility ramps be painted in 2021?

A: Yes. Some of the maintenance budgets were reduced or reallocated for 2021, so we won't be able to do as much painting as planned. Sections of the railing will only be washed down to remove some of the built up grime and algae, but the sections you identified to us do have some rust that will need to be removed and repainted. The cleaning will start in early spring and the painting will be completed when the weather warms up. (DAVE COLE responded directly to resident)

-Garbage container

Will the City place a garbage container by the ferry gate on the boardwalk? Q: Will

the City place a garbage container by the ferry gate on the boardwalk?

A: No. The section of the boardwalk where the ferry gate is located is owned and maintained by the Inn at the Quay. Staff connected with the maintenance supervisor at the Inn to discuss the possibility of installing a garbage container in this space and they expressed concerns around doing so. The Inn at the Quay has a full time maintenance person on staff that does a very good job at maintaining their space. The Inn currently provides three litter cans outside their building and they have noticed a significant



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increase in household garbage being deposited in their cans, likely from the new residential tower across from them. They actually feel that installing a can near the ferry gate would create more of a litter problem. They will monitor the area closely and reach out to us if they need any assistance. (DAVE COLE responded directly to resident)

Building a Sustainable Safe Community on the Quay for 2021

3. Community Centre on the Quay

When will the City and Metro start the outstanding community discussion on the planning of the Community Centre on the Quay?

From City records, it is very difficult to conclusively ascertain if there were any formal commitments to provide a community centre type of facility in the Quayside neighbourhood. Historical records do include reference to many amenities that were part of the First Capital Development Corporation's vision and plan for the downtown (inclusive of the Quayside development) but are silent on reference to a community centre. The City would welcome any documents the public may have that helps to shed further light on this matter.

In relation to more recent development, there has never been any agreement between the City and Bosa to deliver on a community centre, as other amenities were negotiated as part of the City's community amenity package.

In reviewing the 2008 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan, there are no specific formal recommendations related to recreation facilities in the Quayside neighbourhood. That said, in 2022 the City will be updating the 2008 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. As that work will include extensive engagement with the public on a broad range of parks and recreation issues, we would anticipate that if there is an outstanding need/desire for additional community amenities in the Quayside neighbourhood, that theme would be identified during the engagement processes. (ERIKA MASHIG – not yet sent to resident)

4. EV outlets on Quayside

When will the City commence discussion on the placement of EV outlets on Quayside? Hello Mr. Guerriero,

I'm the Manager of Climate Action with the City of New Westminster. Thank you for your question



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regarding public EV Charging on Quayside. At this time the City does not have any planned expansion to the city-owned public EV charger network. You may have noted that in the fall, we initiated an engagement regarding scope development for an eMobility Strategy (<https://www.beheardnewwest.ca/electric-mobility-strategy>). We intend to move to the next phase of strategy development through this spring, which will include public engagement and review of potential EV charging network expansions. We look forward to your community's input.

If you have any further questions regarding this or any other Climate Emergency related projects, please feel free to reach out to climateaction@newwestcity.ca. (LEYA BEHRA, sent directly to resident)

5. Wooden boardwalk safety

When will the City commence discussion on what it learned from the fire at Pier Park in ensuring the safety of the wooden boardwalk, trees and potential of condos to catch fire? The City team overseeing the Pier Park fire recovery is continuing our investigation of the event. The Fire Department will be reviewing other waterfront assets such as the boardwalk with Engineering Department to determine the appropriate measures. (EUGENE WAT has not responded directly to the resident yet)

6. McInnis overpass

When is the City going to start the community discussion of the pedestrian walkway on the McInnis overpass?

Why was the overpass expansion delayed to a future date and when will it take place?

Widening of the sidewalk on the McInnis overpass is currently scheduled to occur following completion of the Bosa Pier West project. The reason for this delay is because it is anticipated that completion of the sidewalk widening will require a full closure of the McInnis overpass, which cannot occur until after the traffic impacts at Begbie and Front street in relation to the construction of the Pier West project are complete. (LISA LEBLANC responded directly to resident)

7. Bicycle usage

With what we have learned on bicycle usage on the boardwalk, what community engagement is there to plan the Bosa walkway and the new Pier Park replacement, expansion and options for safe connections over the railway?

Unfortunately, I fear that I may not be understanding the question clearly. The Sixth Street overpass and ramp into Pier Park is now complete, providing a safe, accessible connection over the railway. If



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there is further information or clarity required, please call me to discuss. (LISA LEBLANC responded directly to resident)

8. Poplar Island

When will the discussions and community consultation begin with respect to the vacant land opposite Poplar island and the creation on Muni Evens Park?

Thank you for your inquiry.

The subject lot at 1400 Quayside Drive (Poplar Landing) is jointly owned by the City of New Westminster and Metro Vancouver.

Currently the City and Metro Vancouver are jointly considering various opportunities and constraints of the site, and exploring feasible development concepts towards the delivery of housing (including affordable housing), parkland, and other community amenities on the subject site. Should a feasible development concept be identified and endorsed by Council and the Metro Vancouver Housing Board, public consultation would likely begin and include multiple opportunities for the public to be engaged.

The timeline for this process is not yet know; however, opportunities for public consultation will be widely advertised through:

- Postcards sent to owners and occupants living within 100 meters (328 feet) of the site;
- City Page published in the New West Record;
- City Page Online
- The City's Public Engagement Opportunities webpage; and,
- Emails to Residents Associations.

Would you be so kind to use this response to follow-up through the appropriate channels. Please let me know if you have any questions.

With thanks,

Anur (ANUR MEHDIC did not respond directly to the resident)

9. Queensborough Overpass

Does the city have a time line for the overpass to Queensborough?

I have assumed that this question is in reference to the pedestrian and cyclist bridge that had been



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planned between Quayside and Queensborough. A direct pedestrian and bicycle link between the Quayside and Queensborough neighbourhoods is a long-standing City priority, connecting a large number of local and regional destinations, including high density residential and employment centres, and providing better access to frequent transit service. The Q to Q Ferry, which launched in May 2018, offers a convenient way for people who are walking or cycling to travel between Queensborough and Downtown. The concept of a Q2Q Bridge was studied carefully, and remains a long-range consideration, but at this time the funding required to achieve it is beyond the City's capacity. There are no plans in the near term to pursue the bridge. (LISA LEBLANC responded directly to resident)

10. Stop Sign at Reliance

Would the city consider three ways stop signs at Reliance Court and the entrance to the LIDO complex for traffic calming, pedestrian and bicycle safety?

It's not clear to me which location you are referring to. If what is being asked is whether we would place a stop sign on Quayside Dr at Reliance Cr, the response is 'no', because it is not considered traffic calming best practice to use a stop sign as a traffic calming device. Furthermore, although there are some exceptions in specialised circumstances, all-way stops are generally only used where there is balanced motor vehicle volumes on each of the cross streets. That is not the case at this location (assuming it is the intersection of Quayside Dr and Reliance that is the subject of the question)(LISA LEBLANC responded directly to resident)

11. Sand Bar

Will the city advocate on behalf of owners and residents for the dredging of the sand bar that has grown in front of the boardwalk? If flooding should occur this would be an unfortunate shallow spot and potentially a trouble spot for overflow.

Any works within the Fraser River is under the jurisdiction of the Vancouver Port Authority. A regional flood management strategy of the Fraser River is being developed by the Fraser Basin Council. The strategy is a holistic approach for flood management, which may or may not include dredging. The strategy has not been completed; hence instream work on the Fraser River has not been identified at this time. {EUGENE WAT - has not responded directly to resident yet}

12. Linden Trees

Our tree trimming, removal and replacement program on the boardwalk has stalled. When will the city resume its replanting and removal of the Linden trees plagued by yearly aphid infestation?

According to our Parks and Recreation Operations records, the majority of the Linden trees located



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along the Esplanade were pruned last summer (2020). An assessment for the next pruning cycle will be scheduled in 2023. Aphid infestations happen every year in the city, especially during extended hot weather. So far, there is no evidence that the insects have affected the long-term health of trees they infect. The Parks and Recreation Operations staff will continue to monitor aphid activity and watering the trees sufficiently, as continued hot dry weather is stressful for the trees and can make them more susceptible to disease and decline.

In addition, Operations staff are undertaking routine cleaning of railings, benches and other site furnishings to help address the impact of aphid droppings. This includes spot cleaning (as required) with brushes, water and an environmentally friendly cleaning agent. (ERIKA MASHIG – not responded directly to resident yet?)

Follow Ups From Meetings

- 1.



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NOTE: Next Meeting March 31st 2021