



Hamilton

Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee

Report 16-004

1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 26, 2016

Council Chambers, City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillor J. Farr (Chair)
Councillors A. Johnson (Vice Chair), M. Green, S. Merulla,
T. Whitehead and L. Ferguson

Also Present: Councillor D. Skelly

Advisors Present: G. Arbeau (McMaster University)
S. Braithwaite (International Village BIA)
K. Drewitt (Downtown BIA)
A. Kersten (Flamborough Chamber of Commerce)
K. Loomis (Hamilton Chamber of Commerce)
M. Platts (Realtors Association of Hamilton and Burlington)
A. Strub (Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce)

THE LRT SUB-COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 16-004 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, respecting their thoughts on the LRT Project (Added Item 6.1)**
 - (a) That the City of Hamilton continue to pursue the development of the BLAST Transit Network; and,
 - (b) That the Mayor and staff continue to pursue additional federal and provincial funding to support the BLAST express bus network.

2. Light Rail Transit (LRT) Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) Update (PED16171) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

That Report PED16171 respecting the Light Rail Transit (LRT) Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) Update, be received.

3. Light Rail Transit (LRT) Stop Location in the International Village (PED16178) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

That Report PED16178 respecting Light Rail Transit (LRT) Stop Location in International Village, be received.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

ADDED DELEGATION REQUEST

4.3 Alain H. Bureau and Mark Rejhon, Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, respecting the Delta LRT Station at Gage Park, the Upcoming Public Consultations, the LRT Report by Councillor Terry Whitehead and the Positive LRT Developments such as the International Village (for today's meeting)

ADDED CONSENT ITEMS

5.7 Herb Wodehouse, Chair, International Village BIA Board of Management, respecting LRT Project Plans in the International Village BIA

5.8 The Sherman Hub Community Planning Team respecting Expression of Support for the LRT Initiative

The agenda for the July 26, 2016 meeting of the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) May 2, 2016 (Item 3.1)

Councillor Ferguson noted that he was in attendance at the May 2, 2016 meeting but was not recorded as such. The Committee Clerk will amend the official record to correct that error.

The minutes of the May 2, 2016 meeting of the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee were approved, as amended.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(i) Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, respecting their thoughts on the LRT Project (for today's meeting) (Item 4.1)

The delegation request from Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, respecting their thoughts on the LRT Project was approved for today's meeting.

(ii) Kelly Bistas, P&A Plastics Inc. and The Lewis Group of Companies, respecting the Concerns of Business Owners in the International Village BIA with the LRT Project (for today's meeting) (Item 4.2)

The delegation request from Kelly Bistas, P&A Plastics Inc. and The Lewis Group of Companies, respecting the Concerns of Business Owners in the International Village BIA with the LRT Project was approved for today's meeting.

(iii) Alain H. Bureau and Mark Rejhon, Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, respecting the Delta LRT Station at Gage Park, the Upcoming Public Consultations, the LRT Report by Councillor Terry Whitehead and the Positive LRT Developments such as the International Village (Added Item 4.3) (for today's meeting)

The delegation request from Alain H. Bureau and Mark Rejhon, Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, respecting the Delta LRT Station at Gage Park, the Upcoming Public Consultations, the LRT Report by Councillor Terry Whitehead and the Positive LRT Developments such as the International Village was approved for today's meeting.

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

- (i) Correspondence from Sean Hurley, on behalf of the Crown Point Planning Team, respecting a Delta/Gage Park LRT Station (Item 5.1)**

The correspondence from Sean Hurley, on behalf of the Crown Point Planning Team, respecting a Delta/Gage Park LRT Station, was received.

- (ii) Correspondence referred from the May 11, 2016 Council meeting: (Item 5.2 (a) to (d))**

(a) Jim Szabo respecting the LRT Plans

(b) Residents from the Community and Businesses on Barton Street respecting a petition containing 21 signatures requesting that the bump-outs and day-long (including rush hour) parking be preserved and made permanent to ensure safety, calm traffic and improve the public realm

(c) Gord Thompson respecting LRT

(d) Ken Watson respecting plans to develop the LRT through Downtown Hamilton

Items 5.2 (a) to (d) being correspondence referred from the May 11, 2016 Council meeting, were received.

- (iii) Correspondence referred from the May 25, 2016 Council meeting: (Item 5.3 (a) to (c))**

(a) North End Neighbours respecting Support for LRT in Hamilton

(b) Rolston Neighbourhood Planning Team respecting Support for the LRT in Hamilton

(c) Correspondence from James Arlen respecting Support for the LRT Project

Items 5.3 (a) to (c) being correspondence referred from the May 25, 2016 Council meeting, were received.

- (iv) Correspondence from LiUNA Local 837 respecting Hamilton's LRT Project (Item 5.4)**

The Correspondence from LiUNA Local 837 respecting Hamilton's LRT Project, was received.

(v) Correspondence from Darko Vranich, President and CEO, Vrancor Group Inc., respecting Support for the LRT Project (Item 5.5)

The Correspondence from Darko Vranich, President and CEO, Vrancor Group Inc., respecting Support for the LRT Project, was received.

(vi) Correspondence from the Hamilton Burlington Society of Architects respecting Support for the LRT Project (Item 5.6)

The Correspondence from the Hamilton Burlington Society of Architects respecting Support for the LRT Project, was received.

(vii) Correspondence from Herb Wodehouse, Chair, International Village BIA Board of Management, respecting LRT Project Plans in the International Village BIA (Added Item 5.7)

The Correspondence from Herb Wodehouse, Chair, International Village BIA Board of Management, respecting LRT Project Plans in the International Village BIA, was received.

(viii) Correspondence from the Sherman Hub Community Planning Team respecting an Expression of Support for the LRT Initiative (Added Item 5.8)

The Correspondence from the Sherman Hub Community Planning Team respecting an Expression of Support for the LRT Initiative, was received.

(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, respecting their thoughts on the LRT Project (Added Item 6.1)

Ms. Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, addressed the Committee respecting her company's thoughts on the LRT Project with the aid of speaking notes. A copy of the speaking notes have been retained for the official record.

Ms. Aduckiewicz's comments included, but were not limited to, the following information:

- Clarification of their position on LRT – they are supportive but do have concerns
- Why was the King Street route chosen over Main Street?
- They have reviewed various reports and studies on LRT and have not found the rationale for rejecting Main Street

- There is no cost-benefit analysis for the decision
- The LRT Project is the single largest infrastructure project ever undertaken and it must be done right

The delegation from Mary Aduckiewicz with R. Denninger Limited, respecting their thoughts on the LRT Project, was received.

- (a) That the City of Hamilton continue to pursue the development of the BLAST Transit Network; and,
- (b) That the Mayor and staff continue to pursue additional federal and provincial funding to support the BLAST express bus network.

Councillor Ferguson requested to be recorded as being opposed to this motion.

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 1.

(ii) Kelly Bistas, P&A Plastics Inc. and The Lewis Group of Companies, respecting the Concerns of Business Owners in the International Village BIA with the LRT Project (Added Item 6.2)

Ms. Kelly Bistas with P&A Plastics Inc. and The Lewis Group of Companies, addressed the Committee respecting the Concerns of Business Owners in the International Village BIA with the LRT Project.

Ms. Bistas stated that the business owners she represents would prefer to have the LRT go westbound on one lane on King Street and eastbound on one lane on Main Street. Ms. Bistas is fearful that having the LRT on one of the roads only would lead to a traffic bottleneck through the downtown.

The delegation from Kelly Bistas, P&A Plastics Inc. and The Lewis Group of Companies, respecting the Concerns of Business Owners in the International Village BIA with the LRT Project, was received.

(iii) Alain H. Bureau and Mark Rejhon, Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, respecting the Delta LRT Station at Gage Park, the Upcoming Public Consultations, the LRT Report by Councillor Terry Whitehead and the Positive LRT Developments such as the International Village (Added Item 6.3)

Mr. Alain H. Bureau and Mr. Mark Rejhon with the Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, addressed the Committee respecting the Delta LRT Station at Gage Park, the Upcoming Public Consultations, the LRT Report

by Councillor Terry Whitehead and the Positive LRT Developments such as the International Village.

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which has been retained for the official record, Mr. Bureau and Mr. Rejhon provided the following information.

The information included, but was not limited to:

- They are members of the Hamilton LRT citizen advocacy group and understand the importance of continuing the dialogue about the LRT project
- The Committee is a great forum to hear all voices and get questions answered
- Operational costs for the LRT are important and need to be looked at more closely
- The Crown Point community group and the Sherman Hub community group have not had a chance to participate in the engagement process
- There is a need for a Delta Station
- They commend Councillor Whitehead for his LRT report; some good points were raised; they do not have the expertise to review it but they acknowledge the review done by PhD student Chris Higgins
- LRT can be a divisive issue so it begs more information and engagement to take place
- The Hamilton LRT group is working on a “Shop the Corridor” project to help mitigate the impact of LRT construction on businesses

The delegation from Alain H. Bureau and Mark Rejhon with the Hamilton LRT Citizen Advocacy Group, was received.

(g) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Update on the Community Connectors Program (Item 7.1)

Ms. Kelly Anderson, Manger of Communications and LRT Engagement and Mr. David Derbyshire, Coordinator of LRT Engagement, provided the Committee with an update on the Community Connectors Program with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the official record.

The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following information:

- Introduction of the Community Connectors Team
- Program Overview
 - Objectives: inform, educate and engage businesses and property owners
 - Gather feedback from property owners to inform LRT plans
 - Details: one project lead and a diverse team of 14 Community Connectors
 - There are 1,095 properties facing the corridor between McMaster University and the Queenston Traffic Circle
 - Two visits per year for duration of the project will be done
- Map of Route Sections
- Details of what the first visit involved
- Outreach Materials used
- Survey Results
- Technical concerns expressed (within each segment of the route)
- Lessons learned
- Successes and Next Steps

The presentation respecting an Update on the Community Connectors Program, was received.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 10)

(i) Correspondence Expressing Support for the LRT Project (Added Item 10.1)

Staff were directed to tally the number of letters from various groups, organizations and developers received by Council and the LRT Sub-Committee who are in support of the LRT project and report this number to the LRT Sub-Committee.

(ii) Report by Councillor Whitehead on the LRT Project (Added Item 10.2)

The Committee used this time to discuss the report on the LRT Project recently released by Councillor Whitehead.

(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 11)

There being no further business, the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr, Chair
Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee

Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk