



**SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
UNOFFICIAL NOTES (DRAFT)**

April 21, 2017

A working session of the Seniors' Advisory Committee was held on April 21, 2017, at 10:00am, in the Town Hall Meeting Room, First Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT:

Monica Camporese
Thomas Crean*
Eddy Elmer (Recorder)
Clemencia Gomez
Beatrice Ho
Honghao Xu
Anthony Kupferschmidt
Gudrun Langolf
Dellie Lidyard
Dale Lutes
Colleen McGuinness (Chair)
Scott Ricker (Vice-Chair)
Elaine Wass
Jacqueline Weiler

ALSO PRESENT:

Tasia Alexis, Persons with Disabilities Committee
Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Vancouver City Council
Cathy Browne, Persons with Disabilities Committee
Mary-Jo Fetterly, Persons with Disabilities Committee
Laura Mackenrot, Persons with Disabilities Committee
Liliana Quinteros, Engineering Services

ABSENT:

Christopher Kevlahan, Vancouver Public Library
Chris Morrissey (Immediate Past Chair)
Ashok Puri
Park Board Commissioner Erin Shum
Councillor Tim Stevenson, Vancouver City Council

GUESTS:

Christine Edward, Transportation Planning
Marie Fontaine, Lower Mainland Facilities Management
Dylan Passmore, Engineering Services

* Indicates an absence for a portion of the meeting

1. West 10th Avenue (Medical Precinct) Update

Dylan Passmore, Engineering Services, provided an update on the project. Committee members were generally pleased that many of the concerns with the previous design recommendations had been addressed. However, members noted issues that required additional attention, which are detailed in our letter to Council (Appendix "A").

2. Committee Workplan

Committee members discussed a workplan for the current term, a draft of which is found in Appendix "B".

3. Committee Liaison Reports

Due to time constraints, reports were deferred until the next meeting.

4. Subcommittee Reports

a.) *Social Isolation and Loneliness Project (SILAS)*

Scott Ricker indicated that the community discussion groups have been well-attended thus far. The next discussion group will be on the April 2 at the Aboriginal Friendship Centre.

Due to time constraints, all other subcommittee reports were deferred until the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Beatrice Ho, SECONDED by Jackie Weiler
THAT this meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Regular Meeting:

DATE: Friday, May 12, 2017
TIME: 10:00am
PLACE: Town Hall Meeting Room, First Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 12:30pm

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Appendix “A”

Letter to Vancouver City Council Re: West 10th Avenue Corridor

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: 10th Avenue Health Precinct Improvements

The Seniors’ Advisory Committee is a civic agency appointed by Vancouver City Council to advise Council and staff on enhancing access and inclusion for seniors to fully participate in City services and civic life. The following represents the views of the City of Vancouver Seniors’ Advisory Committee.

The Committee acknowledges that substantial changes have been made to this project in response to our [many concerns](#). Staff have made an effort to consider and incorporate suggestions offered at several workshops attended by representatives of SAC and the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee that address issues on an interim basis. We are especially pleased to see that the needs of patients have become the highest priority.

We strongly suggest that staff continue to examine and incorporate possibilities that will meet the needs of all people accessing the “Medical Precinct” as it grows in size and usage—specifically, examining what is being done in other cities around the world, such as charitable valet parking; accessible shuttles from parking, bus stops, and drop-off sites; and other such examples.

Although much progress has been made on the plans for this project, we understand that the design work is not yet complete. We therefore feel it would be prudent to wait for the final plan before we offer a fulsome endorsement.

In the meantime, we hope that staff will consider some remaining issues that we feel require more attention:

1. First and foremost is the concern we have for adequate and accessible parking for patients and caregivers who must visit the medical services for treatment. The parking must be nearby on level, or there should be serious re-working of how patients are assisted to and from transportation, including assistance to the office within the building being accessed.
2. There remain concerns about existing and proposed trees in several areas of the precinct, including those in front of the EyeCare Centre. Staff have obviously considered this issue, but we would like further assurance that trees and other plantings will not in any way impede access to sidewalks.
3. Consideration should be given to the impact of wet autumn leaves on streets and sidewalks, especially during winter weather. We suggest that staff choose trees and shrubs that do not create excess foliage. At the very least, we suggest that there be a rigorous maintenance program to regularly clear leaves and other debris.

4. Extra attention should be paid to street lighting in order to facilitate way-finding and improve safety for all users.
5. Although it is important to have adequate signage and way-finding for pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists, it is equally important to avoid visual clutter in the form of excessive signage, traffic lights, and road/sidewalk markings. In the presence of visual clutter, users may become confused and frustrated, and could even disregard important traffic warnings. On this issue, we encourage staff to remember the dictum that “less is more.”
6. The Seniors’ Advisory Committee wishes to be part of on-going consultations, as this is a key part of the future plans for the West 10th Avenue Health Precinct.

We trust that staff will address these concerns and we look forward to reviewing and comments further on the final plan.

Yours truly,

Colleen McGuinness,
Chair, Seniors’ Advisory Committee

Appendix “B”

Draft Workplan for 2017-2019 Term

Age-Friendly City Designation

- a. Continue to remind staff and Council about City’s commitment to seeking designation by World Health Organization as a “Global Age-Friendly City”
- b. Encourage staff to consider and explicitly outline how all ongoing and new City projects address the specific requirements to receive the Age-Friendly City designation
- c. Encourage Social Policy & Planning to designate a specific staff person to oversee relevant to older adults and aging

Advise on Engineering Initiatives to Ensure Accessibility and Safety for Seniors

- a. West 10th Avenue (Medical Precinct) Re-Design - Provide ongoing feedback on this important project, including attending relevant stakeholder meetings and writing reports to staff or Council

Community Engagement

- a. Increase number of SAC outreach events at community centres and other locations throughout the city
- b. Continue to actively represent SAC at community events relevant to older adults
- c. Monitor progress and outcomes of Social Isolation & Loneliness Project
- d. Healthcare-related issues will be examined under the aegis of our Outreach & Engagement Task Force

Input into Community Plans

- a. Continue to provide input into community plans, include False Creek Flats, Grandview-Woodland and Chinatown

Liaising with Other Committees

- a. Appoint a liaison to relevant committees, create partnerships on issues/projects of mutual interest, or, at very least, ask to be placed on their mailing lists to receive agendas, minutes, and other relevant documents
- b. Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee: will continue to invite their liaisons to attend our meetings
- c. LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee: Dale Lutes to be SAC liaison
- d. Renters’ Advisory Committee: will contact to explore possible working relationship; may also appoint an SAC liaison