

Meeting Notes,
Bedford Waterfront
VIC Meeting

May 13, 2009, Art Room, Basinview Community School

Attending: Tim Outhit, Ali Cinar, Alan McIver, Rosemarie Sampson, Paul Morgan, Harvey Doane, Ellis Peters, Victoria Dymond, John Merrick, Sharon McCready, Terry Drisdelle and Doug Kolmer.

1. Meeting Notes from the April 1st meeting were accepted as written. The agenda was changed to include new items from Paul and Tim.
2. Given that Ekistics was not represented, Paul and Terry provided an update on the consultant's progress to date. (**ACTION: Terry to provide updated project timeline**)
3. This effectively combined agenda items 2, 3 and 5.

Next steps in the immediate Design Study process will include a meeting on Thursday June 4th at which Ekistics will provide a 'dry run' of the material they will present to the public on Wednesday June 10th - the three alternative designs. At the June 4th meeting, the VIC will have a chance to comment on the completeness of the material and on the manner in which it is presented. *Both meeting dates will be confirmed (ACTION: Paul) and circulated to the VIC along with the meeting venue(s).*

This will be a critical milestone as, following the public meeting, the Steering Committee will decide which design or hybrid will become the preferred design to be further developed by the consultants for presentation first to the public and then to Regional Council in the fall. *The decision will be made in a special Saturday workshop (9am to 2pm), tentatively on June 27th, date and venue to be determined (ACTION: Paul and Darren).*

Next steps in bringing the approved concept to Regional Council

NOTE: All timeframes are estimates based on 'things going smoothly'

Once the preferred design has been developed, presented to the public, feedback collected and reviewed by the Steering Committee, the RFP section 7.4 calls for the study to be presented to the Regional Council or Committee of the Whole by the consultant. This presentation could occur in the November/December 2009 period.

Once that's done, HRM Staff will develop a report (based on Council's feedback) focusing on any changes or amendments to the MPS for Bedford and any subsequent LUB changes to implement the initial elements of the design. This could occur in the February/March period of 2010. This will be

about the same time as the budget for 2010 is being prepared and the HarbourLink project comes up for approval at Council. - Timing is everything!

4. Terry then presented the 'last/next to final draft' of the Landscape Layout Plan (LLP) for the walkway leading to the south jetty. He explained there was a recent change in surface material from red brick to exposed aggregate, a better all-weather surface from both the users and maintenance perspectives. We discussed how this 'good news story' could be communicated to the public. *We felt that we should not miss the opportunity of Bedford Days to inform the public about the inter-jetty walkway and the alternative designs.*

WDCL will undertake to produce artwork suitable for public viewing of the landscape layout plan for use at Bedford Days and beyond. **(ACTION: Terry)** A copy of the LLP is attached for your personal information. Terry asks that this not be circulated beyond the VIC.

5. See 3 above.
6. There were no Task Group reports.
7. NEW ITEMS:

A Communication Strategy is needed to help focus on these two aspects of the overall Vision implementation. A key action will be providing a booth at Bedford Days (as was done in 2008 regarding the visioning process) to promote the design alternatives and identify the next steps in the Design Study process.

Councillor Outhit identified another opportunity for the VIC to promote our progress to date on Vision Implementation. He will be producing a newsletter going to all Bedford residents early in June. He will make space for something from the VIC, in the newsletter. Our deadline is May 22nd. This particular communication needs to fit into an overall strategy. The VIC will need HRM's help in developing this strategy **(ACTION: Paul to set up a meeting with HRM Communications to assist us.)**

Paul identified a Public Information Meeting (PIM) scheduled for Wednesday May 20th Basinview School, to present and discuss a Development Agreement for 827 Bedford Highway (case 01250). There seems to be a timing conflict as the property in question is within the Study Area Boundary for the Design Study. Completing the design Study is the first major action of the Strategic Actions for the Implementation of the Waterfront Vision. This will set the design parameters for projects in the study area. Thus the PIM may be a bit too early in the overall scope of things.

(ACTION: Tim and Paul to discuss this with Andrew Bone, the Planner responsible for this case)

Attached are the plan sketches regarding this case for the VIC's information. We will contact the VIC if the meeting will be held.

Tim identified two clarifications he felt should be made:

1. There was misinformation in the press regarding the fate of the old Bedford Fire hall. The story stated that the taxpayers would be funding the renovation/repurposing of the fire hall. In fact, an Expression of Interest (EOI) was/will be called to allow a non-profit group to acquire the property for less than market value and repair/renovate it. In return, HRM would be able to use some of the space for meetings.
 2. There is confusion over the new proposed transit tax approved by Regional Council. [Tim, I need your help with this section]
8. Next VIC meeting will be on Thursday, June 4th venue and time to be confirmed. NOTE: Paul sent an e-mail today (19 May) confirming that meeting would be held at the Basinview Community School, cafeteria starting at 7pm.
The public workshop has been confirmed for June 10th 7pm at the same location, Basinview School cafeteria.