

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – JUNE 20, 2005

SPADINA-YORK SUBWAY EXTENSION COMMITTEE – ADDITION OF MEMBERS AND QUORUM

Recommendation

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends:

1. That the following representatives be appointed as members of the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee:
 - a) Mr. Andy Manahan, Universal Workers Union Local 183;
 - b) Mr. Chester Lew, Parc Downsview Park Inc.;
 - c) Mr. Mike Yorke, Carpenters & Allied Workers Local 27;
 - d) Mary-Frances Turner, York Region Transit Plan Committee;
 - e) Mr. Brian Shifman, Smart Commute Association of Black Creek; and
 - f) A representative from Go Transit; and
2. That the City Clerk be directed to give notice of Intention to amend the Council Procedure Bylaw to reduce the quorum requirements for the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee, thereby keeping quorum at 5 members.

Economic Impact

N/A

Purpose

To allow for additional members to the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee, while maintaining the number for quorum at 5 members.

Background - Analysis and Options

At the last Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee Meeting, the Committee recommended that the above-noted recommendations be taken as a request to City of Vaughan Council (Item 8a) of the May 6, 2005 Committee Minutes). The representatives being suggested for appointment to the Committee do attend the Committee meetings on a regular basis, and it would be more beneficial to the overall working dynamics of the Committee to have these representatives attend as members, rather than guests.

The rules and regulations of Council's Procedure Bylaw, including quorum, apply to sub-committees, advisory committees, et cetera. Consequently, this bylaw would have to be amended to accommodate any quorum reduction for the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee. Notice of intention to pass an amendment to the Bylaw would have to be given.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

- 1.3.1 Develop and implement innovative alternatives for service delivery.
- 3.1 Support the TTC subway extension project, with the Spadina line as the top priority.

This report is consistent with priorities previously set by Council.

Conclusion

In response to the recommendation request by the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee, it is recommended that the above-noted representatives be appointed to the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee and that notice of intention to pass an amendment to the Procedure Bylaw be given to maintain quorum for the Committee at 5 members.

Attachments

1. Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee Meeting Minutes of May 6,, 2005

Report prepared by:

Cindy Furfaro-Benning, Council Administrative Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco
Councillor, Ward 4

CITY OF VAUGHAN
SPADINA-YORK SUBWAY EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Friday, May 6, 2005

MINUTES

A meeting of the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee was held on Friday, May 6, 2005, at Tennis Canada, with the following members present:

Members

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco, City of Vaughan, Chair
Regional Councillor Mario F. Ferri, City of Vaughan
Councillor Peter Li Preti, City of Toronto
Councillor Karen Stintz, City of Toronto
Professor Ted Spence, York University

Staff

Roy McQuillin, Manager of Corporate Policy
Wayne McEachern, Policy Planning/Urban
Design Department
Gloria Hardychuk, Assistant City Clerk

Also in Attendance

Cameron MacKinnon, York University
Andy Manahan, Universal Workers Union Local 183
Tom Middlebrook, TTC
Brian Shefman, Smart Commute of Black Creek
Sean Hertel, York Region
Zaf Warsi, City of Toronto

Regrets

Mayor Michael Di Biase
Regional Chair Bill Fisch
Regional Councillor Frustaglio
Michael DeAngellis, City Manager

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Li Preti
seconded by Professor Spence

That the Agenda be confirmed with the addition of the following:

- 5 e) Committee Membership
- 8 a) Quorum Issue

CARRIED

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There was no disclosure of interest by any member present.

3. ADOPTION/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Professor Spence
seconded by Councillor Li Preti

That the minutes of the January 7, 2005, meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Tom Middleton, Chief Engineer – Engineering Department, TTC, distributed copies of the newsletter entitled “Spadina Subway Extension Environmental Assessment Study”, prepared by the TTC and the City of Toronto. The newsletter explains the EA study, and provides an overview of the staging process, summarizes what’s been done so far, and highlights the important issues to be considered for selecting the preferred subway route. The newsletter also announces two additional open houses and a workshop, scheduled for May 17, 2005 and May 18, 2005, to provide an opportunity for the public to view and comment on the following:

- The preferred route (selected from the eight possible routes presented at the Phase One Open Houses and Workshops, held in February 2005);
- Alignment options within the preferred route, including station concepts that identify possible locations for bus terminals and commuter facilities; and
- The criteria that will be used to select the preferred alignment and station locations.

Tom Middleton advised that the newsletter would be delivered to residents and businesses in the City of Toronto and the City of Vaughan within the next few days. The final report is planned for submission to the TTC in October of this year, with submission to the Province in December.

Tom Middleton expressed concern with respect to the estimated costs for subway cars and yard improvements as quoted in 2003, noting that costs have and will continue to escalate. One observation made was that the proposed bus terminal has grown from 17-19 bays to 30-35 bays. The demand for a transit hub in the area has almost doubled. It was felt that the EA would favorably support the argument that the subway line will become the gateway to the 905 area, and not only to York University. Councillor Li Preti also expressed concern regarding the growing costs.

Members were encouraged to attend the public open house at York University. Professor Spence reiterated the importance of attending, as participation from students will be reduced due to timing.

The Chair supported the comments made and added that representation by Committee members is important in order to reinforce the commitment by the Province, and to hopefully stimulate interest from the public. The Committee congratulated Tom Middleton and the TTC for their efforts.

MOVED by Regional Councillor Ferri
seconded by Councillor Li Preti

That the verbal presentation by TTC with respect to the “Spadina Subway Extension Environmental Assessment Study”, and the newsletter dated May 2005, be received.

CARRIED.

5. ITEMS REQUIRING DISCUSSION OF THE COMMITTEE

a) Status of Spadina Subway Extension EA

Roy McQuillin briefed members on the City of Vaughan’s perspective on two of the preferred alternatives, explaining the coordination of efforts. It was noted that issues are being worked on at the staff level, particularly with respect to the hydro corridor north of Steeles Avenue. Issues with respect to the use of the hydro corridor still need to be resolved. The committee was

advised that information from a number of sources will be required to finalize the plan for the hydro corridor. The subway EA will establish the route, the bus terminal location and the parting configuration. OPA 620 will deal with the east – west road and the Region's BRT study will establish the needs for the interim surface rapid transit. Once these have been resolved, a formal request can be made to the Province to lease the corridor.

b) Updates on Related Initiatives:

- York Region EA's
- City of Vaughan Land Use Studies
- York University

- York Region EA's

Sean Hertel, York Region Transit appeared on behalf of Mary-Frances Turner, York Region Transit Plan Committee and gave a brief report. The EA's are on schedule (maximum of 33 week review period) and progressing accordingly. Timing for approval was discussed.

- City of Vaughan Land Use Studies

Wayne McEachern reported that the project manager responsible for the two studies is no longer employed by the City of Vaughan. The Steeles Avenue Land Use Study OPA 620 is coming to a conclusion, with a report expected to go to the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 8, 2005. With respect to the Highway 7/Jane Street, this matter has not yet gone to a public hearing and no date has been set. Public consultation is expected mid June, with a report to Council in fall.

- York University

Professor Spence reported that York University continues to work very closely with the TTC with respect to the EA, exchanging information, etc. It was noted that detailed discussions with staff continue and York will carry on working behind the scenes. Financial concerns were discussed briefly. Professor Spence discussed the current transit usage, noting that the subway is the gateway and is the catalyst for the link with York Region. He closed by expressing concern with moving forward at this time and suggested that the committee consider waiting until the fall to send letters, etc., after the TTC's report and EA have been presented to City of Toronto Council.

Councillor LiPreti reiterated the funding concerns and suggested that a summit of notables be held, to raise awareness and to discuss funding opportunities. Regional Councillor Ferri agreed, explaining that more needs to be done to bring the issue to the attention of the Provincial and Federal governments, repeating that a summit would be a good approach.

The Chair will organize a sub-committee meeting and will invite Mario G. Racco, MPP, and Mr. Cameron MacKinnon to the first meeting. The Chair will also draft a letter to the Minister of Finance, on behalf of the committee, to discuss funding opportunities.

MOVED by Councillor LiPreti
seconded by Regional Councillor Ferri

The Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee recommends that the updates on the various initiatives be received.

CARRIED.

c) Opportunities for the Committee to support the Spadina Subway Extension

This matter was previously discussed.

d) Meeting dates and attendance

After a brief discussion, the members agreed that the meeting time should be changed. All meetings would be held starting at 3:00 p.m.

e) Committee Membership

A discussion ensued with respect to extending the current membership. Andy Manahan of Universal Workers Union Local 183 and Brian Shifman of Smart Commute expressed their interest in becoming official members on the committee. The Chair acknowledged the comments and explained that this matter would be forwarded to City of Vaughan Council for consideration.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE

a) Letter to Globe and Mail from Universal Workers Union Local 183

Members had before them copies of a letter to Mr. John Barber, Globe and Mail, from Mr. Tony Dionisio, Business Manager, Universal Workers Union Local 183, dated March 31, 2005. Andy Manahan explained the purpose of the letter, emphasizing support and advocating "for a continuous subway extension program in Toronto, with the number one priority being the Spadina extension to York.". It was remarked that the committee could do more with respect to political contacts and letter writing.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There was no business arising from previous meetings.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Quorum Issue

Andy Manahan discussed concerns with respect to quorum and asked the committee to consider expanding the membership. A brief discussion ensued. The consensus of opinion by all members present was that the membership be expanded and that the quorum remain unchanged. The Chair agreed to forward the request to City of Vaughan Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor LI Preti
seconded by Councillor Stintz

The Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee recommends:

- 1) That the following representatives be appointed as members of the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee:
 - a) Mr. Andy Manahan, Universal Workers Union Local 183;
 - b) Mr. Chester Lew, Parc Downsview Park Inc.;
 - c) Mr. Mike Yorke, Carpenters & Allied Workers Local 27;
 - d) Mary-Frances Turner, York Region Transit Plan Committee;
 - e) Mr. Brian Shifman, Smart Commute Association of Black Creek; and
 - f) A representative from Go Transit; and
- 2) That quorum remain unchanged at five (5) members.

CARRIED

9. **NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting will be held on, June 3, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. at Tennis Canada.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.