

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER  
Regular meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee  
Held in City Hall, Conference Room 'A'  
On Wednesday, April 26, 2011 at 7:00pm

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**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

Antje Wilson, Chair  
Alison Caldwell Johnson, Vice-Chair  
Vivien Christison  
Tomoko Ito  
Kenneth Izatt  
Jessica Thoms  
Alison Watt

**ABSENT**

Lili Motaghedi  
Michelle Robindell

**STAFF:**

Cheryl Kathler, Community Planner  
Lillian Gorrie, Committee Clerk

Craig Keating, Councillor

9 members – quorum = 5  
1 Councillor (non-voting) 2 staff (non-voting)

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Vice-Chair, Ms. Alison Caldwell Johnson, chaired this meeting.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
2. **WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** Introductions were made and new member, Tomoko Ito was welcomed.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
The Minutes of the Meeting of March 23, 2011 were adopted as circulated.

**PRESENTATION - Low Level Road Project** – Tony Barber, Manager, Engineering Planning & Design - Port Vancouver has national and North American importance as the number 1 port in terms of foreign export of goods and has a potential increase of 50 to 100% to Asian destinations. Port Vancouver held a workshop on the Low Level Road Improvement Project on April 4<sup>th</sup> with 28 groups participating. Council has now requested formal input from all of the City's advisory bodies. There will be an Open House on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The project is estimated to be \$100m, which will directly benefit the North Shore economy. There is a 6 acre parcel on waterfront that could be developed and will bring tax benefits to the City.

The proposed Project is a combination of two of five projects funded through the North Shore Trade Area initiative and includes:

- Realignment of, and improvements to, the Low Level Road between Cotton Street and St. Andrew's Avenue, including an overpass at St. Patrick's Avenue, and;

- Construction of an overpass for access to the Port's Neptune and Cargill terminals;
- Realign the Esplanade/Low Level Road intersection to address safety concerns;
- Improved and realigned Low Level Road grading/elevation to improve safety and slope stability; and
- Improve Spirit Trail Crossing and accommodate Spirit Trail – West End.

NS Trade Area Study financed by Transport Canada identified inefficiencies in rail transportation on the North Shore. Currently there are 3 rail crossings, Neptune at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, St. Patrick's and St. Andrews which cause safety concerns, traffic delays and noise and air quality complaints. Improved slope stability will allow for the use of tension railcars, with elimination of car separations and not having to whistle at crossings. Units will be able to loop around, dump their load and carry on. The Port will pay for a new section of the Spirit Trail including a 3<sup>rd</sup> Street overpass.

Discussions with adjacent property owners has mainly raised issues of noise and air quality, both from the rail yard and because the grade of the road will be raised. This will directly affect Alder Street residents. The Noise Consultant is proposing a noise wall barrier. Staff confirmed there will be a separated cyclist/pedestrian lane. SPAC members noted concerns regarding the impacts to local residents in terms of noise, privacy, overhead lights and property values.

**It was Moved, Seconded and Carried That:**

**THE Social Planning Advisory Committee having received a presentation concerning the Low Level Road Improvement Project made the following resolution:**

**THAT SPAC supports the proposed Low Level Road Improvement Project subject to design refinements that minimize impact on adjacent residents and property owners, particularly addressing noise and light reduction, as well as environmental, financial and safety concerns;**

**AND THAT particular consideration be given to options that maximize separation between the new Low Level Road and private property.**

#### **4. UPDATES**

##### **a) COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE –**

- Low Level Road – the changes being proposed will address the shunting noise but there are other issues to be resolved.
- Proposals for the Safeway site and the site on the southeast side of Lonsdale & 13<sup>th</sup> will be coming back to Council.

##### **b) STAFF UPDATE –**

- (i) Chesterfield House – has 9 new units occupied. Working on landscaping. Open House in summer
- (ii) Lonsdale & 3<sup>rd</sup> – Intracorp Project (Versatile) – There will be 1,000 s.f. of community amenity space located at edge of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street that

- the City will lease it a non-profit agency through an RFP. Staff will be forwarding a report to council suggesting the terms of reference.
- (iii) Chesterfield & 13th 'The Kimpton' –The City will offer the 6 rental units for operation by a non-profit organization
  - (iv) The Legion Building – Amenity Room available 50% of time for community use. The 33 non-profit housing units have been given over to BC Housing to find another operator. This is a trend across the lower mainland where non-profit's are finding it difficult to manage and operate housing. A common issue that arises is caring for or supporting people with special needs or as they age.
  - (v) Vancouver Resource Society – included in the Citimark proposal on West 15<sup>th</sup>; would own and operate, 4 housing units. A Town Hall Meeting will be held in June.
  - (vi) Safeway site - Onni Development – proposing 15 units for non-profits. A Town Hall meeting is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>. Members discussed how rental fees might be determined.
  - (vii) Age Friendly Community Initiative – Seniors Today: Building a Better Tomorrow; survey of North Shore seniors underway
  - (viii) Metro Vancouver Regional Study of Purpose Built Housing – will be completed in the Fall.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Community Forum – May 17<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm to 8:00pm - at City Hall.**

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

- a) **2010 Annual Report and 2011 Work Plan – final draft –**  
Members agreed to the sending of this version to Council.

Councillor Keating left the meeting before discussion on Community Grants began.

- b) **Community Grants –**  
**Core Funding Question: NS Crisis Services Society & NS Women's Centre** – Staff advised that if members so desire they can include a recommendation in their grants report to Council that these organizations be moved to Core Funding.
- c) **Continue Grant Reviews – 2<sup>nd</sup> Round** – members began reviewing the proposed grant allocations, however as the Library building closed at 9:00pm this discussion was ended and will continue at the next meeting.

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS

N/A

#### 8. OTHER BUSINESS

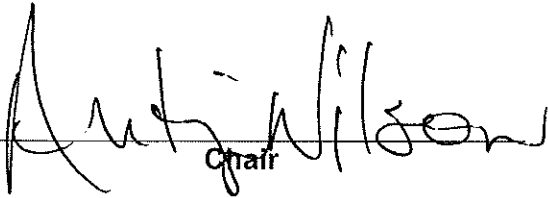
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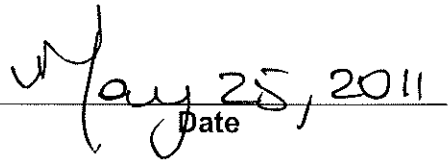
9. INFORMATION REPORTS

- (a) Report to Council: OCP Community Engagement Strategy (SPAC Members: Please retain this document for review and discussion at the next meeting.)
- (b) Advisory Body Reorganization Workshop – June 16<sup>th</sup> in Council Chambers
- (c) Lower Lonsdale Legacy Fund – Spreadsheet with the allocations was distributed.

10. ADJOURNMENT -

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MAY 25, 2011

  
Chair

  
Date