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Route 90 Improvements Study Project Advisory Committee Meeting 1

Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 5:00 PM – Rady JCC (Morantz Room)

Attendance:

PAC Members		
First Name	Last Name	Organization
Gayle	Waxman	Rady JCC
Gordon	Armstrong	Carpathia School
Veronica	Eno	Seasons - Outlet Winnipeg
Mark	Cohoe	Bike Winnipeg
Aaron	Dolyniuk	Manitoba Trucking
Tom	Scott	Academy Biz
Jennifer	Mathieson	St. James Biz
Chris	Sobkowicz	Access Advisory Committee
Dave	Turton	Carpathia Housing Co-op
Claire	Mahoney	Carpathia Housing Co-op
Alexis	Kinloch	Winnipeg Arts Council
WSP		
First Name	Last Name	Title
Grantley	King	Senior Project Manager
Eric	Christiansen	Senior Project Manager
City of Winnipeg		
First Name	Last Name	Title
Vaibhav	Banthia	Bridge Projects Engineer
Brett	Andronak	Public Engagement Officer
Brad	Neirnick	Manager of Engineering
Darren	Burmey	Bridge Planning and Operations Engineer
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Etoile	Stewart	Blueprint Inc.
Brad	Muller	Blueprint Inc.
Michelle	Kuly	Blueprint Inc.
Katie	Krahn	Blueprint Inc.

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The first meeting of the Route 90 Project Advisory Committee was held on January 18, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Provide an overview of the project to date and introduce the new phase of project.
- Introduce and gather input on the proposed engagement process.
- Introduce and gather input on draft project Goal and Objectives.

1) Welcome and Introductions

Blueprint welcomed the group and thanked Gayle from the Rady JCC for the meeting room and organizing the space.

The project team provided context on their roles and background and PAC members explained their organization's connection to Route 90 and/or interests related to the project:

Chris Sobkowicz – City of Winnipeg Access Advisory Committee

- Uses the route on a regular basis; concerned with pedestrian flow and access.

Alexis Kinloch – Winnipeg Art Council (WAC)

- Interested in ways to artistically enhance the corridor.

Veronica Eno – Seasons/Outlets Winnipeg

- Organization concerned about improving traffic flow; personally interested in road widening, improved transit service and AT paths. Wants to see construction commence soon.

Gayle Waxman – Rady JCC

- Rady JCC/ Asper Jewish Community Campus has about a million visits a year; interested generally and in effects of the project on their facility and users.

Claire Mahoney, Dave Turton – Carpathia Housing Co-op

- Board Chair and local resident; use route regularly and wants to see construction commence soon.

Mark Cohoe – Bike Winnipeg

- Feels that Route 90 could be improved for cyclists; very interested in AT improvements that make route safer, more convenient and consistent.

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Gordon Armstrong - Carpathia School

- Over half their students cross Kenaston; concerned about the safety of the crossing and ensuring project design does not negatively affect enrolment.

Tom Scott - Academy BIZ

- Represents Academy businesses; concerned about business access during construction.

Jennifer Mathieson – St. James BIZ

- Represents St. James businesses; concerned about business access during construction and creating better connections (bike, walk and drive).

Aaron Dolyniuk - Winnipeg Trucking Association

- Main concern is the flow of commercial goods along the corridor and the bottle neck currently experienced on route.

Following introductions, Blueprint reviewed the committee and session purpose, and walked the group through the meeting agenda and *Terms of Reference*. A copy of the agenda and *Terms of Reference* are attached for reference.

2) Project Overview

WSP presented a project overview as well as some background and context on the design process.

The following items were covered by the WSP project team in their presentation:

- Review of the study purpose, namely to prepare a Preliminary Design for the widening of Route 90 between Taylor Avenue and Ness Avenue that:
 - Provides three through lanes in each direction on Route 90 (Alignment from Academy to Taylor is not expected to significantly change from 2012);
 - Recommend modifications to the St. James Bridges, ramp structures, and Century Street Interchange at Portage Avenue as required;

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- Improves the capacity of Route 90 for all modes of transportation (vehicles, transit, pedestrians & cyclists);
- Includes a staging plan that ensures two lanes of traffic will be maintained at all times in both directions; and
- Builds on the previous transportation planning study completed in 2012.

- Review of the 2012 Study, public feedback received during past phase, and description of preferred Option 4.

- Introduced the current study and highlighted that while the 2012 corridor design from Academy to Taylor will remain largely unchanged, the St. James Bridges will be reviewed under the new scope, in addition to considering possible future development of the Kapyong lands.

- Provided a definition and explanation for:
 - Functional Design.
 - Preliminary Design.
 - Value Engineering.

- Reviewed the decision-making process and the evaluation criteria for the project.

Questions and responses

The PAC raised the following questions for follow-up and response by the project team:

- **Q:** What are the current and forecasted maximum traffic flow numbers on R90?
A: *The current traffic volume is available on the City's website, and the future traffic forecast will be obtained from the City's traffic model.*

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- **Q:** What are the plans to connect into current and planned pedestrian cycling infrastructure?

A: *The current study will assess improving the pedestrian and cycling facilities within the study area. This will also include pedestrian and cycling facilities across the bridges.*

- **Q:** Are you expecting increased traffic on Academy, what are the calming measures?

A: *We are unable to answer this question at this time because the technical team is currently analyzing the transportation model. The technical team will recommend the appropriate calming measures for Academy based on traffic volume.*

- **Q:** What are the construction timelines, impact on commute times and important connections?

A: *Construction would begin only after preliminary design is complete, City Council has approved a final design and funding has been allocated for construction. Construction duration will depend on the delivery method (traditional bid build/design build/PPP). The impact to commute time should be no worse than current because two lanes in each direction will be maintained at all times during construction. Current accesses will also be maintained.*

- **Q:** What will be the impact to transit and bus stops – especially for sites like Seasons of Tuxedo and the Rady JCC?

A: *There should be no major impact to transit service given that the status quo will be maintained. There may be changes to stop location to accommodate construction staging.*

- **Q:** What is the status of rail line (Lanark Street + Lindsay Street) in context of project and has there been any investigation of decommissioning and repurposing this corridor?

A: *This project will not impact the rail line and is not part of this study, so we are unable to comment on the future of it.*

- **Q:** What will be the impact on access from Carpathia area, especially during construction?

A: *We are unable to answer the question at this time given that we are at the beginning of the project and haven't assessed construction staging as yet.*

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3) PAC Role and Engagement Plan

Blueprint provided an overview of the PAC structure and public engagement campaign. A timeline and description of proposed tactics, as well as a brief review of PAC interviews, were provided.

What we heard: PAC Interviews

- Members of your organization want to stay up to date on important information and provide their input when possible and they would be happy to have a representative sit on the PAC.
- Time commitments are a concern and what is discussed at the PAC should be relevant to your organization.
- There was a need to know more about what the PAC actually is and how it will work so that participants can fully understand the purpose.

Project Timeline

- Blueprint reviewed the Project Timeline and highlighted opportunities for public engagement.
- *Note: The timeline diagram has been updated since the initial PAC meeting and the most up-to-date version appended to these notes.*

Engagement Tactics

- **Project Advisory Committee (PAC)**

The PAC will consist of 10 to 12 members and include key perspectives and interests that correspond to the project such as local residents, area business, schools and community centres, accessibility advocates, active transportation and trucking organizations. Subject-matter advisors and community leaders may be invited to attend PAC meetings on an informal or ad hoc basis to inform or provide input on key project areas as needed. PAC members are representatives that reflect a cross-section of interests and will be willing and able to access their own broad community networks to coordinate feedback and share information and updates throughout the project.

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- **Targeted stakeholder meetings and outreach**

Additional organizations that are not involved on the PAC but have been identified as impacted by the project or that may have helpful feedback or information may be engaged as-needed through targeted meetings or other outreach methods, as appropriate. Targeted stakeholders will be grouped by interest for the meetings.

- **Online engagement and promotion**

City of Winnipeg website will provide helpful information on the project, including background, timeline, infographics, PAC details, contact information, opportunities to participate, FAQs and other content, as determined.

- **Statistically significant survey**

A city-wide omnibus statistically significant survey will be conducted at the beginning of the project and a representative public opinion survey will be conducted during preliminary design to gather key input from stakeholders in the corridor area and the broader public on key areas of the project. Key areas to be defined by the project team. Survey content will be mirrored and available online for voluntary participation by the public.

- **Public information session/community event**

A public information session/community event will be held as part of the engagement campaign to provide the public with information on the project, gather input on key project areas, promote the online survey and help describe project decision-making and how input will be used. Methods of promotion to be determined, but may include: advertisements, local posters/signs, email updates, social media and media releases. Project team will work with PAC to identify promotional opportunities via their organizations.

- **Council updates**

A monthly update describing high level engagement tactics, estimated timing and updates will be provided to project area Councillors and Standing Policy Committee Chair on a monthly basis. Content, frequency and distribution of updates may be updated on an ongoing basis to respond to feedback from City project team or

Council.

4) Goal and Objectives

Blueprint presented the Goal and Objectives of the project and asked the PAC to consider them and provide feedback.

Goal:

- Safe, convenient, and efficient movement of people and goods; including facilities that connects the residential areas on the east and west sides, supports social interaction, healthy lives, economic stability and growth, and offers accessible, connected transportation options for all ages and abilities.

Objectives:

- Three through lanes in each direction, reduce congestion, and minimize traffic delays, while maintaining minimum 60km/h posted speed.
- Minimum 75 years Bridge design service life that incorporates improved walking and cycling opportunities.
- Design that supports the future use of land within the project limits.
- Design that supports active, accessible and healthy lifestyle opportunities.
- Design that serves the needs of all modes of transportation (pedestrians, cyclists, cars, trucks, and transit).
- Designed to minimize the impact on the environment.

On review, the PAC made the following suggestion:

- **Q:** Could we include 'equity' in goal statement: everyone derives benefit?
A: *The study team will discuss this with the City.*

5) Session Closing and Next Steps

The session was closed with a brief review of the meeting, what can be expected from the next PAC meeting and completion of the contact, feedback and release forms by PAC members.

Meeting notes and agenda will be circulated prior to the next meeting in March. Date to be confirmed.