

## **ARENA DISTRICT LOCAL ADVISORY MEETING**

Wednesday, September 27th, 2017

Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre

### **Attendance**

#### **Stakeholders:**

Reymund Palpal-Latoc	Central McDougall Community League
Regrets	Downtown Community League
Laurene Viarobo	North Edge Business Association
Randy Shuttleworth	Queen Mary Park Community League
Alfred White	Boyle Street Community League
Dan Glugosh	McCauley Community League
Bruce Fafard	Edmonton and District Labour Council
Regrets	Oliver Community League
Regrets	Boyle Street Community Services
Regrets	Bissell Centre
Kayla Shapka	Downtown Business Association
Regrets	Chinatwon Business Association
Jan Fox	REACH Edmonton

#### **Edmonton Oilers:**

Regrets	Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation
Stu Ballantyne	Oilers Entertainment Group

#### **City of Edmonton**

Rob Smyth, Deputy City Manager Citizen Services  
 Roger Jevne, Branch Manager Citizen Service  
 Ronna Bremer, Director Community and Recreation Facilities  
 Mark Torjusen, Communications and Engagement  
 Darrell Nordell, Project Coordinator ICE District  
 Deanne Patsula, Management Supervisor Neighbourhoods  
 Chantille Shannon, Director Community Standards and Neighbourhoods NE District  
 Bohdan Maslo, Parking Management  
 Brian Murphy, Parking Management  
 Joanne Graham, Edmonton Police Service  
 Troy Carriere, Edmonton Police Service  
 Brett Prosser, Community and Recreation Facilities

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Rob Smyth opened the meeting at 6:32pm. Introductions were made and approval of the minutes from May 30th is requested.
- There has been lots of activity around the ICE District over the past 12 months of operation. This will continue as the District builds out
- Priority of our Administration is to engage with Community and the Arena District Local Advisory Committee is a great starting point. With representation from the community, business, labour council and local agencies City Council can hear how our work directly impacts the neighbourhoods surrounding.
- Rob reviews the Agenda and asks if there are any additional topics to added to tonight's discussion? No agenda items are added

## 2. May 30th meeting minutes / Question and Answer

- Questions and answer sheet is on table and all information is presented.
- As requested Arena District Local Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and meeting minutes are now on the City website.  
[https://www.edmonton.ca/attractions\\_events/rogers\\_place/community-advisory-committee.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/attractions_events/rogers_place/community-advisory-committee.aspx)
- Rob asks, "Any questions missed?" Continue to send your questions to Darrell Nordell at [darrell.nordell@edmonton.ca](mailto:darrell.nordell@edmonton.ca)
- Move onto Agenda item #3

## 3. Rogers Place / Year in Review

- Rob covers CRL review on behalf of Rick Daviss
- The CRL is the funding mechanism that is being used to pay for the City's share of costs to build the arena. Basically the City has borrowed the funds needed to build the arena and is paying off the mortgage both from lease payments provided by Oilers Entertainment Group and from new taxes that are being generated from the new development in the vicinity of the arena - development that would otherwise not have been started.
- The pace of development and amount of development has exceeded expectations and it is projected that the debt on the arena will be paid off early. Also, the funds generated from the additional tax base is funding other downtown amenities including: Decoteau Park, additional park development being planned, the new drainage spine, boulevard landscaping, and Jasper Avenue beautification. In total there are over \$400 million in new public infrastructure

being added to the downtown as a result of the new development that is occurring.

- The new taxes have not yet been that significant as many of the developments like the Stantec Tower and JW Marriott are still vacant. As these new buildings begin to fill, the tax revenue will increase dramatically. Once the debt is paid off, the taxes will be applied to general tax levy income for the City.
- Stakeholder comment: How many new taxes raised has actually happened? How are these taxes used? Do we know an exact amount of taxes raised as of yet?
- Rob introduces Stu Ballantyne OEG Senior VP Operations to discuss Rogers Arena and business operations for a year in review. (Powerpoint PDF attached)
- Rogers Place is the 3rd busiest major sporting arena in Canada. The uptake on concerts is excellent and have hosted over 88 hockey games (NHL, WHL) including playoffs and the Oiler Watch Parties. Continue to host community events (Canada 150, Little Aces tennis in Ford Hall, Starts on Ice, Cirque Solei and the Chamber of Commerce ball that will be happening again this year.
- Rogers Place security has been working in the community and has given food and hot drinks to Boyle Street Community Services. Security also working closely with 211 Crisis Diversion team and getting people the help and support that they need.
- Thanks to the generosity of our valued hockey fans through our 50/50 and other programs, last season, the EOCF was able to give back \$3.6 million to charities and minor hockey groups throughout Northern Alberta
- Rob asks for questions from the floor?
- Stakeholder question: Can you give us an update on the Plaza? Stu responds: Both the JW Marriott and the Stantec buildings are moving along as scheduled. Edmonton Tower was opened in the last year and occupied by the City of Edmonton. Parkade in the Plaza should be finished by end November and new tower work will start on the old Greyhound station in spring 2018.
- No other questions are asked. Rob moves to Agenda item #4

#### **4. Downtown Community Arena**

- Rob introduces Brett Prosser Program Manager at the Downtown Community Arena.
- Downtown Community Arena (DCA) continues to be popular and is growing in Drop In numbers all the time.

- Some new community programs are happening at the DCA.
- Edmonton Catholic School Board Genesis program for grades 5-7. Students have both in class work in the DCA programming room along with 90 minutes of ice time a day.
- Ever Active schools that is targeting six schools in close proximity to Rogers Place.
- The formation of an Advisory Committee for Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation endowment program funding is on pause for the time being as other community programming is occurring as listed above.
- Some stats are given on Downtown Community Arena
- Stakeholder Comment: Could morning skate time change as numbers do look low? Answer: It could change but that is also dependent on our partners and what they need as well.
- Stakeholder Comment: If times are changed could be a better turn out.
- Stakeholder Comment: Can you tell us a little more about the Community Benefits fund for programs? Answer: Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation endowment fund is for community specific programming at the Downtown Community Arena. Funding has been used for the Ever Active school program and is also what pays for the Downtown Community Skate on Sundays for the six leagues that make up the Arena District Local Advisory Committee. Unlike a community swim time where leagues contribute funds for the pool the endowment funds pays for the ice rental. All the FREE skate rentals and skate helmets also came from the endowment fund.
- Rob asks if there are anymore questions? No other questions are asked and Rob thanks Brett for attending. This topic is one that should be brought to the table again for Advisory Committee to listen, offer suggestions and comment.

## **5. Edmonton Police Service**

- Rob introduces Joanne Graham from Edmonton Police Service
- Joanne shares powerpoint presentation on a number of different policing statistics that are kept and how Rogers Arena and the downtown deployment has changed in the last year.
- Stakeholder comment: How is the relationship between Edmonton Police Service and Rogers Arena worked with the shelter district so close by? Answer: There was lots of discussion while the arena was being built but really little impact has

been noticed. From Stu/OEG: The shelter district was around before Rogers Arena opened and OEG is working on being a good neighbour with the Agencies. Rogers Place Security and Edmonton Police do use the 211 Crisis Diversion line as there are more eyes on the streets there are more calls being made.

- Rob thanks Edmonton Police representatives for attending and asks if there are any further questions? No further questions and move to Agenda item #6.

## **6. Parking Services**

- Rob introduces Parking Services Bohdan Maslo and Brian Murphy
- Currently there are 430 E Park machines out there and response to using them is very good.
- As of August 1st Canada Place has been converted to E Park.
- May 30th meeting minutes need to be amended to read: Currently 16,800 E Park customers not 1680.
- Vehicle Plate Recognition contract will be for both stationary parkade entrance/exit and a mobile car that drives around.
- Currently at the Proof of Concept stage and aiming to install stationary cameras at City Hall Parkade by end of October and mobile camera vehicle in November.
- Official launch of the vehicle plate recognition in early 2018.
- Our success of the parking program comes from up communication and front work we did with the community
- Stakeholder Comment: Parking enforcement in the Central McDougall neighbourhood is still observing that this is an issue. Cars are parked for longer periods of time than the 2 hour allotment permits. Answer: Darrell Nordell to follow up with Community Standards and parking enforcement.
- Rob thanks Bohdan and Brian for attending the meeting and ask if there are any further questions.
- Rob moves the meeting to the Agenda items #7

## **7. Round Table: Impacts / Opportunities**

- Boyle Street Community Leagues - Good
- Edmonton and District Labour Council - Question: Is there enough bike racks around Rogers Place? Answer Stu Ballantyne: There are many bike racks around the arena just alot of people do not realize they are bike racks.

- McCauley Community League - All good and one question: How is it going for residents in McDonalds Lofts and future placement?
- Downtown Business Improvement Area - All good
- North Edge Business Association - All good
- Queen Mary Park Community League - All good
- Central McDougall Community League - All good
- Next meeting would be good to get together in December even for a quick go around to make sure everything is going well. Do send Darrell any topics to be added to the next Agenda.
- Meeting is adjourned at 8:27pm