



Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee June 19, 2019 Minutes
City of Markham
Location: Canada Room

Attendance

Members:

Reid McAlpine, Ward 3 Councillor
Jim Jones, Regional Councillor
Don Hamilton, Deputy Mayor, Regional Councillor (7:45pm)
Rob Kadlovski, UBIA, Chair
Harry Eaglesham, Community Rep, Vice Chair
Scott Harper, Community Rep
Wes Rowe, UVA
Tony Lamanna, UBIA
Sylvia Morris, UBIA
Kimberley Kwan, UHS
Gene Genin (for URA Jozsef Zerczi)

Staff:

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning
Alex Sepe, Committee Clerk
Morgan Jones, Director of Operations

Regrets:

Stanley Wu, MVC
Ken Davis, Heritage Markham
Mark Warden, Unionville Curling Club
Jozsef Zerczi (URA)
Joseph Cimer, Community Rep
Bill Bilkas, Community Rep

The meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee convened at 7:15 pm with Rob Kadlovski presiding as Chair.

1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None disclosed

2. Confirmation of Agenda

Moved by: Harry Eaglesham.
Seconded: Sylvia Morris.

That the Agenda be adopted as distributed.

Carried.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the May 15th, 2019 meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee

Moved By: Councillor Reid McAlpine

Seconded By: Tony Lamanna

That the Minutes of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee meeting held on May 15th be adopted as distributed.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Crosby Arena Area Concept Review

- The Director of Operations, Morgan Jones was in attendance to discuss and provided a presentation (attached).
- Director Jones' presentation was in response to a request for potential changes to the Crosby Arena site as well as part of the privately owned Unionville Curling Club property. Mr. Bill Bilkas had suggested the City explore improvements for Crosby Arena to minimize driveways, create meaningful public space, and improve safety and connectivity, including:
 - Creation of memorial pedestrian plaza;
 - One-way traffic loop using both properties;
 - Restoration of Crosby's façade.
- The Director noted that the City is working with LedgeMark Developments (the owner of 206 Main St) to fund a pathway that will connect Main Street to Crosby Park on the south side of the Arena. Pathway improvements are also being introduced in Crosby Park this summer.
- He also noted a playground is scheduled to be constructed at Crosby Park in collaboration with Parkview School.
- It was mentioned that improved access through the new gate at Parkview Public School will allow vehicles from Fonthill Blvd to access parking west of Main Street during special events when Main Street is closed to traffic. There is a memorandum of understanding underway with the York Region District School Board.
- The Director pointed out that there is a lease agreement with the Unionville Curling Club that allows access to parking for community uses (which originated in 2012) is set to expire in 2023. There is a possibility for a lease extension.
- There was a request to explore the feasibility of a round-about at Main Street and Carlton Road. The transportation engineering team is reviewing previous traffic studies to determine if improvements to the intersection are possible.
- Councillor McAlpine questioned if the traffic loop in front of the Arena is required?
 - Director Jones indicated that it may be a good idea to examine traffic volume in the area and determine how cars navigate through the space of the arena area.
 - He also noted that much of the north driveway entrance to the Arena is on the Curling Club property and that the south driveway entrance was the only entrance completely on City property. The City could potentially be landlocked if the south driveway was closed.
 - One member advised that when kids come to play hockey at Crosby Arena they are dropped off in the back of the rink due to the location of the change rooms, whereas, the front loop is used to drop off figure skaters.

- One member expressed satisfaction with the status quo and felt the removal of the driveway would not provide any additional parking opportunities.
- One member asked if Crosby Arena would lose parking spots between the arena and the Curling Club.
 - Director Jones said that the City would have to analyze the width on the parcel to ensure there is adequate space for parking.
- A member noted that that one of the concept plan from Bilkas showing a connection with the property to the south would require the removal of the front section of Crosby Arena.
 - Director Jones said that such a plan would be very expensive, and that there are also issues regarding the removal of space for the arena
- The Director advised that there are no long term plans for the Arena site at this time.

b) Main Street/Highway 7 Gateway Improvements

- The Director of Operations, Morgan Jones was in attendance to discuss and provide a presentation (attached)
- The Director advised that the Gateway Master Plan study was undertaken by the City of Markham to establish a hierarchy of gateway locations (i.e. entrances to the City, Highway entrances, special areas, Main Streets). The prioritized location for gateway developments will be used by the City to justify potential projects. However, the City and Council have not committed to spending any funds on gateway projects at this time.
- The Master Plan was initiated in mid 2018, the study is expected to be brought to council in the fourth quarter of 2019 for endorsement.
- A member questioned if it is too early for artistic renderings for potential gateway ideas.
- Director Jones informed the committee that the Public Realm Coordinator (Tanya Lewinberg) could come to a future meeting to review concepts.

c) Status of the Committee

- Councillor Reid McAlpine indicated that he and Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning, will meet with the Clerks Department in the coming weeks to discuss the future format of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee.

d) Capital Budget 2020

- Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning announced that he was informed that the Engineering Department will put in a request to receive funding in 2020 to fund the detailed design and streetscape work for Main Street.

5. New Business/ Other Matters

a) General Streetscape Issues

- A BIA representative noted that the BIA group did a walk of Main Street to look for potential hazards and general maintenance improvements that could be made. He questioned if the City has inspected Main Street for maintenance needs and

how the streetscape could be improved prior to the new streetscape being implemented

- Director Jones said that City staff are required to patrol all municipal streets to make temporary repairs and continuously monitor streets for repair.
- The Director advised that staff undertake an annual walk to address any concerns regarding Main Street sidewalks, lighting and boulevard issues. His staff undertake grinding and filling where necessary.
- He also encouraged people to log an Active Citizen Request (ACR) with the City if there are any specific issues throughout the year.
- Director Jones responded to an enquiry regarding the stairwell to the lower parking level indicating that there was a submission for capital funding in 2020 to replace the current infrastructure.

b) Main Street Unionville Streetscape Master Plan

- Internal staff discussions continue regarding the preferred pavement width. A narrower pavement width (6m) would allow for enhanced pedestrian space. However, there is concern from an operational perspective that 6m is not a sufficient pavement width, especially for snow removal and truck movement.
- Staff hope to have a final concept in front of Council for consideration this fall.

c) Planning Applications

- There were no new development applications.
- A heritage permit was issued for road reconstruction work on Carleton road and one for changes to the Millennium Bandstand site (tree planting, removal of soft landscaping, replacement of hard spacing, introduction of flagpole).
- Councillor Hamilton asked who retains ~~owns~~ the key to the gate leading into the Parkview Public School site?
 - Councillor Reid McAlpine said that a City staff member has a key at all times.

d) Washroom Façade Treatment (North Wall of Arena)

- Councillor Reid McAlpine informed the committee that he was disappointed with the improvements made to the exterior washroom façade. He will have a discussion with Mary Creighton regarding the work.

e) Paid Parking

- Councillor Reid McAlpine questioned if the committee should investigate the possibility of paid parking on Main Street?
- Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning stated that the Committee had requested a capital budget project last year (2018) to research paid parking for Main Street Unionville. Senior Planning Department staff responded by offering to have the consultant who had undertaken the City's paid parking study come to a future Committee meeting to discuss the findings.

Moved by: Councillor Reid McAlpine
Second by: Kimberley Kwan

That the committee request City staff to arrange for the parking consultant retained by the City of Markham to present their findings regarding the concept of paid parking on Main Street, Unionville.

Carried

f) Section 37 Funding

- Deputy Mayor, Don Hamilton questioned if Section 37 funding could potentially be used to fund a gateway feature at Main Street and Highway 7?
 - Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning informed that the use of Section 37 funding was “parked” as an agenda item while Council explored how this funding would be utilized.
 - The Manager offered to follow up on Section 37 funding criteria and report back. He also noted that a gateway feature at Highway 7 would also require support/approval from York Region as this is a regional road.
- One member indicated that the staircase improvement should be a priority project for Section 37 funding.

g) Highway 7 Streetscape/Properties

- A member suggested that the Committee should consider other improvements that can be made along Highway 7 and Main Street.
 - Councillor Reid McAlpine stated that a goal for Highway 7 is to reach out to property owners along the Highway 7 and encourage them to rehabilitate their properties along the corridor.
- One member questioned why the new streetscaping along Highway 7 stopped at the railway crossing.
 - Councillor Jim Jones indicated that the streetscape treatment to the west of the railway crossing was undertaken by the Region. The area east of the railway crossing would require a street widening and, he does not foresee York Region funding this.
- The Manager of Heritage Planning was asked to provide information at the next meeting on the Highway 7 Streetscape Study and Plan that was undertaken a number of years ago by the City.

h) Public Washrooms

- Staff was asked to put “Public Washrooms” back on the Parked Items List.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Kimberley Kwan

Seconded by: Don Hamilton

That the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee adjourn at 8:40 pm.

Carried.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.

PARKED ITEMS

- Section 37 Funding

- Metrolinx Train Service Implications
- Capital Budget 2019 Input
- Paid Parking
- Curling Club Parking Structure
- By-law Enforcement Issues
- Unionville Heritage Centre Secondary Plan
- ESSO Site (Highway 7 and Main St)
- Crosby Washroom Façade
- Public Washroom

Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee

Terms of Reference

Mandate

To provide advice and assistance to Council on the implementation of the Main Street Unionville Community Vision Plan (2014) and on related local matters affecting the Historic Unionville area by providing a community perspective.

Composition

The Committee shall be comprised of no less than seven (7) members and no more than fifteen (15) members in total including:

- Representatives of the public from the Unionville community; and
- Three representatives to be appointed by the Unionville Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board; and
- One representative to be appointed by each of the following organizations to represent the organization on this Committee:
 - Unionville Villagers Association Representative (1)
 - Unionville Historical Society Representative (1)
 - Unionville Ratepayers Association Representative (1)
 - Unionville Village Conservancy Representative (1)
 - Heritage Markham Committee (1); and
- Local Councillor (Ward 3); and
- One additional Member of Markham Council

Duties and Function:

- To assist with the implementation of the Main Street Unionville Community Vision Plan, as endorsed by Council;
- To monitor, update and recommend revisions to the Community Vision Plan and other related document, as necessary, to ensure these plans and documents reflect the community's desired objectives;
- To recommend to Council a plan or a series of plans, projects and/or activities that would enable the Community Vision Plan to be achieved;

- To provide input on issues, projects, policy documents and studies, and advise on local matters affecting the Historic Unionville area by providing a community perspective;
- To recommend to Council improvements to the Historic Unionville area that complement and support the Community Vision Plan;
- To encourage interested parties to make improvements to the Historic Unionville area that complements and supports the Community Vision Plan.

Area of Interest

The Committee's primary area of interest to undertake its duties and functions is within the boundaries of the Unionville Heritage Conservation District. However, on occasion there may be policies/programs or development on adjacent or nearby properties that may also impact the Committee's area of interest.

Chair of Committee

The Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined by the Committee.

Sub-Committees

Sub-committees may be formed, if necessary, for specific matters of interest. Sub-committees will report to the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee.

Reporting

To report through the Development Services Committee through its minutes and staff reports as necessary, and through the assigned Council representatives.

Remuneration

None

Frequency of Meetings

Meetings will be monthly or at the call of the Chair, in the evening.

Staff Resources

Staff from the Planning and Urban Design Department (Heritage Section) and Clerks Department

Crosby Arena Redesign

**Historic Unionville Community Vision
Committee**

Wednesday June 19, 2019

Purpose

To Provide comments to the proposal presented to the Vision Committee by Mr. Bill Bilkas

City to “come up with an integrated plan” for the Crosby Arena Area:

- Minimize driveways
- Create meaningful public space
- Improve safety and access
- Connectivity

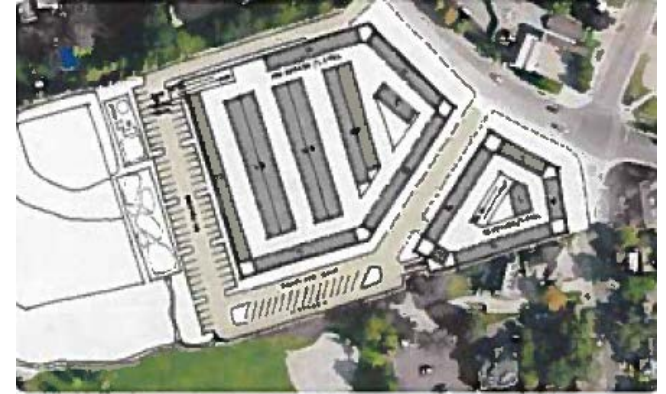
The Vision Document – Feb. 2015

Two options were presented in the plan for
The Crosby/Curling Site

Preferred:

Crosby Community Centre

- Dual Rinks- Skating/Curling
- Retail
- Apartments/Condos
- Parking Garage



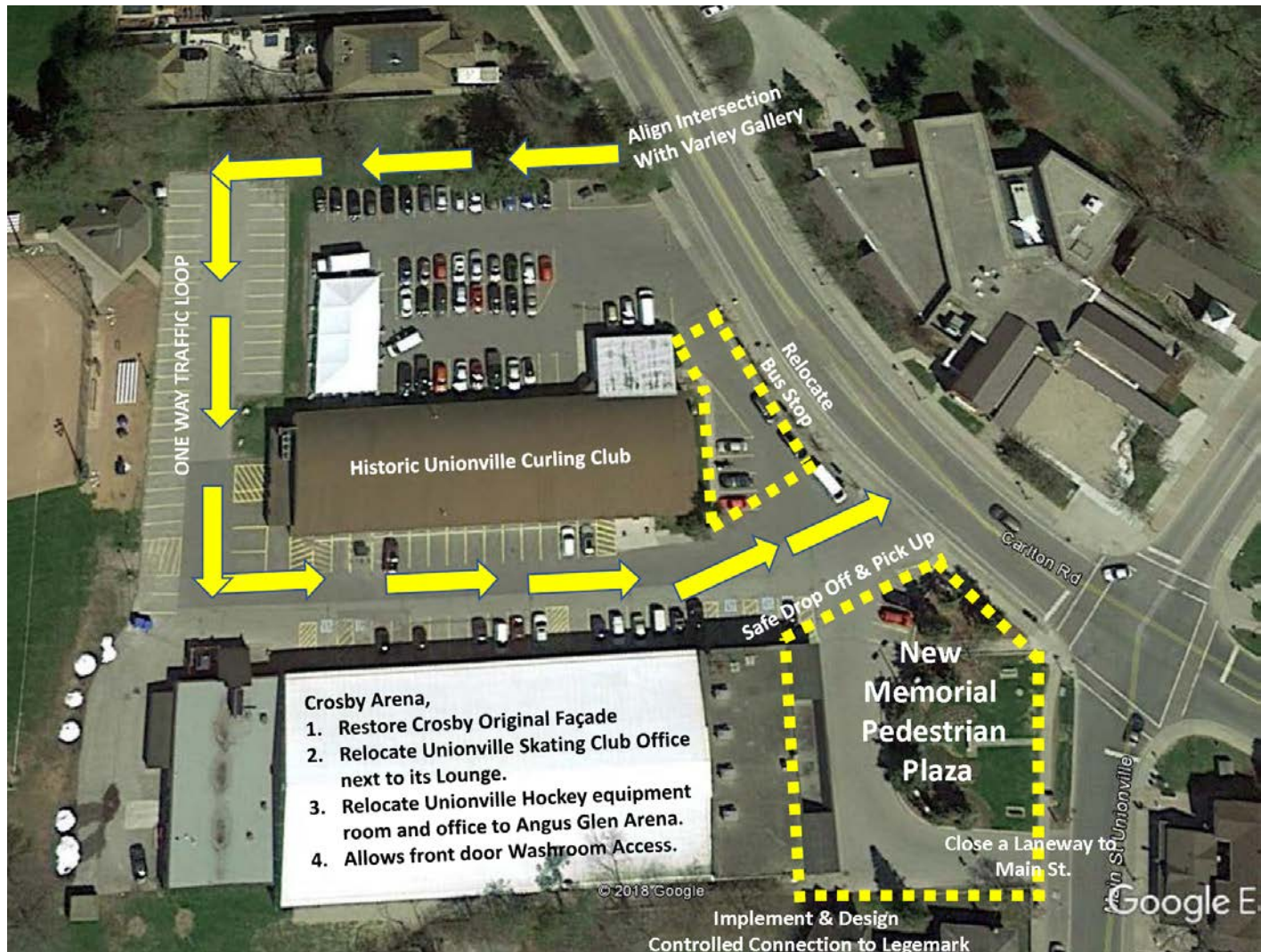
Alternative:

- Leave Rinks in place
- Create additional community space at Crosby
- Parking Garage North of Curling Rink



Outline of Proposal

1. Creation of new Memorial Pedestrian Plaza
2. Creation of one way traffic loop
3. Restore Crosby's original facade



Current Planning Framework

1. Staff evaluating whether we can close down driveway at front doors to create safer pedestrian space- need to address fire access
2. Pathway linking Main Street to Crosby Park in partnership with Ledgemark Development
3. Playground installation at Crosby Park- collaborating with Parkview School: includes linkage to existing park system (seasonal use)
4. Improved access through revitalized gate: allows vehicles from Front Hill to access parking west of Main Street (Supports Special Events)- MOU with York Region District School Board
5. Lease agreement with Curling Club to ensure access to parking for community use
6. Engineering Transportation reviewing previous traffic studies to consider possible improvements to the intersection of Main Street and Carlton Road

New Playground

Adjoining Pathway



Long Term Planning

There currently are no plans to make any significant changes to this site.

If this becomes an identified priority through council. The recommendations from the “Main Street Unionville Community Vision Plan” would be evaluated.

Gateway Master Plan Update

- The Gateway Master Plan was undertaken by the City to establish a hierarchy of gateway locations around the perimeter of the City of Markham and to highlight our special places. Initiated mid-2018 the study is expected to be brought to Council in Q4 for endorsement.
- The Gateway Master Plan will serve as a study within the framework of the City to provide a starting point with a list of prioritized location to use when funding opportunities arise. Many granting organizations look to these kinds of studies to inform successful grants and it will be used by internal staff when working on an array of development project.
- Background Report complete end of June.

Gateway Master Plan Update

- Mid-late August the draft report will be complete and staff will be given an opportunity to refine it before it is taken to Council.
- The City has not committed to spending City funds on the outcome of this project. The Gateway Master Plan will serve to inform the City of the locations for supported gateway development, for use by City as justification for project/grant/development direction and initiation.



Questions