

MARKHAM LIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, October 3, 2011 – 7:00 pm Council Chamber

MINUTES

Attendance:

Members:

Regional Councillor Jim Jones - Chair

Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio)

Regional Councillor Joe Li

Councillor Howard Shore

Councillor Don Hamilton

Councillor Carolina Moretti

Councillor Colin Campbell

Councillor Alan Ho

Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Councillor Alex Chiu

Council Members:

Regional Councillor Gord Landon

Regrets:

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath (ex-officio)

Staff:

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community Services

Alan Brown, Director of Engineering

Catherine Conrad, Town Solicitor

Dennis Flaherty, Director Communications &

Community Relations

Richard Kendall, Manager, Central District

Joel Lustig, Treasurer

Don Taylor, Manager, Executive Operations

Rino Mostacci, Director of Planning and Urban Design

Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Markham Live Committee meeting convened at 7:05 pm with Regional Councillor Jim Jones as Chair.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - None Declared

1. Minutes of Markham Live Committee – August 25, 2011

Moved by: Councillor Alex Chiu Seconded by: Councillor Alan Ho

That the minutes of the August 25, 2011 Markham Live Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

2. Objective of Meeting

The Chair advised that the purpose of this meeting is to bring stakeholders and interested parties up to date on the status of the Markham Live and MISTA projects.

It was clarified that the Markham Live project encompasses an area of approximately 100 acres, and the MISTA sports complex is one component within the area.

3. Markham Live to MISTA Progress Update Presentation

David Jansen and Michael Morrisey of Adamson Associates Architects were in attendance to present an update. Mr. Jansen discussed the site optimization study to maximize density for the 40-acre area in and around the central transit hub, and the comprehensive vision for MISTA and Markham Live with respect to the hub, sports and entertainment complex, convention centre, structured underground parking, parklands, residential, retail, and Main Street components.

Renderings were displayed illustrating the current land features and roads; raised road levels above the existing grade; the street and development parcel plan as endorsed by Development Services Committee in March, 2011, incorporating transit routes into a traditional street pattern; and the 407 Transitway, Metrolinx, and Viva corridors. It was noted that the alignment of the three transit entities has yet to be finalized.

The MISTA complex has shifted to the north. Floor plans were displayed, illustrating various sports venues and features. It will initially contain two PAN AM pools and will assimilate into Markham Live. Mr. Janzen displayed the integrated landscape plan throughout the sports complex, explaining that a public park will connect to the central galleria, residential condos, restaurants and retail elements. Discussions included the integration and connections between YMCA and MISTA, natural lighting, entrance features, street animation, public amenity areas, digital signage and ensuring the facility height will accommodate all sports and events. Several sample architectural concepts of the same scale were shown.

A member of the public questioned the parking provisions, and was advised that 3,000 spaces will be provided below ground. It is intended that once the development is built out, the Modal split will result in an increase in public transit use and a decrease in the number of required parking spaces.

A member of the public questioned the specifications for the sporting facilities, and was advised that the sporting organizations and sports experts will be consulted to ensure international standards will be achieved.

Moved by: Councillor Colin Campbell Seconded by: Councillor Alan Ho

That the presentation by David Jansen and Michael Morrisey of Adamson Associates Architects with an update on the design of the Markham Live and MISTA site, be received.

4. Critical Engineering Infrastructure Improvements

Allan Brown, Director of Engineering, provided a memo dated September 29, 2011, regarding the YDSS Staff Award Report, and discussed the relocation of the water course and infrastructure at 16 Main Street. Staff have looked at the feasibility of relocation and have retained consultants, and are working with the Region of York on this issue. An update will be presented in 6 to 8 weeks reporting on costs, risks and timing.

Staff are recommending retaining Masongsong Associates Engineering Ltd. for the feasibility study for the relocation of the YDSS through 16 Main Street, as well as a review of the feasibility of relocating the YDSS venting system. Staff will work with Toronto & Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) on the relocation of the watercourse. Every effort will be made to complete the study as soon as possible; however, it may not be finalized until the fall of 2012. It is a Regional issue and it anticipated that an EA will not be required. This will be confirmed in the report. The current proposed relocation is an interim solution to accommodate the PAN AM time-frame of June 2012, and the ultimate relocation and enclosure of the watercourse will be determined at a later date. Staff confirmed that the PAN AM project will not be in jeopardy as a result of the proposed watercourse relocation.

The Committee considered the feasibility of burying the entire watercourse. It was suggested that a meeting be convened with TRCA to see how this can be achieved, subsequent to the consultant's study, technical review and other work that needs to be done. The Mayor offered to contact the Region and arrange a meeting with the Chair and interested members of the Markham Live Committee.

The Committee requested information regarding a business plan or master plan, and discussed private sector involvement. The CAO will provide a financial update at an upcoming meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Alex Chiu

Seconded by: Councillor Colin Campbell

That the staff presentation regarding critical engineering infrastructure improvements be received; and

That Msongsong Associates Engineering Ltd. (MAEL) be retained at a cost of \$15,190 plus HST and disbursements to undertake a feasibility study for the relocation of the YDSS through 16 Main Street; and

That an \$8,000 allowance for MAEL to review the feasibility of relocating the YDSS venting system at 16 Main Street be approved; and further,

That funding for these assignments of \$23,190 plus HST and disbursements be financed from an account to be determined by the Finance Department.

CARRIED

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Moved by: Councillor Colin Campbell Seconded by: Councillor Alan Ho

That the Mayor arrange a meeting with the Region, TRCA, and appropriate government agencies to expedite relocation and enclosure of the entire watercourse from the YMCA to Hwy 407.

CARRIED

5. PAN AM Games Update Presentation

Representatives of B + H Architects gave a presentation on the Markham Aquatics Centre for PAN AM. They explained the site context and displayed site plan and landscape designs, and advised that the building location will not be impacted by the watercourse issue. Discussions included the features of the 50-metre pool and multipurpose hall, the entrance on Main Street, surface parking to the south and west, and other facility details.

The next phase following the PAN AM Games will include removal of the factory to west and adding a diving pool to north-west side of the PAN AM building. More parking will be added above and below grade. The overall landscaping concept was presented, integrating the watercourse and gardens to create an active plaza for site program opportunities such as a farmers market, fitness classes, and entertainment options. Renderings of detailed floor plans, architecture, entrance features, lobby interiors, and the transparent staircase were shown.

The Committee discussed LEED features and the option of retaining the watercourse, with respect to land use and density opportunities.

Moved by: Mayor frank Scarpitti

Seconded by: Councillor Don Hamilton

That the presentation by B + H Architects regarding the PAN AM Games facilities, be received.

CARRIED

Adjournment

The Markham Live Committee meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.