

Chair's report June 14, 2016

Main Street construction

- the City is continuing to release a bi-weekly newsletter on the work associated with the Main Street Renewal; #23 was released on June 10, #22 was released on May 27 & #21 was released on May 13
- note that the Sunday bike closures (from 9:00am-1:00pm) have now started & will run until Sept 4
- upcoming newsletters will provide more details re the timing of the planned 2 week closure of northbound traffic on Main between Lees & Hawthorne as the concrete pedestrian intersections are constructed; note that when this closure happens, northbound traffic will recommence from Hawthorne to Harvey

Canoe/kayak access to Rideau Canal

- a follow-up letter of thanks was sent to Ministers McKenna & Joly in early June
- we have received an invite from Minister McKenna's office for a community canoe/kayak outing on the June 25/26 weekend ; more details will be provided as the event gets organized

OOECA / CAG survey

- the final tally of responses for our survey was 198
- Ed will be presenting some highlights & propose next steps at our June Board meeting

Bookmark the Core

- this group represents Ottawa residents & their mission is to: have a new central library built in the core of the City; encourage a transparent process of sustained engagement with the public to achieve the right size, location & design; and advocate for an international design competition
- they are looking for the endorsement of their mission by our CA (14 CAs have already provided their endorsements)"

Springhurst park basketball court resurfacing

- I would like to receive Board approval for the following plan to secure funding for the resurfacing of the Springhurst basketball court
- CAG (with the support of the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre who are willing to provide the community portion of funding) have suggested moving forward with a Minor Capital Grant application to the City, and would take the lead on making the application
- The Minor Capital Grant would bring City dollars to the project and as such may mean we can get additional work done in Springhurst (e.g., the hoops perhaps)

Main Event

- hold June 18 open for this great event, to be held in Brantwood Park again this year
- the OOECA is once again running the barbeque as a fund raiser; thanks again to Ed for organizing (& to Jan D'Arcy for stepping up again to organize the ticket sellers & \$)
- & a thank you as well to Regional who has also provided us with some financial support for this event

New Community Centre / Hub

- John Dance attended a fundraising discussion on May 25
- The following sources of funds for the infrastructure were identified:
 1. Cash-in-lieu of parkland funds controlled by the Councillor
 2. A community levy through taxes - has been used elsewhere - e.g., Alta Vista rink (\$17/household / year for 10 years)
 3. provincial and federal infrastructure programs
 4. proceeds from sale of Old Town Hall
 5. City capital funds
 6. Corporate funds
 7. "foundation" funds
 8. community associations
 9. private donors
- In terms of community fund raising, a key challenge identified was how to find somebody to be the "public" leader of the campaign - somebody who can bring major parties on side - and somebody to run the actual

campaign. A second challenge noted was how to make the case for private donations in the context of everybody having to pay a levy.

Greystone Village

- good news in that the river pathway has reopened & the slope at Clegg is now more manageable
- also of possible interest for OOE residents is the Regional webcam showing the construction site <http://greystonevillage.ca/webcam-feed/> ... take a look - lots of activity
- on May 24 I joined SLOE representatives (Rebecca Aird, Mary Trudeau, Ian McRae & John Dance) at a meeting with Regional (Josh Kardish & Erin O'Connor) to discuss a number of different topics including: low impact development (LID) initiatives, energy efficiency of buildings in proposed development, affordable & seniors housing, & the 30m open space along the river
- note that the CAHDCO, the development consultant that has the agreement with Regional, has received an extension to their letter of intent to the end of September for development of plans for the Deschatelet building. (Convivium, the cohousing seniors group, is working with CAHDCO.)
- a number of follow-up actions were discussed including:
 1. A letter to the City about "redundant" LID measures proposed by Regional (Rebecca has prepared a draft which is being reviewed);
 2. Speaking on behalf of the OOECA in support of the Rideau Valley Conservation Trust (RVCT) taking ownership / management of the 30m at the next open Board meeting of the RVCT;
 3. Possibly seeking media interest in the 30m issue if it becomes clear that the RVCT is not going to take ownership of the 30m

Infill 2 appeal by the OOECA

- the City's Planning Committee will be meeting on Tuesday to consider staff's recommendation for resolving all other issues appealed (by builders)
- to date the City has refused to engage in our appeal of the proposed exemption from the 10m height limit for triplexes in R3 zones
- on June 10, Stephen & I co-signed a letter to the Planning Committee Chair Jan Harder which protests City inaction to date on our Appeal & recommends that the Planning Committee of the City decline acceptance of the staff recommendation on this issue until it has been properly analyzed

Fifth-Clegg footbridge

Ian Grabina of Councillor Chernushenko's office has informed OOECA of recent progress on the canal footbridge, including that the construction could begin as early as Fall 2017 and some of the changes suggested by the association and others after the February information session either have or may be reflected in the revised design.

Specifically:

- The City has continued to work through the preliminary design for the new Rideau Canal Crossing.
- Comments from the open house and federal partners are being considered and incorporated into the design wherever possible. This includes:
 - o Smoothing the slopes on the west (Glebe) side
 - o Additional measures to beautify and restore the Lilly Pond on the Glebe side
 - o A larger rest and viewing area at the west side
 - o Preserving the oak tree and enhancing the public space with a plaza at the east landing (OOE)
- Work is continuing on options for shared space for pedestrians and cyclists on the bridge, including the potential to widen the bridge.

- Through the preliminary design work, City staff have now determined that construction of the bridge could begin as early as late Fall 2017, after the Canal has been drained, should funding from other levels of government become available.

- In addition, geotechnical field investigations and analysis for the foundations have been completed.

Upcoming activities:

- Preliminary design is anticipated to be complete in mid-2016.

- In June, some small pits will be dug on both the east and west side of the Rideau Canal (at Fifth and at Clegg) as part of the archaeological assessment of the area. This is being coordinated with the NCC.

- The City continues to consult with the NCC and Parks Canada on the bridge design modifications, protection of the Canal during construction and the overall restoration of the area.

- Once preliminary design is complete, further updates will be provided to the community.

Latest design is now posted:

- the website for the Rideau Canal Crossing from Fifth to Clegg has been updated:

<http://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/planning-and-development/transforming-ottawa/preliminary-design-update-june-2016>

<http://ottawa.ca/fr/hotel-de-ville/urbanisme-et-amenagement/transformer-ottawa/mise-jour-de-la-conception-preliminaire>

Sound barriers

- Glen & I met with our MPP on this issue on May 25

- we received his assurance that when sound studies are next planned for the Queensway work in our community, that the studies would also include the area currently without any barriers near Montcalm

- His office will advise us of timelines, and Glen will follow up as needed if we do not hear back within the next few weeks.

SHCHC needle exchange initiative

- John, Jocelyn, Mark & I went on a special tour of the Oasis Centre on Monday, May 9 (the day before our last monthly meeting)

- as mentioned at our May Board meeting, we received a copy of the letter sent by the Dalhousie Community Association to the President of the Board of the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (SHCHC) in support of SHCHC's proposal for a Supervised Injection Service project in Ottawa + we were asked to consider having our community association send a similar letter

- more recently we have also communicated with Action Sandy Hill (ASH) who have not yet decided whether they will send a letter of support

- of note, the editorial in the latest issue of the Sandy Hill community newspaper (independent from ASH) argued in favour of a SIS but with conditions related to community safety

- although we had originally planned to discuss this idea in more detail at the June Board meeting, other issues have taken up a considerable amount of time, and we are proposing that we postpone discussion for the time being