

Appendix A

August 27, 2013

Report to PACAC for September 10, 2013 Re: Parkway Corridor Class EA – Corridor Design Workshop

Background

This workshop was held on Tuesday August 20, 2013, at the Transit Terminal training room. To participate in this workshop interested individuals were requested to submit an application in July. From these applications approximately thirty people were asked to take part in the workshop. The workshop was attended by several city of Peterborough staff, Kevin Jones and other AECOM team members. The group divided itself upon entering until the four tables were full. Each table had a facilitator from the project team. The individual at my table was a storm water management design expert. Ivan Bateman (PACAC Representative) was also in attendance.

Presentation

Kevin Jones (AECOM) delivered a twenty minute presentation outline the current preferred design (no alternatives were discussed or presented). The purpose of the design workshop was outlined for the participants. We were being asked to provide input on specific design elements of the parkway corridor.

- Roadway Design (cross section, alignment, grades)
- Trail Location / Design
- Vegetation / Landscaping
- Noise Mitigation
- Storm Water Management
- Cultural Heritage

Workshop Breakout Group Discussions

Each group was provided with large plan views (overhead or birds eye views) of each of the parkway corridors (North End Corridor, Jackson Park Corridor and South End Corridor). Detailed elevation drawings of each of the proposed routes were hung along the walls of the training room for easy access for participants to review during the review process. We were provided with scales, tracing paper, markers, pencils and heavy plastic clear sheeting to draw our suggestions and make suggestions within our groups. In all I would estimate we spent approximately 120 – 130 minutes in our groups making comments, having discussions, and in most cases achieving some consensus on the various design elements we were asked to comment on. During this time Kevin Jones (AECOM), Robert Dunford (City of Peterborough) and other AECOM staff were floating around the room to answer specific questions and participate in small group discussions on many topics about the proposed design as those questions arose.

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Group Reporting

At the end of the evening we spent about fifteen minutes reviewing highlights, and two of three specific design ideas from each of the parkway corridors were presented by each group. All the materials were collected and returned to AECOM. The consultants were tasked to review each of the corridor design suggestions from each group, evaluate and implement the design suggestions into the next set of revised plans to go forward. The group was informed that more public meetings were planned for sometime in September, but all the design suggestions this meeting would probably not be implemented in time for that round of public consultation. But be in a further release that would be going to council, perhaps in November.

Conclusions

I was very pleased with how the workshop functioned overall. The process allowed time for discussion within each group, and with an opportunity to have other consultants from AECOM, or city staffs come and conversers with each table to clarify questions and discuss what the group was concerned with. We spent allot of time discussing intersection design, trail locations, round-about (traffic circles), and some time on drainage ponds, pedestrian and cyclists concerns, and wildlife crossings.

In our group I seemed to be the only individual with concerns for cultural heritage and heritage landscapes and the impact the route through Jackson Park could potentially have on the valley and the park. I put forward the suggestion that the bridge be constructed from above with the least amount of impact to the valley, and also suggested the bridge spans be as large as the bridge engineering would allow. I was advised by Robert Dunford this could be up to sixty meters. AECOM's current plan as presented only allowed for 20-30 meter spans. At the end of the session I also made this comment to the group as a way of respecting the cultural heritage landscape of Jackson Park was to go forward with a bridge design of this type. The other point regarding Heritage I put forth was for a marker commemorating the Lee Pioneer Cemetery. Overall I found this workshop to be a worthwhile exercise; I look forward to seeing the next level of design proposals.

Stewart Hamilton

PACAC Committee Chair