

19TH REPORT OF THE
CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Meeting held on November 11, 2013, commencing at 4:01 PM, in the Council Chambers, Second Floor, London City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor H.L. Usher (Acting Chair), Mayor J. F. Fontana, Councillors M. Brown, and S. Orser, and J. Martin (Secretary).

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor D. Brown and J. Braam, T. Copeland, A. Dunbar, M. Elmadhoon, I. Listar, J. Lucas, L. Rowe, R. Sharpe and E. Soldo.

ABSENT: Councillors P. Van Meerbergen and S. E. White.

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

Recommendation: That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

2. Bicycles on Sidewalks

Recommendation: That the staff report dated November 11, 2013, with respect to bicycles on sidewalks, BE REFERRED to the Civic Administration for further investigation and report back at a future meeting of the Civic Works Committee. (2012-S04-00)

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown, H.L. Usher (4)

3. Irregular Bid-Talbot Street Subsurface Silva Cells Project (Tender T13-97)

Recommendation: That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, the following actions be taken with respect to the Talbot Street Subsurface Silva Cells Project Tender T13-97:

- a) the tender submitted by Ro-Buck Contracting, 2326 Fanshawe Park Road East, London, Ontario N5X 4A2, at their contract price of \$272,553.05, including 10% contingency, (HST extra) BE ACCEPTED; it being noted that Ro-Buck Contracting was the only bid received and meets the City's terms, conditions and specifications;
- b) the funding for this project BE APPROVED as set out in the Source of Financing Report appended to the staff report dated November 11, 2013;
- c) the Civic Administration BE AUTHORIZED to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this purchase; and,
- d) approval hereby given BE CONDITIONAL upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract or having a purchase order, or contract record relating to the subject matter of this approval. (2013-F18)

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown, H.L. Usher (4)

III. SCHEDULED ITEMS

4. Bruce Street and Elmwood Avenue-Feasibility of One-Way to Two-Way Conversion

Recommendation: That, on the recommendation of the Director, Roads and Transportation, the following actions be taken with respect to the Feasibility Study for the conversion of Bruce Street and Elmwood Avenue from one-way to two-way operation:

- a) the Feasibility Study BE RECEIVED;
- b) NO ACTION BE TAKEN to convert Bruce Street and Elmwood Avenue to two-way operation; and,
- c) the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to review the potential for improving signage, bike paths and traffic calming measures on Bruce Street and Elmwood Avenue, taking into consideration the effect any such changes may have to the surrounding area.

it being noted that the Civic Works Committee (CWC) received the attached presentation from M. Elmadhoon, Manager, Transportation Planning with respect to this matter;

it being further noted that the CWC received the following submissions with respect to this matter;

- a) a communication dated October 18, 2013, from M. Park, 45 Elmwood Avenue East;
- b) a communication dated November 1, 2013, from J. Galardo and D. Slade, 191 Elmwood Avenue East;
- c) a communication dated October 19, 2013, from M. and B. Warder, 188 Bruce Street;
- d) a communication dated October 23, 2013, from N. Armstrong and J. Arnold, 132 Bruce Street;
- e) a communication dated October 20, 2013, from M. E. Walker, 19 Edward Street;
- f) a communication dated October 21, 2013, from J. Hardy, 105 Bruce Street;
- g) a communication dated October 22, 2013, from D. and W. Scott, 35 Elmwood Avenue;
- h) a communication dated October 19, 2013 from N. Bullbrook and S. Viragos, 24 Bruce Street;
- i) a communication dated November 1, 2013 from G. & M. Bauman, 195 Elmwood Avenue East;
- j) a communication dated October 27, 2013 from D. Hutchison, 171 Bruce Street;
- k) a communication dated November 2, 2013 from D. Read, 165 Bruce Street;
- l) a communication dated November 5, 2013 from A. (Fewster) Manias, 64 Elmwood Avenue;
- m) communications dated November 4, 2013 and November 5, 2013 from C. Lynch, 43 Bruce Street;

- n) a communication dated November 5, 2013 from J. Howell, 46 Bruce Street; and,
- o) a communication dated November 6, 2013 from E. Belch, 41 Bruce Street and D. Payne, 38 Bruce Street;

it being pointed out that at the public participation meeting associated with this matter, the following individuals made oral submissions in connection therewith:

- A. Bergeron, 93 Bruce Street – expressing concern with speeding on Bruce Street and the potential for creating speeding in both directions with the proposed conversion to two-way; stating this is a high pedestrian area with speeds of 60 km to 70 km causing dangerous situations which could result in accidents; and requesting that speed calming measures be put in place.
- S. Davis, 95 Bruce Street – stating that his biggest concern is the width of Craig Street which creates a dangerous situation with parking and passing; and suggesting that converting Bruce Street to two-way traffic would create the same dangerous situation and potential for accidents as is the case on Craig Street.
- B. Porter, 58 Byron Avenue East – stating that he sees the big problem with conversion is the lack of community awareness of what is happening with municipal planning and the move to convert one-way streets back to two-way streets and feels that there isn't enough background provided as to why these changes are being proposed; stating there is currently a bike route to the north on Byron Avenue connecting Greenway with the other parks down Byron Avenue to Craig Street to Ridout Street; stating the width of Bruce Street is wider than other streets in the area and shouldn't create a problem; advising Byron Avenue is 2 feet narrower and is two-way with parking; recalling that the original conversion of these streets took place with the development of the Horton Street extension, turning those streets into thoroughfares to move traffic through the areas not to service the areas; suggesting that the lack of signage at intersections could be the cause for wrong-way traffic on these streets; stating that parked cars can create traffic calming measures.
- D. Read, 165 Bruce Street – reiterating his comments as outlined in his communication dated November 2, 2013, appended to the CWC agenda dated November 11, 2013.
- G. Osinski, 28 Elmwood Avenue – indicating he was pleased to see the rationale for the Study; stating he agrees with many of the comments with respect to the perceived safety concerns, but that there really aren't any real concerns; stating he would like to have seen details with respect to bicycles travelling in the wrong direction included in the Study in order to determine the reason for this situation; advising that his research indicated that as both Bruce Street and Elmwood Avenue feed the heart of Wortley Village, cyclists travel the wrong direction to access the ValuMart; identifying a need for two-way bike lanes on Elmwood Avenue; advising that there are a lot of young children in the area, as well as a local day care and Victoria Public School; advising that the current system works well but the conversion would possibly create a need for additional crosswalks for children to access the Public School; advising he is against the conversion to two-way streets; and suggesting there are other methods to address the safety concerns, including two-way bike paths on both or one of these streets.
- K. McClellan, 22 Elmwood Avenue East – stating she is against the conversion to two-way; stating that she feels there are two issues that

need to be addressed due to the number of children and pets in the area: speed control and signage; advising that traffic speeds up between the stop sign on Edward Avenue to the stop light on Wharncliffe Road; and suggesting speed bumps need to be installed to reduce speeds and better signage to avoid wrong-way traffic.

- J. Howell, 46 Bruce Street - providing comments as outlined in her communication dated November 5, 2013, appended to the CWC agenda dated November 11, 2013;
- R. Schieven, 66 Bruce Street – stating she supports the conversion to a two-way street; advising she lived in the Beaches area of Toronto which had lots of narrow two-way streets which created the best calming traffic measures; suggesting that despite people’s complaints, parked cars stop speeding; stating people speeding on Bruce Street from Wharncliffe Road to Ridout Street is her biggest concern; and stating she feels the conversion to two-way is the best solution and hoping that is the direction that will be taken.
- B. Garvin, 74 Bruce Street – stating she is not in favour of the two-way conversion; expressing concern with the speed, volume and especially the elimination of parking, and the impact on guests who may have to park several streets away; and advising she would like to see things remain the way they are but would support traffic calming measures.
- M. Bratti, 79 Bruce Street – thanking the Committee for the opportunity to speak; stating this is an emotional issue for her and that she supports the change; advising she lives on a racetrack with traffic coming off Wharncliffe Road with no stopping until Wortley Road with speeders flying past the slower traffic; advising she shares the concern about loss of parking; stating that during construction and road closures traffic continued to access the street despite unsafe conditions and created safety issues; stating that people are not aware of the large number of small children and pets in the area; suggesting that anyone who feels that a two-way street is unsafe for children doesn’t realize the current speed of the traffic; expressing her concern is heightened by recent speed-related pedestrian accidents; and stating there is a need to slow traffic down and that the traffic on two-way streets in the area is slower.
- G. Brown, 59 Ridout Street - providing comments as outlined in the attached communication.
- S. Alexi, 90 and 98 Elmwood Avenue East – advising that she is against the conversion to two-way streets; expressing street parking is a high priority for her, her tenants and her tenants’ visitors; suggesting speeding happens on every street; advising that Old South is a stop sign heaven; and advising that she is also speaking on behalf of her tenants who were unavailable to attend this meeting.
- J. Odegaard, 81 Elmwood Avenue East – advising he is definitely against making streets two-way; advising his family has lived here since 2007 and enjoys things the way they are; and suggesting property values could decrease with a change to two-way traffic.
- D. Hutchison, 171 Bruce Street - providing comments as outlined in his communication dated October 27, 2013, appended to the CWC agenda dated November 11, 2013. (2013-T08)

Voting Record:

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown, H.L. Usher (4)

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown, H.L. Usher (4)

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown, H.L. Usher (4)

IV. ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

- 5. Request for Compassionate Compensation - Sump Pump Program 124 Blanchard Crescent

Recommendation: That the following actions be taken with respect to the communication dated November 3, 2013, from P. Machuk, 124 Blanchard Crescent, with respect to a request for compassionate compensation regarding the Sump Pump Program Pilot Project on Blanchard Crescent:

- a) a one-time \$1,000.00 grant BE APPROVED for the following municipal addresses, without prejudice, to assist with future costs to maintain the sump pumps installed under previous sump pump assistance programs, that would otherwise have been paid, had the City installed the sump pumps at those addresses under the Pilot Project:
 - i) 55 Blanchard Crescent;
 - ii) 59 Blanchard Crescent;
 - iii) 63 Blanchard Crescent;
 - iv) 92 Blanchard Crescent;
 - v) 120 Blanchard Crescent;
 - vi) 124 Blanchard Crescent;
 - vii) 128 Blanchard Crescent; and,
- b) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back with a proposed course of action for the handling of this type of situation should it arise in the future. (2013-F11)

Motion Passed

YEAS: J.F. Fontana, S. Orser, M. Brown (3)

NAYS: H.L. Usher (1)

V. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:49 PM.