

## **King Edward Avenue Task Force, Routhier Community Centre, June 28th, 7-9PM**

**Attendees:** Louyse Chouinard, Sarah Bonesteel, Barbara Myers, David Small, Bruce Baker, David Milman, Tony Patterson, Brook Burchfiel, Pamela & Wylie Stewart, Marc Aubin.

### **1 - Follow-up to the Forum**

- Meeting with the Mayor -Both Bruce Baker and David Small have contacted the mayor's office but have been faced with resistance to any meetings.
- A meeting will be requested through Councillor Bedard's office (Bruce Baker)
- Formal letter will be sent if there's no luck with the Councillor (?)
- If our group is still active, the NCC will allow us to present our slideshow in the fall at a community consultation session. (Marc Aubin)
- An attempt will be made to place the slide show on U-Tube (Marc Aubin)
- Rideau Street BIA to be presented with slide show (Marc Aubin)
- Byward BIA to be contacted for meeting to present slide show (Sarah Bonesteel)
- List of contacts for condo boards and developers in the area to be compiled (Louyse Chouinard)
- A contact at the school board will be asked for students to build up our web presence (Louyse Chouinard)
- A member of the group agreed to contact Mark Sutcliffe to get him engaged in the issue (?, Bruce Baker, Louyse Chouinard)
- Alternatively, others will be contacted to meet with us during the August timeframe

### **2 - Catchcart Crosswalk - Update still required from Angela Rickman & Michel Vallee**

- Our strategy regarding the crosswalk will be to keep informed about it.

### **3 - Inter-provincial Bridge - Update and Strategy**

- Anyone interested in representing the Lowertown Community Association and the King Edward Avenue Task Force were asked to contact Angela Rickman or Michel Vallee. Bruce Baker volunteered, and it is assumed that the other representative will probably be Michel Vallee.
- A meeting with MPP Madeleine Meilleur will be set up for some time in late July. (Bruce Baker)
- Bruce is compiling a list of the questions we would like to share with the MPP. Perhaps he'll be able to share that list with us when it is finalized.
- A vote was taken at City Council on Wednesday, June 27th. The majority of council voted in favour of recommending a bridge at Kettle Island.
- The consensus was that the King Edward Task Force will not support any specific bridge options to avoid fighting with other community groups. We agreed that we would emphasize our problems and let the experts decide on the final solution.
- The consensus was that our strategy will be in two parts: 1) Participation in the Community Consultation Group in which we can voice our needs, and 2) Continue to lobby our MP and MPP to expedite the process for the study and building a bridge.

### **4 - Buses and Air Quality - Update and Strategy**

**BIG NEWS** - A meeting was held on Thursday, June 28th, from 5-6:30PM. Attendees included the STO, the City of Ottawa, Councillor Bedard, MP Mauril Belanger, and two of our representatives (Michel Vallee and Barbara Myers). The group agreed to create a task force to

remove the buses completely from King Edward. Many different ideas were discussed with the main goal being the removal of the buses. Barbara and/or Michel will fill us in with a report at some point. Thanks to Barbara for all her hard work on this. It's paid off! This isn't the end to the buses, but this is a big step in the right direction.

- Contacting MP for more details on moving the buses to the bridge (Bruce Baker)

- Another important piece of news regards air quality testing. Barbara informed us that air quality testing will be performed along King Edward in each of the 4 seasons over the next year. We're on our way to having another 2 of our recommendations from our forum realized. Good job everyone!

- An article will be appearing in the next issue of Ottawa Life Magazine regarding King Edward. Watch for it on store shelves.

- The consensus was that our strategy will be to participate in the task force with the aim of completely removing buses from the avenue.

### **5 - 4-lane Option - Update and Strategy**

- We are currently waiting for City staff to get back to Transportation Committee with the cost estimates of doing a study on the impact of reducing lanes on King Edward

- Councillor Bedard's office has been contacted for an update. (Marc Aubin)

- If the response from city staff is unsatisfactory, then the councillor and the chair of the Transportation Committee will be contacted (Marc Aubin)

- The concern is that King Edward is already being repaved, and the longer it takes to finish the study, the more money that is being wasted putting in curbs, lanes, and sidewalks that may need to be ripped out if the lanes are reduced.

- An inquiry will be made to find out what the process will be for determining the cost of doing the study (Marc Aubin)

- Cycling Ottawa was contacted for its support regarding lane reductions and the addition of bike lanes. (Wylie Stewart)

- Wylie's going to follow-up with them for a response and will keep us informed.

- There was concern regarding changes to the plans and all agreed that Phil Kerridge will be contacted to inquire whether or not the plans on the Ottawa website are an accurate depiction of the plan for King Edward. (Marc Aubin)

- It was suggested that meeting with City staff regarding lane reductions might be worthwhile. We'll need to look further into this. (Brook Burchfiel)

- Part of the plan would be to present the slide show to Transportation Committee at some point.

- A policy document supporting the 4-lane option is being formulated as an important document to use at some point in the process. (Marc Aubin)

- David Jeanes will be contacted for his input.

- Note: If there are other suggestions as to how we can approach the 4-lane issue, then let us know. This will need to be discussed further at the next meeting.

### **6 - Point Persons**

- There was consensus that using different members in our group to keep us updated about each of the issues was a good game plan.

- The contacts for the issues will continue to be as follows. If you wish to be added to one, then let me know.

- Cathcart Crosswalk (Angela Rickman, Michel Vallee)

- 4-lane Option & Bike Lanes (Marc Aubin, Wylie Stewart, Robert Stehle?)
- Bridges and Trucks (David Small, Bruce Baker, Louyse Chouinard, Michel Vallee)
- Bus Idling & Air Quality (Barbara Myers, Liz MacKenzie)

**Next Meeting - Meeting with Madeleine Meilleur**

To be determined. The aim is to have this meeting in the third week of July. Bruce Baker will keep us informed. The meeting with Madeleine will be the bulk of our next meeting.