

## Transcript from Public Works Committee Meeting on November 18, 2013

(2:03:14-2:10:55 hours and 2:14:23-2:15:44 hours)

[2:03:14-2:10:55 hours]

### **Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

The Red Hill Valley Parkway improvements. Any discussion on this? Councillor Collins?

### **Councillor Collins**

Yep, Mr. Chairman, this is the motion that I'd put, I believe it was last year. I just first want to thank staff for, for the recommendations, and Steve and Dave, who were the authors of the report, were kind enough to sit down with me and go over the recommendations. It was a very thorough investigation of this portion of the parkway. And there are some great recommendations that flow through the report here. In terms of improved signage and lane markings and use of those cat's eyes. I do have a couple of questions though. In terms of the lighting, the lighting, the request for lighting had come from different people in the community, over a period of I'd say about a year, a year and a half. And the complaint that drove this, the report here, was the suggestions from community, that especially during inclement weather conditions, where the parkway starts to meet Red Hill and there's that bend as it crosses the escarpment and starts to come down the slope. Especially when it's, there's snow on the ground, slush, during the evening hours, it's very difficult, especially for seniors, to delineate where the lanes are there and so that their request, through committee, in a motion that I put, was for staff to come back and look for ways and means in which to address that situation. And so we have some recommendations here, and part of it though, says that we didn't implement lighting at this location through the parkway design process to ensure that we didn't have light pollution to the adjacent residential homes that are in that area and I'm assuming as well for the, it's in the middle of that natural environment there. So I'm comfortable in terms of moving ahead with what's here today, but I don't want to abandon the concept of a light or two in strategic locations, if it's required in the future. So I want to be clear, the question I would have in endorsing today's report, although it comes off the outstanding business list, we're not abandoning, abandoning forever the concept of maybe adding a light or two in the future. Is that a safe assumption to make? Certainly it would need to come through this committee and Council.

### **Geoff Lupton**

I think that's correct, Councillor. I think at this point, what we're recommending is that we would try some of the things that we've listed in terms of the information report and see how they, the

public responses to that. And I think after about a year of monitoring that, if that still proves to be an issue, that's certainly something that we could discuss further.

**Councillor Collins**

That's great. So we could bring it back then at a later date. Will you formally be presenting either to the area Councillors? I know there are three or four of us that share this area. Or are you coming formally, back through the Committee with an information report Geoff, through you, Mr. Chairman?

**Geoff Lupton**

Through you, Mr. Chair. Really, whatever your preference is.

**Councillor Collins**

Okay. All right. Again, I thank staff for coming up with this comprehensive list. And I know we always receive helpful suggestions from the community and this is one of those that is certainly born some fruitful information and some positive changes that will will come as a result of it. I wonder through you, Mr. Chairman, whether there's an opportunity for us to undertake some kind of a safety audit of the remaining portion of the parkway and/or the Linc. Is that something that we could consider in future work plans as that might flow through the, through the department without a motion through committee? I only say that because, in the absence of asking for what was here, we probably wouldn't have identified some of the changes that you'll be implementing over the next six months to a year.

**Geoff Lupton**

Mr. Chair, I think that's something that we can go through and review as staff, you know the report was really good and kind of outlining some of the areas that we can look for improvements. We're going to be doing a few things along the Red Hill Valley anyways, in terms of EDR routes. And so I think as a normal course of business for us, we should really have a look at it and see if there's anything else that we can do to enhance it.

**Councillor Collins**

That'd be great. And I think the open lines of communication that you've had on this one for me have been tremendous, and it'd be great too, if we're going to study additional areas of the Linc and/or Red Hill to include the other ward councillors as well, the mountain councillors and the east end, as well as Stoney Creek councillors that share representation. So thanks again for that.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Mr. Jackson.

**Councillor Jackson**

Thanks, Mr. Chairman. I was in the meeting for a while with Councillor Collins and Stephen Cooper and Dave Ferguson. And I want to thank Stephen and Dave for their leadership in the traffic department and their availability always. Could I just for the official record, Geoff, just make sure under your subject report that Ward 6 is officially part of, you just got 5 and 9 there, because just please and Andy for the record, it should be 6 included. So a lot of the, that darkened area. If you will, Mr. Chairman, for anybody that's coming from west to east along the Linc and/or coming off Dartnall Road northbound to get on to the top or Red Hill; once you come off Dartnall as you're approaching the Mudstone Church exit ramp, there's a really dark area there that is difficult to negotiate as cars are merging and/or merging back off onto Mud Stonechurch. So up in my area there, that's really an area of concern. I've heard from many motorists about negotiating especially in the evenings and in the wee hours of the morning. There's literally zero lighting along that stretch and of course going down into Red Hill, now maybe that was by design, kind of respectful of the environmental area of the valley where the road was built, but I don't want to lose sight of this as well like Councillor Collins and Councillor Clark, the three of us kind of border this area of concern, Mr. Chairman. So I appreciate staffs' time. I'll leave it with the expertise of the in-house department, to further keep this on the radar. And again, just officially I need you to include Ward 6 for any future correspondence. Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Okay. Councillor Whitehead.

**Councillor Whitehead**

Even though it might be located in those particular wards, I mean the, the complaints are coming from a motorists, and motorists impact pretty well City wide and probably even as far as Ancaster. So from my perspective, I think we all should be copied because we hear from our our constituents who utilize the expressway on a very frequent basis. The other pieces, I wouldn't mind, and we'd have to go to the clerks, can we not at least on the lighting piece, we talked about, you know, revisiting it and so forth. But is it something we could leave on the outstanding list for a future discussion and a future date?

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

We can have that discussion when we come back to 11.1, which is the removal from the Outstanding Business list. That's the motion coming for us at 11.1.

**Councillor Whitehead**

Well this report answers a chunk of it, it's just the lighting piece that's still, and according to this report, at this time, they don't think it's appropriate because of environmental concerns. We've clearly heard from this table, that is still a concern from the number of councillors sitting around

this table. And we don't want to lose sight of it. And my concern is, is that by not leaving it on the outstanding list, Mr. Chair, it's just that component...

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

I just suggest you're, Councillor, you're out of order with it now because it's on the agenda for 11.1 (a) (2).

**Councillor Whitehead**

Okay.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

So bring it up then if it's an issue for you. Okay, we have the motion, it's been duly moved and seconded and I think Mr. Clerk has it. Okay. All in favor?

**Mr. Clerk**

Carried.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Opposed? That motion carries.

[...]

**[2:14:23-2:15:44 hours]**

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

So let's move on to item 11.1. So item F, coordination of street furniture, we will not be removing that from outstanding business list because it's been referred back from staff. So there is one item which is Item C, The Red Hill Valley Parkway Improvements that staff are recommending be removed from the Outstanding Business List. What's your wish? Councillor Collins you moving it?

**Inaudible**

[inaudible]

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

So what is the motion then? To remove Item C Red Hill Parkway Improvements from the outstanding business list. So Councillor Collins has moved that. Is there a secondary to that?

**Mr. Clerk**

If you desire to remain on the OBL just leave it on then.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Should we narrow it down to the lighting part then?

**Mr. Clerk**

Okay, he didn't provide that direction and that's fine.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Okay, do you need a motion for that Mr. Clerk? Or, can you take it as direction to revise it to the lighting?

**Mr. Clerk**

You can do a motion on that.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Okay. So moved by Whitehead on the lighting seconded by Jackson as an amendment all in favour?

**Mr. Clerk**

Carried.

**Councillor Ferguson (Chair)**

Now to the original motion to remove the original one. All in favour? Carried. Thank you.