

**Riverdale-Bridgepoint Redevelopment Liaison Committee Meeting**  
**November 24, 2009**  
**Meeting Summary**

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**Present:**

Charlotte Stuart, Local Resident; John Wilson, Task Force to Bring Back the Don and Local Resident; Lisa Seto, Local Resident; Phil Hoyt, Local Resident; Tim Elliot, Local Resident; Gerald Whyte, Riverdale Historical Society; Alan MacMinn, Local Resident;

Aggie Fortier, City of Toronto Communications Unit; Ecio Pazzavo, City of Toronto Transportation; Jacqueline White, City of Toronto Transportation Unit;

Darius Zaccak, Senior Construction Manager, PCL Constructors; Malcolm Lawrie, Vice President of Project Delivery, Plenary Health; Eva Lannon, Director of Communications and Community Relations, Bridgepoint Health; Julie Dowdie, Communications Specialist, Bridgepoint Health; Nancy Macken, Vice President, Finance and Chief Administrative Officer, Bridgepoint Health, Paula McColgan, Executive Lead, Strategy and Public Affairs, Bridgepoint Health; Tony Khouri, Director, Redevelopment, Bridgepoint Health; Bruce Davis, Public Progress Inc., Meeting Facilitator;

**Welcome and Introductions**

B. Davis welcomed everyone to the first meeting and asked that each person introduce themselves to the group.

**Review of Draft Terms of Reference**

Attendees were provided with the Committee's draft Terms of Reference for review, and a Project Summary.

B. Davis noted that the purpose of the Committee is to provide a forum for community organizations and neighbours in the immediate vicinity of Bridgepoint Health to discuss progress and issues related to the construction of the new Bridgepoint Hospital. It was noted that meetings will be held minimally on a quarterly basis, and that membership is open.

Following discussion, the Terms of Reference for the Committee were unanimously approved.

**Communications Channels**

E. Lannon highlighted the hospital's new redevelopment newsletter, *Changing the Landscape*, which is produced every other month to provide the community with updates on the redevelopment of Bridgepoint Hospital and the surrounding site.

It was noted that the hospital has setup a construction hotline (416-305-1663) and e-mail address ([construction@bridgepointhealth.ca](mailto:construction@bridgepointhealth.ca)) to provide residents and local businesses with a venue to have questions or concerns addressed. A member of the Corporate Communications Department will respond to all calls and emails within one business day, though it is sometimes necessary to obtain detailed information from the contractors. In such instances, the call/email will be acknowledged and a response provided as quickly as possible.

In November, the first issue of *Changing the Landscape*, as well as a fridge magnet with the hotline and e-mail information, was distributed to over 4,100 houses in the Riverdale community. The distribution area includes Danforth Avenue to the north, Queen Street East to the south, the Don Valley Parkway to the west, and Pape Avenue to the east. *Changing the Landscape* is also available at the Riverdale Branch of the Toronto Public Library. Each issue will be circulated in English, and a Chinese version is available on the Redevelopment section of the Bridgepoint Health website.

The Redevelopment section of the Bridgepoint web site has a “Latest News” section on its front page, which features information about upcoming construction activities.

In response to a question, P. McColgan noted that a comprehensive Crisis Communications Plan has been developed, in conjunction with PCL Constructors and Plenary Health. Any member of the public who notices a critical incident on the construction site is asked to call the Construction Hotline at 416-305-1663, or the Bridgepoint Health switchboard at 416-461-8252. As well, PCL Constructors will have an emergency number posted on signage around the site.

### **Greetings from Councillor Paula Fletcher**

The Councillor thanked Bridgepoint for establishing the Liaison Committee and commented on the high-quality materials that Bridgepoint has distributed to local residents and its commitment to community engagement.

Councillor Fletcher noted that the Bridgepoint project is unlike many other hospital redevelopment projects because of its close proximity to residential communities. As a result, considerable time and effort has gone into planning the new Bridgepoint Hospital, as well as the historical preservation of the Don Jail. The Councillor noted that she is very encouraged by the beautiful new building and the impact that it will have on improving health care for those with complex chronic disease, while at the same time creating jobs in a difficult economy and revitalizing the corner of Broadview and Gerrard.

Councillor Fletcher recognized that the redevelopment will raise issues regarding traffic, TTC and parking, and stated that it's important that the City be made aware of concerns in the community, so that these can be addressed. The Councillor recommended that the next meeting be focused on traffic flow and TTC, and that a representative of the TTC be invited to attend.

A question was raised regarding the Gatekeeper's and Governor's houses at the south end of the property. It was noted that all questions regarding these building should be directed to the City of Toronto, as they are not part of the Bridgepoint development, but rather will belong to the City.

It was also suggested that a representative from the Riverdale Branch of the Toronto Public Library attend meetings. A representative from the Chinese Chamber of Commerce was invited, but was not able to attend.

### **Video and Site Plan Presentation of the New Bridgepoint Hospital**

A video of the new hospital was shown to the attendees and Bridgepoint's Director of Redevelopment, Tony Khouri, walked the Committee through the project site plan.

Questions were raised regarding the blocks on the site (B, C, D and E) that have been zoned for future development and the impact that such development may have on traffic and population density. It was explained that the City of Toronto studied these issues and presented them to the Ontario Municipal Board prior to the zoning being granted. A Planner from the City will be invited to a future meeting to explain the process further and answer any questions.

A second concern focused on the ability of the streets on the new hospital grounds to handle traffic flow in the same manner as St. Matthews Road and the Don Jail Roadway. In addition, there were questions about whether the streetcar stop and crosswalk would remain in their current locations or if these would be moved when the new hospital opens. T. Khouri explained that the site plan includes a grid of streets to connect the hospital to the surrounding neighbourhood, and that no decision has been made regarding the TTC stop and crosswalk. As well, Bridgepoint has not made any decisions regarding the use of the blocks zoned for future redevelopment.

### **Overview of Construction**

D. Zaccak from PCL Constructors gave an overview of key construction milestones over next three years.

It was noted that there will be no pile drilling operations during construction of the new Bridgepoint Hospital.

The Don Jail Roadway will continue to be accessible to local traffic during the construction period. However, underground service work is anticipated in the spring of 2010, which will result in a lane reduction for a few weeks. Bridgepoint, Plenary Health and PCL will work with the City of Toronto to ensure that the necessary traffic control measures are in place to ensure traffic proceeds smoothly in both directions.

When excavation of the new hospital begins in January 2010, the hours of construction will be between 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., up to six days a week. As the new

hospital will be constructed in the current staff and visitor parking lot, temporary parking lots are being built and will open in the New Year. A temporary parking lot at the corner of Gerrard and St. Matthews is being prepared for Toronto Jail staff.

D. Zaccak explained the route that construction vehicles will take, with most traveling down Broadview Avenue because River Street was not built to accommodate large trucks, and as such, they are not permitted to travel this route.

Questions were raised regarding the measures that have been put in place to control dust, mud and sentiment from the construction site. Attendees were informed that the hoarding at the construction site has mesh around it which will filter the dust and mud from the site. If the soil becomes very dry, it will be moistened to prevent dust from blowing. Trucks leaving the site will have mud cleared from their tires and residual mud will be cleaned off the streets.

The issue of construction vehicles holding up streetcars was raised. It was explained that, although construction trucks are not expected to impact streetcars, the City of Toronto will continually monitor the situation and work with contractors to manage traffic flow, as required.

Additional detail regarding the Bridgepoint Redevelopment Project is available on the Redevelopment section of the Bridgepoint Health website.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is planned for late February/early March 2010. The date and time will be posted on the Redevelopment section of the Bridgepoint Health website two weeks in advance of the meeting.