



Hamilton

MINUTES

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Monday, June 27, 2005

4:30 p.m.

Room 110

Hamilton City Hall

- Present: Councillor B. McHattie (Chairman)
Councillors B. Bratina, B. Morelli
CPR Staff: P. Thurston, Manager, Communications and
Public Affairs
D. Elan, Road Manager – Technical
R. Morrison, Constable, District Co-ordinator,
Community Services Unit
L. Dayler, C. Feaver, D. Strub
G. Day-Myron
R. Dubois, K. Kippen, B. Zelic
- City Staff: B. Janssen, Manager, Community Planning and Design
B. Towers, Contract Co-ordinator, Public Works
D. Brown, Assistant to Councillor B. McHattie
C. Biggs, Legislative Co-ordinator

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** (Item 1)

Councillor McHattie welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were done by all.

2. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair** (Item 2)

As Councillor McHattie was appointed as Chair of the Committee in April, 2005, the matter of appointing a Vice Chair is postponed to a future meeting to allow the citizen members an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the issues and workings of the Committee, in the event they may wish to serve as Vice Chair.

3. **Declarations of Interest** (Item 3)

None declared.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes – November 3, 2004

(Bratina/Morelli)

That the Minutes of the CP Railway Liaison Committee meeting held on November 3, 2004, be received as presented. **CARRIED.**

5. Overview of Purpose of Committee (Item 5)

Councillor McHattie advised that the intent of the CP Railway Liaison Committee is to present a forum where issues and concerns can be discussed in an organized manner, rather than on an issue by issue basis. He pointed out that the Terms of Reference were contained in the agenda package which outlines the Committee's purpose, membership and operations of the Committee. The Committee will meet at least three times per year, or at the call of the Chair. On behalf of CP Railway, P. Thurston indicated that the establishment of this Committee is an opportunity for CP to address the concerns and to solicit feedback of any solutions that may be considered.

6. Brainstorming of matters to be addressed by the Committee, including, but not limited to:

- Future Use of the Rail Corridor West of the Aberdeen Rail Yard
- Replacement of Dundurn Street Bridge over the CPR tracks at Main Street
- Recent Council Requests – Ceasing of Whistle Blowing at Certain Rail Crossings
- Status of the Poulette Street Bridge
- Working together on a gateway feature on CPR land at Aberdeen and Longwood
- Cleanup (litter) needed for the entire CP line across the City

In addition to the items listed above, the following is a list of issues from the November 4, 2004 meeting in combination with issues that were expressed by members at this meeting:

- Noise caused by shunting, stationary trains, length of idling (some times unoccupied), noise from operators
- Heavy diesel emissions from engines in poor repair; odour issues at Aberdeen yard
- Call-backs not received from CPR, especially when night time disturbances have led to calls
- Property maintenance outside the tracks (nearer McMaster)
- Graffiti on bridges (Poulette Street) and control boxes (Stroud Road)
- Noise from shunting and idling
- Lighting spilling over from rail yards
- Lack of fencing and signage; derelict fencing
- Vandalism

- Property Standards issues; foliage cut down but never removed; vibrations causing windows to rattle and in some cases, wall cracks in plaster
- Beautification of the bike trail in the area of the Aberdeen Yard
- Continuation of the Rail Trail from Ewen Road – timeframe
- Future operation and impact of GO Train expansion
- Understanding of operations and environmental issues
- McMaster University development on Longwood Road and trucks existing yard onto highway; plans around boulevard
- Lack of community caring and responsibility toward the residents
- What are the rules (operation) and when are rules broken
- With respect to Aberdeen Yard, what is the policy around renting space to fruit markets and florists – aesthetically ugly
- Noise issues in Lawrence Road/Cumberland Avenue neighbourhood
- Lack of community caring and responsibility toward the residents
- Vial odour from the Aberdeen yard when entering the City from the 403
- Important for Committee to understand relationship between CN and CP and market share; need to consider safety issues and issues related to safety of residents in the neighbourhood
- In terms of safety, what does CP do to keep rail safe i.e., derailments
- Preparation/awareness for residents
- Constrain access to tracks i.e., fences; business is going to grow; what is CP Rail going to do re: plan for growth/physical plant; need newer equipment

In response to some of the issues raised:

- Paul Thurston advised that in terms of safety, CP Rail operates within the rules of Transport Canada, CTA regulations and other applicable rules; some are oriented toward municipal jurisdictions; CP is of the opinion that whatever can be done operationally will be looked at, including property management; progress is being made, and will continue in the future; probably two levels of residential proximity to railways; history of not much attention being paid in the past; however, more and more attention now; CP is part of this group to try and address issues that can be addressed
- Ron Morrison advised that the CP Police Service is very much involved in the 3 e's (engineering, education and enforcement), and spends considerable time in outreach programs to [take](#) people aware; people also have a certain amount of responsibility on their own part; message also taken to schools; team up with Hamilton Police Service
- Councillor Morelli stated that there is a big need for education i.e., Railway Act; need to know realistic application of the rules; appreciate the communicative link with CP reps

Other Business

(a) Dundurn Street Bridge – Update

Philip Murray, P.Eng., of Hatch Mott Macdonald, updated the Committee on the status of the Dundurn Street Bridge reconstruction/replacement. He advised that the current structure did not allow construction to be staged. As a result, an alternative solution is to prefabricate as many of the bridge components as possible, which includes girders and the deck. This will speed up construction by 6 to 8 weeks. The road closure will be minimized with this process. At the present time, the project will not be completed within the timelines originally established, and the project may be deferred to next year.

(b) Christmas Train – Update

Councillor Bratina requested that arrangements be made for the Christmas Train to stop on Lawrence Road this year, which would require the closure of Lawrence Road between Ottawa Street and Gage Avenue. Paul Thurston offered a preliminary date for the train's arrival, but advised that he would confirm the date.

(c) Rail Tour

Councillor Bratina advised that arrangements are being made for members of the Committee to go on a tour of the railway tracks with CP staff to get an idea of "what the world looks like from a locomotive engineer's point of view". Members of Council had previously gone on the one-half day tour, and indicated that it was very informative and gives a better understanding of the issues that need to be dealt with by this Committee.

Councillor Bratina reported that the tour was exceptional, and indicated that he would send a letter to CP's head office acknowledging his pleasure with the tour, and thanking them for the opportunity.

7. Adjournment

Councillor McHattie thanked everyone for attending the first meeting and advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be in late September, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

