

## **Minutes of the**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

#### **Committee Members Present:**

McCarthy, Schreiber, Munt, Rummel, Barber, Dorfman, Commers, Duininck, Letofsky, Reynoso, Wulff, Rodriguez, Kramer, Chávez, Cunningham

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Chair Duininck called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:05PM on Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Dorfman.

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Wulff.

#### **BUSINESS**

SWLRT Update and Transit Options

Mark Fuhrmann and Craig Lamothe provided an update on the SWLRT Project budget and schedule, and the Project Options Work Plan. The updated cost estimate for the project is above \$1.994 billion. Contributing factors include a refined design due to environmental requirements (wetlands, floodplains), engineering requirements (soft soil conditions and contamination), and operational and safety requirements (light rail, freight rail). Additional factors include additional property acquisitions and relocations, additional retaining walls, bridges, and connecting roads, and the delayed revenue service date. The updated schedule has revenue service beyond 2019. Fuhrmann and Lamothe provided detailed explanations of each of the primary cost drivers.

The revised revenue service date is now 2020. Contributing factors include the need for additional studies followed by more public meetings on study results, the extension of the municipal consent process, additional time needed to prepare the SDEIS to incorporate changes as a result of additional studies, tests, and comments on municipal consent plans, and the addition of more detailed park impact analysis into the SDEIS.

The Project Options Work Plan includes conducting a transit options review, completing a construction cost estimation review, conducting a technical capacity review, and identifying potential cost reductions. Staff has been working with project partners to offer cost reduction ideas. The Council will hear more about this at the May 20 meeting. All potential cost reductions will be evaluated against the SWLRT Scoping Principles. The purpose of the SWLRT Scoping Principles is to provide a clear and transparent process for making project scope refinements, to evaluate alternatives, and to make informed decisions on project scope refinements. Fuhrmann and Lamothe also went over the New Starts Project Rating. In November 2014 the overall project rating was medium-high.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:35PM.

Emily Getty  
Recording Secretary