



Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association Meeting Wednesday, September 11, 2024

7:00 - 9:00 p.m

In person and via Zoom

Next Meeting Wednesday, October 9 @ 7 pm

Present: Corrie Galloway, Ingrid van der Zande, Jacqueline McLaughlin, Maureen Callaghan, Bev Thorpe, Joan Prowse, Max Moore, Diane Jameson, Holly, Caroline
Apologies: Max Moore, Dawn Cormier, Lesley Monette

Guests: Cllr Ausma Malik; Tom Davidson, Director, Waterfront Revitalization Initiatives; Marouan Malaeb-Proulx

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes from May 8, 2024

- Moved: Joan; Seconded: Maureen
- Bev will send corrected May Minutes to Ingrid for posting

2. Air Quality June 5 presentation and video

Joan updated Ausma, Tom and Marouan about results of Air Quality study. The video on You Tube at <https://youtu.be/HJeGUW860I4?si=ePinRdYxu55KRjp7> needs wide dissemination because the whole point of this study was to inform future policy about the community, waterfront and airport.

Ausma acknowledged value of comparable and reliable data and will use this study to inform future uses and planning. The study has gone to City Staff. The Ultrafine particle and particular matter data should be part of discussion with the Airport Master Plan.

BQNA pointed out that one of the reasons for the University of Toronto study was to do more data collection at the airport, but will this happen?? – considering Ports Toronto does not agree with the outcome of these peer reviewed scientific reports. What policies will be changed and what is the process?

3. Ports Toronto and Transport Canada (RESA) follow up

Tom/Ausma: The Runway End Safety Area (RESA) is a Transport Canada requirement with a compliance deadline of 2027. In 2018 the airport master plan referred to RESA – and this will require an amendment to the Tripartite Agreement. The aim is an efficient and cost-effective measure to meet RESA requirements. Discussions should happen within a process that is not rushed. The City will hold a public

meeting somewhere in the central waterfront before the end of this month. No date/location given. The city will prepare a webpage with information of the options being considered by Ports Toronto.

BQNA: The process is very rushed and the Environmental Assessment has not even been done. The Air Quality study needs to be a priority consideration in any plans to extend the airport operations. Why are the 6 options not included? Why is the City allowing amendment to the TPA knowing that Ports Toronto will push for an extension beyond 2033?

Update: The Public Meeting was held on Sept 24 – with only 6 days notice – and a report to Council is due October 1st. Deputations can be made. The turn out was high at the public meeting.

4. Encampment in Little Norway Park

Marouan is the lead point person on encampments.

BQNA gave an overview: Green spaces need to be welcoming and safe – and right now in Little Norway Park people avoid whole areas and don't like walking at night. BQNA held a press conference in 2021 acknowledging the long term problem of homelessness and the need for the province to release more money for shelters and alternatives to camps. But now the tent city has expanded and more drug users are evident in Little Norway Park and surrounding community. This is a direct danger to school kids, children round playgrounds and Seniors who are afraid to go by the waterfront because of all the tents. Is the supervised injection site operable under the new provincial law? The current shelter is not on the list for closure – but it is 200 m from the school.

Ausma gave an overview: TO shelter and support services are seeing progress in the number of people moved out of the shelters but new arrivals keep coming. The nearby shelter is turning way 300 people a night. Association of Municipalities know this is a big problem across the province. In the BQN, the Streets to Home staff are doing daily visits.

Question was asked about the effectiveness of these interventions – are they helping to move people out of encampments? Where is the city's Shelter Capital Plan? We live in an area of high concentration and it's impacting everyone's mental health.

Ausma stated that the city protocol around encampments is that forcible evictions are not sustainable, but staff can take action if criminal and unsafe behavior occurs. The mobile park security team is visiting Little Norway daily and the Fire Division would welcome any information on specific fire settings.

BQNA: we need a Face to Face group that will provide direct one on one dialogue between the city and the community. We need the city or Streets to Home to do random visits to check on substance abuse. We need a 'town hall' type meeting to share community concerns and hear what the city is planning. How can we advocate for more buildings and coops? What can the city do to advocate for affordable housing? So many questions and a public discussion is needed with all the officials responsible for shelters, outreach, security and hands on support services.

ACTION:

BQNA will host a public meeting on the encampments. This will be separate to our AGM because it needs to be the sole focus of discussion. Jacqueline, Maureen and Caroline will be on the subcommittee to sort out timing, logistics, speakers.

Update: The public meeting is set for November 6th for 2 hours. More discussion about this at our October 9th meeting.

Marouan will send updated contact info for needle sweeps, cleaning, and other concerns. Important that people distribute this info to their buildings and building managers.

5. AGM ideas and decision

- We will discuss the AGM (this will be a separate date to the Encampment Public Meeting) at our next meeting.

6. New condo development at QQ and Spadina

Tom gave an update: this will not proceed

7. Bathurst Quay Common Opening

- The Bathurst Quay Common Plaza will be open Oct 5-7 with official opening Friday October 4th.
- Nuit Blanc happening Oct 6th.

8. Meeting adjourned 9 pm

Moved: Jacqueline; Seconded: Ingrid.