

Chair's Report - April 2013

1. Proposed Ramp for Old Town Hall

The plan for the new ramp for OTH will reflect community recommendations for changes to the proposal - most notably that the ramp go along the side of OTH rather than occupy much of the yard at the Main-Hawthorne corner. Thanks to city staff for listening.

2. Undergrounding of Hydro Wires for Central Portion of Main Street

Councillor Chernushenko will seek council approval for undergrounding of hydro wires on the west side of Main Street between Immaculata and Clegg Street. City staff are adamantly opposed to the proposition because they say the approved "undergrounding" policy (user-pay) trumps the subsequently approved OOE secondary plan which says the undergrounding should be done. Considerable undergrounding is being done along this stretch anyway because of the need to install lines for the institutional lands and for LRT.

3. Consideration of Main Street as "Complete Street"

At the March 26, 2013 Main Renewal working group meeting city staff announced that they will consider a "complete street" as one of the options for the redesign of Main. Options range from rebuilding as it is now to a "complete street" solution. The latter would, in my mind, transform the community but there will be those opposed to the idea because of it mean less traffic can speed through during morning and afternoon rush hours. All options are to be presented at a public open house in the early summer.

4. McIlraith Bridge Rehabilitation Delayed

The rehabilitation of the McIlraith Bridge has been delayed until 2014 so that it will be done in conjunction with the first year of Main reconstruction and won't add to congestion related to other projects scheduled for the summer of 2103

5. Mainstreeter - OOECA Column

An OOECA column focusing on the AVTC was submitted for the March 22 deadline. In terms of the next column, my suggestion would be that it focus on the "complete street" option for Main Street.

6. City Consultation on Consultation

The City has embarked on a consultation to improve consultation. The session I attended was very disappointing - it was the epitome of what's wrong with consultation in this city: staff wanted to talk about their agenda, and there was little sharing of good background information, no assessment of what has / hasn't worked in the past.

7. Farmers' Market Location Switching to Immaculata

The Farmers' Market is going to move to the Immaculata parking lot which is seen to be a better location in terms of the pending Main reconstruction and other factors. The market is grateful to SPU for allowing the market on the university's parking lot.

8. Lansdowne Construction Noise

City Council's approval of construction activity at night at Lansdowne was done with no consultation with affected communities.

