

Subject: RE: BC Rail lands announcement

Date: Fri, 2 Sep 2005 10:14:54 -0700

From: "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>

To: "Barbara Sharp (Mayor)" <BSharp@cnv.org>, "Cathy Adams" <cathyadams@canada.com>, <Bill_Knight@translink.bc.ca>

CC: "Lisa Muri" <lisa_muri@dnv.org>, "Mayor Harris" <Janice_Harris@dnv.org>, "Jim Cuthbert" <Jim_Cuthbert@dnv.org>, "Alan Nixon" <Alan_Nixon@dnv.org>, "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>, "Richard Walton" <richard_walton@dnv.org>, "Maureen McKeon Holmes" <Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org>, "Agnes Hilsen" <Agnes_Hilsen@dnv.org>, "Shana Burrows" <Shana_Burrows@dnv.org>, "Donna Howes" <Donna_Howes@dnv.org>, "Ross Taylor" <Ross_Taylor@dnv.org>, <bplatts@shaw.ca>, <valeriem@blaze.ca>, <John_Miller@ultranet.ca>, <Hugh_Murray@shaw.ca>, <newsroom@northshoreoutlook.com>, <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <corrie@kost.ca>, <pairfofknees@telus.net>, <allandorr@shaw.ca>, <m.bragg@shaw.ca>, <andersen@sagafc.com>, <rpolly@shaw.ca>, <ken_hardie@translink.bc.ca>, <Glen_Leicester@translink.bc.ca>, "Craig Amundsen" <camundsen@cnv.org>, <rwood@westvancouver.ca>, <lbarrett@bimbc.ca>, <office@village.lions-bay.bc.ca>, <tpeters@nsnews.com>, <fluba@pacpress.southam.ca>

To be clear, I was one of many people aware in recent months that Translink was interested in this site. I was also aware that another major commercial enterprise was interested in the site. The first I learned that Translink was the successful bidder was Tuesday of this week on receipt of the invitation to the announcement of the location of the new Transit Depot.

James Ridge
CAO
District of North Vancouver

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Sharp (Mayor) [<mailto:BSharp@cnv.org>]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 12:54 AM
To: Cathy Adams; Bill_Knight@translink.bc.ca
Cc: Lisa Muri; Mayor Harris; Jim Cuthbert; Alan Nixon; Ernie Crist; Richard Walton; Maureen McKeon Holmes; James Ridge; Agnes Hilsen; Shana Burrows; Donna Howes; Ross Taylor; bplatts@shaw.ca; valeriem@blaze.ca; John_Miller@ultranet.ca; Hugh_Murray@shaw.ca; newsroom@northshoreoutlook.com; fonvca@fonvca.org; corrie@kost.ca; pairfofknees@telus.net; allandorr@shaw.ca; m.bragg@shaw.ca; andersen@sagafc.com; rpolly@shaw.ca; ken_hardie@translink.bc.ca; Glen_Leicester@translink.bc.ca; Craig Amundsen; rwood@westvancouver.ca; lbarrett@bimbc.ca; office@village.lions-bay.bc.ca; tpeters@nsnews.com; fluba@pacpress.southam.ca
Subject: RE: BC Rail lands announcement

Ms. Adams, nobody was 'blindsided' by this announcement or the fact that Translink had been looking at this property potentially for a long time. The District Mayor and CAO have both been fully aware for several months now and quite frankly have expressed nothing but support for this site. There is nothing wrong with expressing support for something. It doesn't mean you cannot maintain an open mind for things you might hear that you were not aware of. Heaven forbid that we should be so closed minded. All 5 communities have expressed and supported the need for a new depot. I can't help but wonder where they thought that might be located? We all have an interest in this depot.

There is nothing at all unusual about any 'developer' talking ahead of time about their plans for a site and to buy land 'conditional' on certain factors taking place such as environmental studies and approvals by a Council of rezoning. Nothing has been lost for the taxpayers should the District decide not to rezone however, they need to be acutely aware of the importance, and they are if they have been reading their material on transportation for the past 3 years, that a new depot is imperative. This site has been one that has been looked at for some time. To pretend anything else is simply to be playing with another agenda and I'm not too sure what that might be.

This depot is for the good of ALL 5 communities on the North Shore not just the District of North Vancouver. The District is not an island.

All North Vancouver communities have an 'interest' in this potential site and should be aware of what is being considered. Not unlike the fact that the City of North Vancouver hosts MANY facilities that are of 'interest' to all the other communities the least of which is the hospital. I am sure you would have an opinion on the hospital or the building that hosts the RCMP or emergency services regardless of which community they are located in.

It is my responsibility to be representative of all 5 communities and to make them aware of some of the 'good' things that Translink is attempting to do for us all. The fact that Translink has put aside over 18 million dollars to provide a new depot for us all, which we have argued and told them for years is a PRIORITY, is an extremely GOOD news story. The District needs to also be aware that the other 4 communities also have supported a new depot. There have been several meetings I have hosted in the City of North Vancouver with the CEO of Translink, the Chair of Translink, and other senior Translink staff bringing those that attend the meetings from the 5 Councils up to date on activities as well as allowing an opportunity for these other elected officials to speak directly with Translink reps. No other Translink rep/Director hosts these kinds of meetings.

I would also ask what it is that you think needs to be investigated before a site is chosen and whether you are aware or not of all of the studies that have taken place to date on what would constitute an appropriate site? Since Translink uses professionals to make these kinds of recommendations it might be a good idea for you to have some discussion with them. They may be able to explain to you all the things they have considered so you realize they don't make recommendations lightly or without professional opinions. That is what they get paid to do. As well, you might research all the discussions that have taken place about the proposal for a new bus depot so you will appreciate how long this matter has been on all of our agendas for.....not just a recent matter.

You will have your public process, not a problem. It certainly will be my recommendation that the District supports the rezoning once the other conditions are met. Heaven only knows who else you might have had as an owner down there. Translink is an excellent choice.

Mayor Barbara Sharp.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Adams [<mailto:cathyadams@canada.com>]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 12:19 AM

To: Barbara Sharp (Mayor); cathyadams@canada.com;

Bill_Knight@translink.bc.ca

Cc: Lisa_Muri@dnv.org; Janice_Harris@dnv.org; Jim_Cuthbert@dnv.org;

Alan_Nixon@dnv.org; Ernie_crist@dnv.org; Richard_Walton@dnv.org;

Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org; James_Ridge@dnv.org; Agnes_Hilsen@dnv.org;

Shana_Burrows@dnv.org; Donna_Howes@dnv.org; Ross_Taylor@dnv.org;

bplatts@shaw.ca; valeriem@blaze.ca; John_Miller@ultranet.ca;

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office@village.lions-bay.bc.ca; tpeters@nsnews.com;

fluba@pacpress.southam.ca

Subject: Re: BC Rail lands announcement

Dear Mayor Sharp

I have not yet seen the press release you refer to. I assume it will be available Friday.

I am not at all surprised that Translink is interested in the B.C.Rail property. As my letter earlier this week indicates, my concern is with

the process followed by Translink to this point.

As an elected official, I would think you would respect the public process involving rezoning, including a public hearing that a council is obligated to enter into with a completely open mind, and not under duress. I remain of the opinion that this announcement presumes a lot on the part of Translink. I am frankly appalled that District council was blind sided by this news. Why were they not informed, let alone consulted, in camera? It is, after all, their jurisdiction to determine the uses permitted on the property.

As far as I am concerned, much investigation needs to be done prior to a decision being made on the ultimate use for the site. In the specific case of a bus depot being proposed, a major traffic study would need to be done. The question needs to be asked - how would buses access the site when the native band to the west closes access to the area via Capilano, Welch, etc.? What would be the impact on the neighbourhood of Norgate (where I do not live, by the way) just to the north?

(Mrs.) Cathy Adams

At 05:09 PM 8/30/2005, Barbara Sharp \((Mayor\) wrote:

>Ms. Adams.

>If you read the 5th paragraph on the press release paragraph you
>should a statement, clearly, that a number of conditions are on the
>purchase of the lands and one of those conditions is the possibility of

>a rezoning by the District of North Va Council. That process is
underway.

>

>One would think that such a significant commitment on the part of
>Translink would make north shore citizens happy given there has been so

>many complaints over the lack of infrastructure and return for north
>shore dollars.

>

>All Councils are completely aware of the need as well as the search for

>land to relocate the 3rd street depot and this site was certainly one
>of the sites that has been mentioned for a very long time.

>

>I am shocked anybody would be surprised about this.

>

>The announcement fully takes into the consideration the ability of the
>District Council to not agree to rezone. Many of us in elected
>positions as well as a great many citizens are hopeful they will
support a rezoning.

>

>These kinds of announcements are quite common but then again I guess
>you can't win. If you tell people what is happening some aren't happy.

>If you don't tell them what is happening there are some that aren't
>happy then either.

>

>At least this announcement let's North Shore residents (all across the
>5

>communities) know that something is in the works for the North Shore.

>

>I personally believe this potential site is a great one.

>

>Translink was not the only party interested in this site so the bidding
>was confidential till this week while issues were worked out on the
>potential purchase and the list of conditions (aka rezoning).
>
>I am happy we are finally getting closer to a new depot over here and
>feel I have worked hard as the rep in moving that along and not having
>the money go elsewhere.
>
>This is a great news story.
>
>Mayor Barbara Sharp.
>
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>
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: Cathy Adams <cathyadams@canada.com>
>To: Bill_Knight@translink.bc.ca <Bill_Knight@translink.bc.ca>
>CC: Lisa_Muri@dnv.org <Lisa_Muri@dnv.org>; Janice_Harris@dnv.org
><Janice_Harris@dnv.org>; Jim_Cuthbert@dnv.org <Jim_Cuthbert@dnv.org>;
>Alan_Nixon@dnv.org <Alan_Nixon@dnv.org>; Ernie_crist@dnv.org
><Ernie_crist@dnv.org>; Richard_Walton@dnv.org <Richard_Walton@dnv.org>;

>Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org <Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org>;
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><Agnes_Hilsen@dnv.org>; Shana_Burrows@dnv.org <Shana_Burrows@dnv.org>;
>Donna_Howes@dnv.org <Donna_Howes@dnv.org>; Ross_Taylor@dnv.org
><Ross_Taylor@dnv.org>; bplatts@shaw.ca <bplatts@shaw.ca>;
>valeriem@blaze.ca <valeriem@blaze.ca>; John_Miller@ultranet.ca
><John_Miller@ultranet.ca>; Hugh_Murray@shaw.ca <Hugh_Murray@shaw.ca>;
>newsroom@northshoreoutlook.com <newsroom@northshoreoutlook.com>;
>fonvca@fonvca.org <fonvca@fonvca.org>; corrie@kost.ca <corrie@kost.ca>;

>pairofknees@telus.net <pairofknees@telus.net>; allandorr@shaw.ca
><allandorr@shaw.ca>; m.bragg@shaw.ca <m.bragg@shaw.ca>;
>andersen@sagafc.com <andersen@sagafc.com>; rpolly@shaw.ca
><rpolly@shaw.ca>
>Sent: Tue Aug 30 16:40:49 2005
>Subject: BC Rail lands announcement
>
>To Translink, et al
>
>The upcoming announcement of the use of the B.C. Rail lands in North
>Vancouver District for a transit depot, to be made on Friday by Mayor
>Barbara Sharp and Translink, is extremely interesting.
>As a community leader in the Lower Capilano area, I have knowledge that

>the B.C. Rail lands are not zoned for use as a transit depot. There
>has been no discussion, at least on a public level, on this issue.
>
>I would like to ask Mayor Sharp whether she, as well as the councillors

>and residents of North Vancouver City, would appreciate being told
>what will happen in their municipality, rather than consulted!
>
>I suggest that this announcement is very premature, and that it would
>only be appropriate if zoning and approval were in place.
>
>Cathy Adams, President
>Lions Gate Neighbourhood Association
>
>(604) 987-8695

