AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

A G E N D A

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

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A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – May 22, 2024

Recommendation that the Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the May 22, 2024 meeting.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1-5 **1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – April 24, 2024**

Recommendation that the Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the April 24, 2024 meeting.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Michele Lepitre, Groundwater, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

2. Conley Keyes, Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture and Food

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

E. CORRESPONDENCE

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F. WORK PROGRAM

1. **2024 Farm Tour Update**

2. **Development of an agricultural outreach campaign**

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. **Farmers' Institute Update**

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

Township of Langley

Est. 1873

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

M I N U T E S

Present:
J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair

A. Hamer, R. Ross, O. Smid, A. Smith, G. Brar and J. Green

Staff:
P. Cordeiro, Manager, Transportation Engineering
T. Liu, Transportation Engineer
M. Gunn, Planner
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

J. Caldarella acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – April 24, 2024

Moved by A. Smith,
Seconded by J. Green,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the April 24, 2024 meeting, as amended.
CARRIED

Clerk's Note: Item G was moved to before Item F.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – March 27, 2024

Moved by J. Green,
Seconded by G. Brar,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the March 27, 2024 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Transportation and Mobility Strategy

P. Cordeiro and T. Liu led the committee in a roundtable workshop for the Transportation and Mobility Strategy. They noted that the Strategy will include:

- A long-term vision, goals, and targets for transportation in the Township.
- A list of proposed infrastructure projects (short, medium, and long term).
- Policies, programs, and initiatives to encourage more safe, accessible, and sustainable transportation.
- A Road Safety Strategy.
- Understanding the relationship between land use and transportation.

The Strategy will plan for different uses such as:

- transit (including buses and SkyTrain)
- cycling and micromobility (such as electric kick scooters)
- walking (including travelling by wheelchair or motorized assistive device)
- driving / carpooling

Comments/Question provided by the committee:

- Walking is encouraged but many people don't like walking in bad weather.
- What is the Township doing to discourage drivers cutting through Langley to get to Abbotsford, Chilliwack etc.?
- Holland is a great example of biking and driving working together safely. People will ride in all weather, including rain, and are prepared with proper rain gear, etc.
- Speeding on rural roads in the Township is rampant. Safety for farmers driving tractors on these roads is a concern.
- More speed cameras are needed on the road.
- Township should partner with the schools to address traffic back-ups during school pick-up and drop-off times.
- There are not a lot of parking areas for people who want to carpool. Having more parking lots/park and rides would encourage more carpooling.
- Has there been any consideration of widening 16 Avenue? Should it become a provincial highway?
- Traffic on rural roads is a concern for agri-tourism.
- Are there any equestrian communities involved in the process?

The committee broke into groups to discuss the following questions:

- What is the biggest transportation issue in the Township today?
- What could be done to encourage more residents to use active and sustainable modes of transportation across the Township?
- What transportation trends do you think are important for the strategy to consider?
- Where are the key gaps in the transportation network today?
- What infrastructure would support better regional connectivity (especially connections to neighbouring municipalities)?

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- What could be done to improve transportation in your neighbourhood?

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

No report.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

The agenda order was varied.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

The following motion was referred to the Agricultural Advisory Committee at the March 25, 2024 Regular Council Meeting:

1. ***Migrant Agricultural Worker Accommodation Farm Bylaw***
Bylaw No. 6004
Report 24-66
File BLSI BA000002

That Council give first and second reading to Township of Langley Zoning Bylaw 1987 No. 2500 Amendment (Migrant Agricultural Worker Accommodation) Farm Bylaw No. 6004.

That Council direct staff to forward this report and the proposed Bylaw 1987 No. 2500 Amendment (Migrant Agricultural Worker Accommodation) Farm Bylaw No. 6004 to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for comment.

That Council direct staff to schedule the required Public Hearing for Township of Langley Zoning Bylaw 1987 No. 2500 Amendment (Migrant Agricultural Worker Accommodation) Farm Bylaw No. 6004.
CARRIED

The committee provided the following comments regarding the Bylaw:

- The ALC does not want to permit permanent housing.
- Shipping containers could be used for flex units. They are easily moved and non-permanent. Could provide more space for workers.
- When workers are housed off-site, transportation is an issue.
- BC Building Codes make it difficult to build temporary units.
- Many migrant workers are no longer temporary. They are working year-round.
- The Bylaw does not clearly allow for Canadian workers.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

- Providing housing could encourage more Canadian workers and would help with the housing crisis.
- Turnover of workers is costly for farmers. Providing housing would encourage more permanent workers.
- The Bylaw should include long-term contract workers.

MOTION
Moved by J. Green,
Seconded by A. Smith,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) authorize the Community Co-chair, as per the Terms of Reference, to submit a written submission to the public hearing for Bylaw No. 6004 (Migrant Agricultural Worker Accommodation Farm Bylaw) on behalf of the AAC based on the following comments from the committee for Council to consider:

- Canadian resident workers
- Long-term contract workers
- Cultural differences when grouping together for living purposes
- Alternatives for wastewater treatment (holding tanks)

CARRIED

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Development of an agricultural outreach campaign

Deferred to next meeting.

The agenda order then resumed.

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

The meeting terminated at 9:00pm.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair