

DATE: June 6, 2017

TO: COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Lyn Hall, Mayor

SUBJECT: Proposed Prince George Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility at 18th Avenue and Foothills Boulevard

ATTACHMENTS: None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council:

1. RESCIND first and second reading of “City of Prince George Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 8383, 2011, Amendment Bylaw No. 8837, 2017”;
2. RESCIND first and second reading of “City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 8838, 2017”; and
3. DIRECT Administration to liaise with BC Transit regarding potential alternate locations to facilitate their proceeding with the development of a new Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility.

BACKGROUND:

In order to expedite Council’s consideration of the above-mentioned subject, this report and recommendations have been put forward at the request of Councillor Frizzell, Councillor Scott and Councillor Skakun.

On April 3, 2017 Council considered an application put forward by the City of Prince George for a proposal from BC Transit to construct a Prince George Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility near 18th Avenue and Foothills Boulevard. This facility will be used for the operations of the Prince George Transit System, as well as the storage, fueling, maintenance and washing of Prince George Transit System buses.

A preliminary public meeting was held on March 8, 2017 in order to obtain public feedback on the proposed application prior to Council consideration. In addition, Administration facilitated a public consultation opportunity from March 8, 2017 to March 17, 2017 to provide for comments on the proposal.

Major themes from the meeting and written correspondence that were outlined in the report that Council received at their April 3rd regular meeting, included:

- Loss of greenspace within the City of Prince George and impacts on wildlife in the area;
- Negative impacts (e.g. noise, pollution, traffic) on the adjacent recreational uses in the area, and to nearby residential uses;
- Air quality concerns connected with idling buses;
- That the location is inappropriate for the proposed use and should be located in an industrial area;
- Concerns with slope stability of Cranbrook Hill; and,
- Danger of the site becoming contaminated.

In the month of April and to date in June, Council has received numerous public feedback noting concerns regarding the location for the proposed facility. Further, the comments received at the public information meeting, held on May 11, 2017 resulted in additional comments by the public in opposition to the development proposal.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'L' followed by a circular flourish.

Lyn Hall, Mayor

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2017