



April 10, 2025
7:00pm to 9:00pm
Mount Zion Lutheran Church

Attendance: 34 attendees -includes (8) Executive/directors, speakers: Ahmed Moola, Jake Sawatzky, Peter Julian, Tara Shushtarian, Lourence Almonte Singh, Councillors - Daniel Fontaine, Paul Minhas, Sponsor John Cooke

Call to Order: 7:06pm

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Massey Victory Heights Residents Association recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, and well as all Coast Salish peoples, on whose traditional territories we live, we learn, we play, and we do our work.

2. Introduction of 2025 MVHRA Executive

Present: Sid Johnson, Sue Johnson, Lorna Cloutier, Danielle Karlsson, Terry Tomcko, Chester Kmiec, Deb Thomas,

3. Speakers & Discussion

a. Modo Car Share Cooperative Program Overview & Q/A: Ahmed Moola w/Modo business development.

- Car Sharing Impacts –
 - Modo is 2 way – Pick up and drop off at same location, member owned.
 - Book up to 1 yr in advance or for extended periods of up to 3 weeks
 - Fixed locations for vehicles
 - EVO is 1 way – pick up anywhere and drop off another location. Designed for commuting.
 - The two companies compliment each other.
- About Modo
 - Canada's first ride share company in 1997. Promotes Use Transit first
 - Currently approx. 30 vehicles in New West, closest in Sapperton
 - Why – No need to own vehicle, can shed a car, refrain from purchasing a 2nd and go on a trip requiring a specialized vehicle.
- How to Sign up
 - Visit their website – www.modocoop
 - Buy into Co-op \$500 (refundable) or Monthly Plan
 - Mobile App
- No Maximum age limit to Join Modo car share. Minimum age is 19+ for Modo Plus and Monthly Membership and 16+ for Green Memberships.
- Residents can receive \$50 in driving credit when signing up to Modo for the first time by using the PROMO CODE - **MVHRA50**

b) Local New West city representative Updates with our Councillor, Daniel Fontaine

- a) Federal Election – Daniel and Paul are staying neutral and will work with whomever comes into power.
- b) City Budget – Finished for 2026
 - 6-7% Property Tax increase for this year and 23-30% over 3 years.
 - Utility fees going up.
 - Metro Vancouver ongoing survey
- c) Anvil Centre – Concerns not being used enough.
 - Survey results on City website.
- d) Massey Theatre – 2nd Gym now gone.
 - 30 million for Massey Upgrade – NO Federal Funding-
 - also Temesewtx Aquatic Centre did not receive any Federal Funds either.
- e) Crisis Response Team –
 - Underway in Downtown core. – Mental Health, drugs, Homelessness.
- f) Official Community Plan (OCP) –
 - To be amended by the end of 2025
 - Targets for housing – if in OCP it is there – no feedback or no Public hearings.
 - June 2025 City will draft the Bylaw changes.
 - Summer 2025 – Public Hearings in which community members can give feedback on proposed changes. Then starts the process of formal approval process to Metro Vancouver
 - Winter 2025 – Adoption of OCP which will put in place new Provincial Housing legislation.

c) Local New West city representative Q&A with our Councillor, Daniel Fontaine

Q1 - Concern of not many left turns being allowed around the City.

A - DF will pass concern onto the City. City puts pedestrians, cyclists, Public Transit and then cars in priority order. Vision Zero is related to this. DF on committee.

Q2 - OCP – Parking Concerns – especially around the hospital

A - OCP is due to Population growth and Province has put targets in. New West has no say in parking for towers in the new OCP. DF will be asking what the Federal Government is going to do about infrastructure with all the new housing requirements.

Q3 – McBride & 6th Ave Trucks turning left where they should not.

A - Suggestion to bring in Chief of Police/Traffic enforcement to discuss concerns with RA. (did this last year) Suggestion that individual send a report into NW Police Community liaison (**Emma Palmer – Community Engagement Coordinator (email epalmer@nwpolice.org) OR to NWPD online make report when we see this type of thing so that it is documented. (eg . You know of an area where there are frequent driving offences) <https://www.nwpolice.org/report-a-crime/>**

Q4 – OCP – Any City Plans for infrastructure and who pays for it??

A – Federal level needs to pay (or at least support) Depends on the project. For new housing developments developers are mandated to put money into an infrastructure fund. Ministry of Education needs to be involved as well.

d) Introduction to the Federal election candidates:

- Jake Sawatzky (Liberal party)
- Currently lives in White Rock but will relocate if elected.
- Recent UBC graduate in Sciences
- Background in Mental Health & Addiction

- Peter Julian (incumbent MP) with the NDP.
- Currently lives in New West. Long family history of living in Burnaby/New West
- Referenced for us all the work that the NDP has done for Canada and New West since he has been our MP.
- He will continue fighting for us.

- Tara Shushtarian (Green Party)
- Currently lives in North Burnaby, Came to Canada from India 23 years ago.
- Has been involved with many environmental groups, Poverty reduction coalition, Transit, Climate Action and the Arts.

- Lourence Almonte Singh (Independent)
- Currently lives in Surrey, but will relocate if elected.
- Graduate from SFU in Business
- Worked in investment research and two startups.
- Strives to be the voice represent Young Canadians

4. Announcements

- **Upgrading of City Lighting within MVH**
 - Streetlight replacement starting this May.
 - Starting with replacement on Courtney Crescent
 - Work limited this year to area bound from McBride to Chilliwack & between 8th Ave to 10th Ave.
 - Anticipated completion Sept 2025
 - Example pole installation – Connaught neighbourhood 23rd St & 9th Ave intersection and along 9th avenue from 23st to 21rd street.

- **20th Annual Neighbourhood Garage Sale**
 - Saturday May 3rd 8:00am – 2:00pm
 - Registration closes Apr 25th at 11:59pm
 - Registered participants will be provided a yard sign for the day.

- **43rd Annual Heritage Homes Tours**
 - Sunday May 25/25 10:00am – 5:00pm
 - Call for volunteers contact Yasmine Semeniuk volunteer coordinator volunteer.hnw@gmail.com

- **New Westminster Police with the Electronic Recycling Association**
 - Saturday Apr 12/25 – 12:00pm – 4:00pm
 - Data Destruction & Electronics Recycling Event
 - 511 Royal Ave NW

5. Adjournment: 9:09 pm

6. Next meeting – Thursday September 18/25