



Beaver Siding Train Station / Museum Project Virtual Town Hall Summary

The Beaver Valley Recreation Committee held a one-hour virtual town hall Tuesday, April 20 at 6 p.m. on Zoom to discuss the proposed Beaver Siding Train Station/Museum Project that would see the Beaver Valley Recreation Committee in conjunction with The Nelson & Ft. Sheppard Railway Co. construct a railway station/museum/gathering place in the downtown core of Fruitvale.

Fifteen members of the community attended along with ATCO Wood Products CEO Scott Weatherford, Area A Director Ali Grieve, Village of Fruitvale Director and Mayor Steve Morissette, Village of Montrose Director and Mayor Mike Walsh, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Facilities and Recreation Manager Mark Daines and RDKB Recreation Coordinator Kelly Walker.

The project team reviewed the project purpose, draft construction and operating budgets, timelines and preliminary designs with attendees then answered questions. To see all questions and answers, go to jointheconversation.rdkb.com/bvtrainstation. The following is an abridged version of the Q & A:

Q: *Will the new building meet needs for lighting, temperature control, security, and on-site storage facilities for displaying local historical artifacts?*

A: Lighting, temperature control, and security are key considerations in design; storage is not. We envision a venue for local historical groups and other groups within the community to share their own stories of the Valley and of the region, and for the public to use.

Q: *Will the project impact existing green and park space near the site?*

A: Much or all of the proposed construction will take place on the grassy section of our Railway Park. We intend to leave other green spaces untouched. Any impacts from construction will be remediated and returned to their former state.

Q: *Did people in Beaver Valley show interest in a train museum before this was designed?*

A: We were approached by a member of the public several years ago who envisioned a similar venue. That idea has grown among stakeholders into the proposed project.

Q: *How can we incorporate meaningful acknowledgment and input of indigenous peoples?*

A: We will invite indigenous peoples to display and share their own history. Our approach is to include everyone with a history in our Valley to use the facility to tell their own stories

Q: *Will the project lead to traffic disruptions during construction and will it address existing traffic issues such as excessive speed?*

A: Traffic disruptions will be kept at a minimum and are likely to affect only a portion of Eastview Road during utility tie-ins. Traffic safety will be part of our final plans & include pedestrian crossings where applicable.

More project information: jointheconversation.rdkb.com/bvtrainstation

This is a community project! Are you a resident or business owner who has an idea or would like to help out or contribute somehow?

Contact Mark Daines, Manager of Facilities & Recreation: mdaines@rdkb.com or 250.364.3000