

0157-01

The Board in Brief...

Actions taken by
the GVRD Board of
Directors at its meetings on
November 30/December 14, 2001

MATERIAL RELATING TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
ITEMS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Bill Morrell
Communications and Education department
451-6107

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Greater Vancouver Regional District

Elections

- **Puil, Staub reelected as board chair, vice-chair**

ELECTED

Vancouver Director George Puil was acclaimed to a sixth term as Chair of the GVRD Board. White Rock Director Hardy Staub was re-elected as Board Vice-Chair, while New Westminster Director Helen Sparkes was re-elected Vice-Chair of the Greater Vancouver Water District.

Delegations

- **Mayor Don Bell, LMTAC Chair**

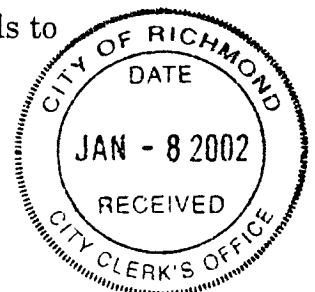
HEARD

The LMTAC Chair provided an overview of the committee's activities in 2001 as well as key projects and funding requirements for 2002.

- **Lower Mainland Large Gas Users Association**

HEARD

Association representative Peter Sagert addressed the board in regards to Air Quality Management Plan and the issue of fuel switching.



Finance

- **GVTA Funding Options: Ratification of the Property Tax Bylaw** APPROVED

The board endorsed the short-term (2002 – 2005) financial strategy, (Option Two as discussed in consultations) proposed by the GVTA and ratified the property tax increase. The strategy entails collection by the Province of an additional two cents per litre of fuel tax (\$40 million), increased property tax (\$20 million), and an increase in transit fares (\$20 million).

- **Greater Vancouver Regional Districts' 2002 Budgets** APPROVED

Board approval was given to the Greater Vancouver Regional District, Sewerage and Drainage District, and Water District Budgets for 2002. Characterized as a 'hold-the-line' budget, total expenditures of \$369 million represent an increase of 0.23 per cent over last year.

Additional income derived from growth – estimated at 1.5 per cent – coupled with a reduction of the tax requisition by 0.5 per cent results in a reduction in the GVRD portion of the property tax rate by 2.0 per cent. For the utility functions, the water rate increases 0.6 percent and the sewer levy 0.7 per cent. No change is anticipated in the Solid Waste tipping fee of \$65 per tonne.

- **Agreement on Internal Trade** REFERRED

A recommendation that calls for prior consultation between local governments and the Province of BC regarding any changes to the Agreement on Internal Trade was referred for further review.

Administration and Intergovernment

- **Meeting and Delegation Procedure** APPROVED

The board considered and approved modifications to the existing delegation procedure. Modifications are intended to facilitate delegate access to committee and board meetings while allowing for appropriate agenda management. Also noted in the report was the result of a survey of directors concerning speaking rights at the various districts.

- **Results of the GVRD Business Friendliness Review** APPROVED

A report containing nine recommended steps that the GVRD might take to improve its friendliness to business was approved. The report arises from a GVRD staff task group review that included extensive discussion with stakeholders, and will be distributed to participating members of the business community and to member municipalities.

- **GVRD Position Paper: Advancing Federal Objectives in Urban Regions** APPROVED

A final version of the GVRD's position paper concerning federal objectives in urban regions was approved, and will be circulated to municipalities, as well as a number of senior government agencies. The paper will also serve as the basis for discussions with the federal government concerning the advancement of federal involvement and collaboration in the region.

Parks

- **Letter of Intent – GVRD Parks and Buntzen Ridge Wilderness Recreation and Parks Association (WRAP)** APPROVED

The board authorized a Letter of Intent between Parks and WRAP that sets out mutually agreed to commitments between regional parks and the association.

- **Initiation of the Project Priorities Committee** APPROVED

Board approval was granted for the appointment of two representatives to a committee that will recommend projects for funding through the Pacific Parklands Foundation.

- **Park facilities and sites fees for 2002** APPROVED

Facility and site fees for regional parks in 2002 are approved. Increased charges are considered competitive with other similar facilities and reflect increased operating costs. A bylaw authorizing the new fee schedule was read three times, and will be forwarded to the Minister of Water Land and Air Protection for approval prior to final reading.

Planning and Environment

- **Village of Lions Bay Regional Context Statement**

APPROVED

The board approved a report that commended Lions Bay for preparing an OCP that supports residents' vision for their community. The regional context statement embedded in the OCP was accepted.

- **ICLEI Climate Protection conference attendance**

APPROVED

Approval was granted for the attendance of one member of the Planning and Environment Committee at the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives 'Local Government Climate Protection Cooperation between Municipalities in Developed and Developing Countries' event in Heidelberg, Germany December 9-11.

- **Overall airshed context for review of energy generation facility proposals**

APPROVED

This report provides information on emissions from existing sources and proposed energy generation facilities in the GVRD, FVRD and Whatcom County. It is proposed that the GVRD work with member municipalities and other involved agencies in the assessment of potential impacts from proposed generation facilities. Priority will be given to the Sumas Energy 2 project and the BP Cherry Point Cogeneration project.

- **2010 Winter Olympics: Issues and Opportunities for GVRD**

RECEIVED

The board received a report that identified both significant benefits as well as challenges related to hosting the 2010 Winter Olympics. Lasting legacies are reviewed, and transportation issues on the Sea to Sky Highway discussed.

- **GVRD response to Kyoto Protocol developments**

APPROVED

Support for Canada's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol (an international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions) is reaffirmed in this report. The board also expressed its concern over the withdrawal of the United States from the protocol. Both sentiments will be expressed in a letter to the Prime Minister.

- **Annual report on the Livable Region Strategic Plan**

ENDORSED

The Livable Region Strategic Plan Annual Report for 2001 was received and endorsed by the board. The report highlights progress and challenges in achieving each of the LRSP's four main objectives (Protect the Green Zone, Build Complete Communities, Achieve a Compact Metropolitan Area, and Increase Transportation Choice). Now five years old, the LRSP is subject to a review. That review, with a working title of the Sustainable Region Initiative, is intended to provide a new framework and vision for the region based on economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

- **Green Buildings and Sustainable Communities Conference**

RECEIVED

A report noting success of the conference held October 3, 2001, and summarizing input from participants was received. Staff was instructed to incorporate green building and green infrastructure concepts into the Sustainable Region Initiative and updates of the LRSP and the Air Quality Management Plan.

- **Sustainable Region Initiative Workshop**

ENDORSED

This report provides a draft outline of a workshop proposed to provide members of the board an opportunity to evaluate progress on regional plans and begin discussion on how to advance sustainability objectives with municipal staff, community groups and the business community. The draft outline was endorsed, and a registration form for the event approved by the board.

- **Air Quality Management Plan policy clarification**

APPROVED

The board endorsed a report that clarifies air quality policy to confirm that 'Best Available Technology' includes fuel type.

Housing

- **GVHC 2001 Annual General Meeting**

APPROVED

Approval to effect the 2001 Annual General Meeting of the Greater Vancouver Housing Corporation by way of Consent Resolutions was given. The GVRD is the sole member of the corporation.

Aboriginal Affairs and Electoral Areas

- **UBC Neighbourhood Plans – Theological Area and Mid-Campus** APPROVED

Neighbourhood plans for the Theological Area and Mid-Campus at UBC were accepted by the board as consistent with the OCP.

- **Local Government Fisheries Discussion Paper** RECEIVED

A discussion paper prepared by the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Board concerning fisheries issues was received for information. Also received for information was a progress report on the activities of LMTAC and the GVRD's involvement in Aboriginal Affairs.

Other Business

- **Leaky Housing Problem** APPROVED

Board approval was given to a Finance Committee recommendation that calls for the support of the Government of Canada to resolve the leaky building crisis. The Provincial and Federal Governments are asked to make a declaration of disaster to enable financial assistance for those directly affected by the crisis.

- **Debris Management** APPROVED

Support for continued debris management in the Fraser River was expressed by the board. Local government funding of specific debris management activities is proposed, on the condition that long-term federal and provincial funding for the Fraser River Debris Trap is secured.

- **Fuel switching, TransLink governance, and City of Vancouver drug response strategy**

A letter from the Business Council of BC concerning consultation on air quality management regulatory issues as they relate to fuel use was received.

Affirmed is a GVRD Board-appointed committee that is reviewing governance of TransLink.

A motion expressing thanks to Mayor Owen and Vancouver City Council for its leadership in identifying drug issues as a medical problem was considered and passed.

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District

- **Incinerator – Turbo Generator Installation**

APPROVED

An expenditure of up to \$19.5 million for construction of a turbo generator building and installation of the generator and related works at the Burnaby Incinerator was approved. The generator utilizes heat from the incinerator to produce electricity for sale.

- **Biosolids recycling market assessment**

ENDORSED

A proactive approach to addressing the increasing costs of transporting and applying biosolids to land is proposed in this report. The fourfold strategy includes engaging stakeholders in discussion around potential uses, continuing public education and outreach activities, seeking long term agreements with recycling customers and hauling companies, and evaluating recycling options for land-dried biosolids stored at the Iona and Northwest Langley WWTPs

- **Sewerage and Drainage Projects**

APPROVED

Budgeted expenditures of \$1.1 million (Vernon Drive Forcemain Replacement, Phase 3, Pipe Pre-Purchase), and \$150,000 (Detailed Design for the Lions Gate WWTP Digester No. 3 Roof and Piping Replacement) were approved. Also approved was an expenditure of \$300,000 for construction of the Big Bend Forcemain (North Arm) Scour Protection works.

Greater Vancouver Water District

- **GVWD 2002 Budget and water rate options**

APPROVED

The board approved the Water District budget and chose a water rate option that defers increases required to fund construction of filtration at the Seymour and Capilano sources. One option considered but not approved called for an immediate increase in the rate that would help defer debt costs in the future by reducing borrowing for the project. Water rate for 2002 will be \$.1893 per cubic metre.

- **Capilano and Seymour Water Filtration Plants – Project Management Services** APPROVED

Funding up to \$4.5 million for initial project management services related to construction of the Capilano and Seymour Filtration Plant(s) is approved. Next step is a request for detailed proposal calls.

- **Coquitlam Reservoir flow allocations** ENDORSED

Board endorsement was given to potential flow allocations for the Coquitlam Reservoir reached by the Coquitlam Consultative Committee. The agreement increases flows for drinking water and extends the life of the existing supply capacity until approximately 2053.

- **Capilano Chlorination Facility Upgrade** APPROVED

The board approved an expenditure of \$200,000 for the design of a portable hypochlorite chlorination system for interim use at the Capilano source until the filtration plant is complete. Once the filtration plant is on line, the portable system will be available to provide emergency primary and secondary disinfection elsewhere in the region.

- **Seepage Control Project – Cost sharing with Capilano Ozone Project** APPROVED

Despite cancellation of the Capilano Ozone project, agreed to cost-sharing arrangements with other water supply projects must be completed. The board agreed to transfer \$380,000 plus GST from the ozone project funds to the Seepage Control project in support of shared-cost work.

- **Western Hemlock Looper in watersheds** RECEIVED

This report advises the board on the management strategy being implemented in regards to western hemlock looper populations in the region's supply watersheds. Currently, information continues to be collected, although initial indications are that the looper population at present has not created a large fire hazard or a water quality problem.

Action brought forward from in-camera

- **Land purchase adjacent to Burnaby Incinerator** DECLINED

The board determined not to purchase additional lands adjacent to the Burnaby Incinerator at this time.

- **Proposed contribution agreement with the contributing parties and Trust Agreement with the District of North Vancouver regarding the purchase of Thwaytes Landing**

APPROVED

The board authorized the Chair and the Corporate Secretary to execute a Contribution Agreement with the contributing parties and a Trust Agreement with the District of North Vancouver, and other agreements required to give effect to the intentions of the GVRD and the contributing parties, regarding the purchase of Thwaytes Landing.

- **Property acquisition for Brunette Fraser Greenway and sewer facility expansion at Sapperton Landing**

APPROVED

The board authorized conclusion and execution of a purchase agreement previously approved by the board but amended to enable the GVRD to acquire an additional statutory right-of-way and permit the seller to retain an access easement over a bridge on the Brunette River.