

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, April 30, 2021

Please note these are not the official minutes. Board in Brief is an informal summary. Material relating to any of the following items is available on request from Metro Vancouver. For more information, please contact:

Greg.Valou@metrovancouver.org.

Metro Vancouver Regional District

E1.1 Delta Nature Reserve and Delta South Surrey Greenway – Public Engagement and Management Plan **APPROVED**

The Delta Nature Reserve, along with lands in the Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area east of Highway 91, present opportunities for ecosystem enhancement and expanded visitor facilities.

In 2020, Metro Vancouver received 50% ownership and assumed operational responsibilities of the Delta Nature Reserve from the City of Delta. The envisioned extension of the Delta South Surrey Greenway runs along the eastern boundary of these park lands. Planning for the park lands and greenway together will ensure a cohesive management plan to guide park development, resource management, and decision making.

The Board authorized staff to proceed with the engagement process for the development of a management plan for the Delta Nature Reserve and Delta South Surrey Greenway.

E2.1 Metro 2050 Draft Policy Language – Goal 3: Protect the Environment and Respond to Climate Change Impacts and the Implementation Section **RECEIVED**

Metro Vancouver staff, working with the *Metro 2050* Intergovernmental Advisory Committee, have developed draft content for *Metro 2050's* “Goal 3: Protect the Environment and Respond to Climate Change Impacts” and the implementation section. The content was prepared based on the Board-endorsed policy recommendations for the environment, climate change and implementation policy reviews.

The proposed changes to goal 3 include:

- the addition of a sensitive ecosystem inventory map with associated policies;
- a collective vision for ecosystems with aspirational regional targets for land protection (50%) and tree canopy cover (40%);
- new policies and tools to support the protection of important ecosystems, urban forest and invasive species management, and consideration of ecosystem services;
- better connection of local policies to the regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets;
- policies that seek to protect existing communities from natural hazard risks, and encourage new growth in lower risk areas; and
- policies to integrate emergency management, utility planning, and climate change adaptation principles when preparing land use and transportation plans.

The proposed changes to the implementation section include:

- replacing the requirement for a regional public hearing for type 2 amendments with alternative forms of public engagement; and
- policies to guide the implementation of new directions identified in the five “goals” sections of *Metro 2050*.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.2 Metro 2050 Projections Update

RECEIVED

The region grew from 2.38 million people in 2011 to 2.59 million people in 2016. Metro Vancouver’s modelling shows that this growth trend will continue. The region is anticipated to reach about 3.8 million people by 2050, which means average annual growth of about 35,000 people. Metro Vancouver’s projections are scenario based, with a range built in to address short-term shocks and uncertainties such as the one presented by COVID-19.

In collaboration with member jurisdictions, Metro Vancouver has revised the population, dwelling unit and employment growth projections for *Metro 2050* — the update to the regional growth strategy.

The changes include:

- updated population, dwelling unit and employment projections to 2050 based on improved methodology and significant engagement with member jurisdictions and others;
- projections included at the regional and sub-regional scale, rather than by member jurisdiction (as is done currently), to better align with the work and infrastructure investments being undertaken by Metro Vancouver and TransLink, and to mitigate for the static nature of the regional growth strategy and needed flexibility for member jurisdictions; and
- ensuring that member jurisdiction-level projections continue to be provided as a service via annual reports and as a digital data product.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.3 Metro Vancouver 2020 Regional Industrial Lands Inventory

RECEIVED

The *2020 Regional Industrial Lands Inventory* provides a comprehensive and current summary of the quantity and quality of industrial lands in the region as of mid-2020. The data quantifies the limited supply of industrial lands, the amount of land that is developed for industrial and other uses by type of activity and lands that are vacant, supports industrial lands protection and intensification efforts, and provides comprehensive data for further analysis of industrial land matters.

The key findings from the *2020 Regional Industrial Lands Inventory* include:

- an increasing amount of industrial land being used for non-industrial purposes, posing a considerable threat to the industrial land base;
- there are few remaining available large sites for ‘trade-oriented’ logistics uses, which has impacts on businesses locating in the region and being able to stay and grow in the region;

- although there was an increase in the total size of the inventory between 2015 and 2020, many of the lands added are not in locations well served by the transportation/goods movement network and even with these additions, due to the rate of development activity, the amount of vacant industrial land continues to decline; and
- there are continuing competing priorities for the limited industrial lands.

The Board received the report for information and directed staff to distribute it to member jurisdictions, the Province, the Port of Vancouver, TransLink, the Urban Development Institute, NAIOP, Vancouver Airport Authority, Agricultural Land Commission, and Squamish Lillooet and Fraser Valley Regional Districts to support ongoing efforts to protect the region's essential industrial land base for industrial activities.

E3.1 Audited 2020 Financial Statements

APPROVED

The 2020 Audited Financial Statements illustrate that Metro Vancouver is in a strong financial position with excellent liquidity and solid reserves. The statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) and have received an unqualified audit opinion by the external auditors, BDO Canada LLP.

The Board approved the Audited 2020 Consolidated Financial Statements for the Metro Vancouver Regional District.

E3.2 2020 Financial Results Year-End

RECEIVED

The final overall operational results for 2020 for Metro Vancouver's functions on a cash flow basis is a net surplus of close to \$33.4 million on an approved budget of \$897.1 million or slightly more than 3.7% of the budget. The results were positive for most functions with surpluses realized, which are available in future years to either avoid debt through additional contributions to capital or to pay for future projects, or to reduce future tax requisitions, levies or fees to the member municipalities.

In addition, capital program expenditures for Metro Vancouver's functions were underspent for the year by \$537.4 million overall, with the majority of the surplus generated in the utilities – Liquid Waste, Water and Solid Waste functions – due to the delay/deferral of expenditures for several major capital projects to future years.

The Board received the report for information.

E4.1 National Zero Waste Council Annual Update

RECEIVED

Since 2013, the National Zero Waste Council, founded by Metro Vancouver in collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has played an important role in the realization of Metro Vancouver's zero waste objectives as articulated in *the Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*. As a leadership initiative, this has been accomplished through contributing to Canada's transition to a circular economy by bringing together governments, businesses and NGOs to advance a waste prevention agenda that maximizes economic opportunities for the benefit of all Canadians. In 2020 and into 2021, the Council

continues to advance work in preventing food waste in the supply chain and homes, was active in mobilizing the creation of the Canadian Plastics Pact that will be instrumental in creating a circular economy in plastics, and has demonstrated the viability of using recycled asphalt in paving. In addition, the Council released a seminal report that articulates the environmental and economic benefits of waste prevention in Canada — that is, reducing waste at its source.

The Board received the report for information.

E4.2 Union of B.C. Municipalities 2021 Community Excellence Awards Nominations **APPROVED**

The Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) Community Excellence Awards recognize UBCM members that have implemented projects or programs that demonstrate excellence in meeting the purposes of local government.

The Board supported the following entries for the Union of B.C. Municipalities 2021 Community Excellence Awards:

- Excellence in Governance: Metro Vancouver’s Increased Engagement During a Time of Social Isolation
- Excellence in Sustainability: Lulu Island Renewable Natural Gas Facility

E5.1 Draft Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap **APPROVED**

The draft *Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap* is the second in a series of 10 *Roadmaps* that will guide the region’s policies and collective actions to transition to a carbon neutral, resilient region by 2050. Preliminary modelling results indicate that completing these aggressive but achievable actions will have a significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions, with emissions from all transportation sectors potentially reduced by 30% below 2010 levels by 2030, and by over 85% by 2050. Emissions from light-duty vehicles could achieve a reduction of over 40% by 2030 and can be carbon neutral by 2050. The *Transportation Roadmap* is intended to be dynamic, and over time more work will be done to identify and undertake additional actions in order to reach our 2030 and 2050 climate targets. To assess resiliency of the transportation system, further work is needed to establish methods and key data sources to quantify the impact of the resiliency actions in the *Transportation Roadmap*. The draft will inform further engagement, with the intention to bring an updated *Transportation Roadmap* for endorsement by the Board in the fall of 2021.

The Board authorized staff to proceed with engagement on the draft *Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap*, as presented.

E5.2 Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Hedge Bindweed and American Bullfrog **RECEIVED**

Building on an existing library of technical guidance for 15 priority invasive species, Metro Vancouver has again worked with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, member jurisdictions and other local experts to produce a new set of best management practices — this time for hedge bindweed (also known

as morning glory) and the American bullfrog. These documents provide information for practitioners about how to identify, track, report, dispose, prevent further spread, and effectively control these species, as well as regulatory requirements, monitoring and restoration tips, references and additional resources. Each guide also describes how these invasive species may adapt as our climate changes.

In addition, 17 new fact sheets (one for each priority invasive species) have been created in collaboration with staff from the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, UBC Botanical Garden and member jurisdictions. These public-friendly fact sheets provide general information on each species.

The Board received the report for information and directed staff to forward the best management practices and suite of 17 invasive species fact sheets to member jurisdictions for information.

E5.3 Help Cities Lead Campaign

APPROVED

At its April 16, 2021 meeting, the Climate Action Committee reviewed correspondence, presented in the Committee's agenda for information, from the District of North Vancouver, the City of Victoria and the City of Port Moody requesting Metro Vancouver's support for the Help Cities Lead Campaign.

The Help Cities Lead campaign sets out a number of climate action initiatives related to new and existing buildings, which align with Metro Vancouver's work on the *Climate 2050* roadmap for buildings.

The Board resolved to write letters expressing its support for the Help Cities Lead Campaign to the following Provincial ministers:

- Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
- Minister of Finance
- Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing

G1.1 MVRD Regional Parks Regulation Amending Bylaw No. 1321, 2021 – Amends Bylaw 1177, 2012

APPROVED

The Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw sets out prohibitions and a system for permitted use that, taken together, are designed to regulate park visitor behaviour and activities. Included in the bylaw is the schedule of Regional Parks fees and charges.

In anticipation of the introduction of pay parking at Belcarra Regional Park and Lynn Headwaters Regional Park, the Board approved an hourly rate of \$2 per hour in November 2020. Staff have heard from the two park communities that a full-day rate is needed. In order to keep our parks as accessible as possible, this bylaw amendment further addresses parking permits for pay parking at these two parks, to include a full-day rate maximum of \$12 per day.

The Board gave first, second and third readings to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Parks Regulation Amending Bylaw No. 1321, 2021*, then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

G1.2 Metro Vancouver Regional District Mosquito Control Service Amending Bylaw No. 1320, 2021 – Amends Bylaw 1164, 2012 **APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver provides a nuisance mosquito control service to participating member jurisdictions under the authority of the MVRD Mosquito Control Service Bylaw. Since 2012, when the bylaw was last amended, the Metro Vancouver Mosquito Control Program has served five member municipalities: City of Coquitlam, City of Maple Ridge, City of Pitt Meadows, Township of Langley and the City of Surrey. On March 8, 2021, the City of Richmond terminated its service agreement with Vancouver Coastal Health for a number of services, including mosquito control. As a result, the City of Richmond requested that Metro Vancouver provide mosquito control services under the terms of the Metro Vancouver Nuisance Mosquito Control Program. A bylaw amendment is required to add the City of Richmond as a “Participating Area” under the bylaw.

The Board gave first, second and third readings to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Mosquito Control Service Amending Bylaw No. 1320, 2021* and directed staff to seek consent of at least two-thirds of the participating member municipalities to amend the service by adding the City of Richmond to the Metro Vancouver Nuisance Mosquito Control Program and, following that, to forward the aforementioned bylaw to the Inspector of Municipalities for approval.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries **RECEIVED**

The Board received information items and a delegation summary from standing committees.

Regional Parks Committee – April 7, 2021

Information Items:

5.4 Status of Regional Parks Capital Expenditures to December 31, 2020

The Capital Expenditure reporting process to Standing Committees and Boards provides for regular status updates on capital expenditures. This is the year-end report for 2020, which compares capital spending for the 2020 fiscal year to the annual budget. In 2020, annual capital expenditures for Regional Parks Services were \$7.5 million compared to an amended capital budget of \$19.9 million. All capital funding surplus will remain with Regional Parks and will be returned to its reserves to fund future capital.

Regional Planning Committee – April 9, 2021

Delegation Summaries:

3.1 Blaire Chisholm, Pooni Group

Information Items:

5.1 Metro 2050 Q1 2021 Status Update

This report presents the *Metro 2050* Q1 2021 update. Phase 1 of the development of *Metro 2050* is largely complete, and Phase 2, the development of draft policy language for *Metro 2050*, is well underway. In Q1

and Q2 of 2021, staff are working closely with the members of the Metro 2050 Intergovernmental Advisory Committee to draft the new and amended content for *Metro 2050*.

In accordance with the Board-directed project timeline, a full draft of *Metro 2050* will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee and MVRD Board at their respective meetings in June 2021, with a recommendation to refer the draft out for comment in Q3 and Q4.

Performance and Audit Committee – April 14, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 2020 Metro Vancouver Final Audit Findings Report

Under provincial legislation, an external audit must be undertaken annually for all Metro Vancouver Districts and the Housing Corporation. The attached report, prepared by Metro Vancouver’s external auditors, BDO Canada LLP Chartered Accountants, summarizes the results of the annual audit for fiscal year 2020.

5.4 Capital Program Expenditure Update as at December 31, 2020

Updates on the capital program and its expenditures are brought to the Committee to keep members informed on Metro Vancouver’s financial performance. This is the third and final report for the 2020 fiscal year. This report provides a summary of the 2020 actual capital spending compared to the Board approved Capital Cash Flow Budget as well as additional information and narrative by department regarding the spending variances.

For 2020, Metro Vancouver’s capital cash flow expenditures were approximately 62% of budgeted and were underspent by \$537.4 million. The underspend, primarily timing differences, is due to a variety of factors, including: impacts resulting from COVID-19 and additional planning, design and permitting requirements that delayed planned capital expenditures, as well as delays in awarding of contracts.

5.5 Semi-Annual Report on GVS&DD Development Cost Charges

GVS&DD Development Cost Charges (DCCs) collected in 2020 totalled \$62.9 million, up from \$60.2 million in the prior year. Development in the region continued to be strong despite COVID-19. Affordable housing development DCC waivers were approved in 2020 for a total of 415 units in the two sewer areas of Fraser and Vancouver, representing close to \$1.1 million in forgone DCC collections. Total DCCs held in deferred revenue reserve balances at December 31, 2020 were \$213.1 million (December 31, 2019 - \$227.6 million).

5.7 Investment Position and Returns – September 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021

The annualized return for Metro Vancouver’s investment portfolio in 2020 was 1.41% for short term, 2.40% for long term and 2.58% for the Cultural Reserve Fund. Total investment income in 2020 was \$15.4 million on an average portfolio balance of \$835.7 million. Investment performance has met expectations for the current period. Due to the timing of the Committee meeting, results and balance information have been included to the end of February 2021. Interest rates are expected to remain low for the balance of the year. Metro Vancouver’s overall rate of return will continue to be pressed lower in the near term as a significant portion of the portfolio will be placed in short-term products and held in cash for liquidity.

5.8 Tender/Contract Award Information – December 2020 to February 2021

During the period December 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021, the Purchasing and Risk Management Division issued 22 new contracts, each with a value in excess of \$500,000 (exclusive of taxes). In addition, there were nine existing contracts requiring contract amendments which necessitate further reporting to the Performance and Audit Committee. All awards and amendments were issued in accordance with the *Officers and Delegation Bylaws 1208, 284 and 247 – 2014* and the *Procurement and Real Property Contracting Authority Policy*.

5.9 Improving Metro Vancouver Financial Standing

With an aim to enhance strategic value to the organization and its stakeholders, the Financial Services Department is moving to focus on strategic and structural financial issues. While Metro Vancouver continues to maintain a solid financial position with a strong balance sheet and good indicators of financial health, there is opportunity to increase the level of sophistication of its financial policies and processes in order to match the challenging environment in which it operates, and the constantly evolving issues that need to be addressed. This work includes reviewing key policies and enhancing transparency through improved and more frequent reporting. Furthermore, this is an opportunity to increase the confidence that stakeholders have in Metro Vancouver’s financial management processes.

Climate Action Committee – April 16, 2021

Information Items:

5.2 Metro Vancouver Electric Vehicle Program Review and Recommendations

Accelerated electric vehicle (EV) adoption is a key greenhouse gas reduction opportunity in the region’s transportation sector, and Metro Vancouver’s EV Programs aim to increase EV uptake by educating residents and businesses to support implementation of the *Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap*. These programs include public outreach campaigns, online resources and workplace info sessions to promote public knowledge and use of EVs. At the end of 2020, staff completed a review of Metro Vancouver’s EV programs supported by a consultant evaluation. Short-term recommendations from this evaluation will be integrated in the 2021 work plan, with longer-term recommendations targeted for 2022 and future years. Due to COVID-19, regular programming has been impacted and staff are developing alternative program delivery strategies, as well as enhancements for ongoing program delivery in future years.

5.3 Feasibility of Targeted Invasive Plant Grazing in Metro Vancouver

With funding from the Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund, Metro Vancouver initiated Phase 1 of the “Targeted Invasive Plant Grazing” project by retaining a consultant to conduct a feasibility assessment of grazing as an herbicide-free invasive plant control option. The consultant concluded that targeted grazing could be as effective as hand pulling or mowing, with repeated treatments needed for long-term control. However, grazing would be logistically complex, two to four times costlier than mowing, and two to five times more carbon-intensive in this region, due to the need to transport herds from other areas of B.C. or Alberta.

The original intent of Phase 2 was to conduct a pilot in Aldergrove Regional Park in 2021, but given the results of Phase 1, staff will further assess feasibility by exploring whether:

a) a suitable trained local herd can be found, and b) the complex logistical requirements can be met on-site before initiating a pilot project.

Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation

E1.1 Audited 2020 Financial Statements

APPROVED

The 2020 Audited Financial Statements illustrate that Metro Vancouver is in a strong financial position with excellent liquidity and solid reserves. The statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards and have received an unqualified audit opinion by the external auditors, BDO Canada LLP.

The Board approved the Audited 2020 Financial Statements for the Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation.

Greater Vancouver Water District

E1.1 Audited 2020 Financial Statements

APPROVED

The 2020 Audited Financial Statements illustrate that Metro Vancouver is in a strong financial position with excellent liquidity and solid reserves. The statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards and have received an unqualified audit opinion by the external auditors, BDO Canada LLP.

The Board approved the Audited 2020 Financial Statements for the Greater Vancouver Water District.

E2.1 GVWD 2020 Water Quality Annual Report

RECEIVED

The *2020 Greater Vancouver Water District Water Quality Annual Report* is required, under the provincial Drinking Water Protection Regulation, and is also a requirement of the *Drinking Water Management Plan*. The annual report summarizes water quality analysis conducted on samples collected from the source reservoirs, in-system reservoirs, and transmission system.

The annual report outlines Metro Vancouver's water quality monitoring program and continues to fulfill its role in confirming that the multiple protection barriers for drinking water, including watershed protection, water treatment and the ongoing operation of the water system, continue to deliver excellent water quality to the region. In 2020, the water quality of the treated water was excellent. All water quality parameters analyzed met or exceeded water quality standards and the *Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality*.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.2 Seymour Salmonid Society's 2020 Annual Report for Greater Vancouver Water District**RECEIVED**

The Seymour Salmonid Society is a non-profit organization that operates the Seymour River Hatchery on GVWD land at the base of the Seymour Falls Dam. Metro Vancouver and the society have been partners since 1989. The partnership has influenced thousands of people through special events, K-12 programs, and area visitors in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve. The society has raised and released millions of salmon into the Seymour River and has worked collaboratively with GVWD on promoting stewardship of the Seymour River system. The GVWD has a current three-year (2021-2023) contribution agreement with the society for \$125,000 annually.

The funding provides for core hatchery and education program operating expenses. The Seymour Salmonid Society's *2020 Annual Report for Greater Vancouver Water District* provides an overview of the program in 2020.

The Board received the report for information.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries**RECEIVED**

The Board received information items from standing committees.

Water Committee – April 15, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 Water Services Capital Program Expenditure Update to December 31, 2020

The capital expenditure reporting process as approved by the Board provides for status reports on capital expenditures three times per year. This is the year-end report for 2020 which includes both the overall capital program for Water Services with a multi-year view of capital projects, and the actual capital spending for the 2020 fiscal year in comparison to the annual budget. In 2020 the annual capital expenditures for Water Services were \$249 million compared to annual capital budget of \$397.5 million. This shortfall is primarily due to project delays related to the timing of tenders, construction delays, and issues relating to COVID-19. Forecasted expenditures for the current Water Services capital program remain within the approved budgets through to completion.

5.4 Watering Regulations Communications and Regional Water Conservation Campaign for 2021

Water conservation is a major component of Metro Vancouver's planning to ensure the sustainable use of water resources. To support understanding of and compliance with water conservation policies and programs, as well as encourage personal pride in reduced water use, Metro Vancouver delivers annual region-wide water conservation campaigns. Metro Vancouver will communicate the May 1–October 15 watering regulations starting April 26 via social media and promotional materials distributed to member jurisdictions for public education and enforcement throughout the summer season. The annual We Love Water campaign will emphasize water source and system awareness starting May 17, and will promote outdoor water conservation information July 5–September 5. A targeted media buy will include television, radio, outdoor and digital promotions all leading to the website.

Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

E1.1 Audited 2020 Financial Statements

APPROVED

The 2020 Audited Financial Statements illustrate that Metro Vancouver is in a strong financial position with excellent liquidity and solid reserves. The statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards and have received an unqualified audit opinion by the external auditors, BDO Canada LLP.

The Board approved the Audited 2020 Financial Statements for the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District.

E2.1 Contract Amendment to AECOM Canada Ltd. for Owner’s Engineer Advisory Services for North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant

APPROVED

In May 2015, the Board authorized the award of engineering consulting services for the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant project to AECOM Canada Ltd for an amount totaling \$20,068,395 (including additional change orders). The project has been extended by 2.5 years and staff recommended amending AECOM’s contract in an amount of \$7,118,094.

Including future Phase 4 (for Handover and Warranty Period efforts as previously negotiated but not yet awarded) the contract total is anticipated to be \$28,363,758 (exclusive of taxes). AECOM has proven they provide significant value to the project and are critical to Metro Vancouver’s oversight team to ensure compliance with the project agreement and a treatment plant that meets the expectations of Metro Vancouver.

The Board authorized a contract amendment in the amount of \$7,118,094 (exclusive of taxes) to AECOM Canada Ltd. for the provision of owner’s engineering consulting services for the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant project, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E3.1 2021 Liquid Waste Capital Projects

RECEIVED

The Board received for information a report regarding the location of the different projects that were approved as part of the 2021 capital budget.

E3.2 Award of Phase C2, Engineering Construction Services for RFP 14-230 for Installation of Gilbert Trunk Sewer No. 2 South Section

APPROVED

The Board approved the award of Phase C2, Engineering Construction Services, for an amount up to \$2,548,446 (exclusive of taxes) to the Phase A and B consultant, AECOM Canada Ltd, for the Installation of Gilbert Trunk Sewer No. 2 South Section, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E4.1 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposal No. 20-016: Organics Management at the North Shore Transfer Station

APPROVED

The Board approved award of a five-year contract in the amount of up to \$17,428,425 (exclusive of taxes) to Arrow Transportation Systems Inc., resulting from Request for Proposal No. 20-016: Organics Management at the North Shore Transfer Station, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

Furthermore, the Board also recommended a review of Metro Vancouver’s procurement process to better incorporate Metro Vancouver’s stated values and strategic plan visions (including transitioning towards a circular economy, strengthening relationships with First Nations, food security, supporting local economies, and reducing GHG emissions).

Finally, the Board directed staff to report back with options for the development of a permanent local organics management facility to be in place prior to the end of the contract, on July 1, 2026, resulting from the proposal No. 20-016: Organics Management at the North Shore Transfer Station.

E4.2 Recycling Depot Funding Strategy

APPROVED

An updated funding strategy has been proposed for recycling depots at Metro Vancouver’s recycling and waste centres, recognizing the contribution of municipally operated depots to the regional system.

The proposed funding strategy would distribute costs across system users by incorporating the costs of operating the recycling depots into the garbage tipping fee. At the same time, municipalities that fund municipal recycling depots would receive an annual garbage tipping fee credit. Staff would work to accommodate any increases in tipping fees within current 2021-2025 Financial Plan projections for tipping fee increases.

The Board directed staff to prepare proposed amendments to be incorporated into the annual update to the *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Tipping Fee and Solid Waste Disposal Regulation Bylaw No. 306, 2017*.

G1.1 Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw No. 344, 2021

APPROVED

The regional sewer development cost charges (DCCs) are governed under the *GVS&DD Act* and were introduced in 1997, pursuant to the philosophy that “growth pays for growth.” Funds received through the collection of DCCs are set aside as deferred revenue in reserve accounts on a sewerage area basis for the funding of growth capital projects. This use of DCC revenue funding reduces the reliance on the sewer levy, which is generated directly from the GVS&DD’s member jurisdictions.

Under the Act, transfers of any revenues collected out of the DCC reserve funds can only be for the purposes intended and must be authorized by bylaw. The 2020 budget contemplated the transfer of DCC revenues collected to meet actual debt charge and capital funding requirements related to the liquid waste growth capital program.

In total, \$81.7 million of DCCs were applied for the 2020 year over the four defined sewerage areas. Total DCCs held in deferred revenue reserve balances as at December 31, 2019 were \$213.1 million.

The Board gave first, second and third readings to *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw No. 344, 2021*; then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

RECEIVED

The Board received information items and a delegation summary from standing committees.

Liquid Waste Committee – April 15, 2021

Information Items:

5.2 Liquid Waste Services Capital Program Expenditure Update as at December 31, 2020

The capital expenditure reporting process as approved by the GVS&DD Board provides for status reports on capital expenditures three times per year. This is the year-end report for 2020 which includes both the overall capital program for Liquid Waste Services with a multi-year view of capital projects and the actual capital spending for the 2020 fiscal year in comparison to the annual budget.

In 2020 the annual capital expenditures for Liquid Waste Services were \$575.8 million compared to annual capital budget of \$883.4 million. This shortfall is primarily due to project delays related to the timing of tenders, construction delays, and issues relating to COVID-19.

Forecasted expenditures for the current Liquid Waste Services capital program generally remain within the approved budgets through to completion.

Zero Waste Committee – April 16, 2021

Information Items:

5.3 Solid Waste Services Capital Program Expenditure Update as of December 31, 2020

The capital expenditure reporting process, as approved by the Board, provides for status reports on capital expenditures three times per year. This is the year-end report for 2020, which includes both the overall capital program for Solid Waste Services with a multi-year view of capital projects and the actual capital spending for the 2020 fiscal year compared to the annual budget. In 2020, annual capital expenditures for Solid Waste Services were \$41.2 million compared to a capital budget of \$88.5 million. The underspend is primarily due to timing of construction expenditures for the United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre and Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre projects, which are currently in progress. Expenditures originally budgeted in 2020 were re-budgeted for 2021 and are expected to be fully spent.

5.4 Regional Single-Use Item Reduction Campaign Launch

A regional single-use item reduction behaviour change campaign will launch on May 31, 2021. The objective is to reduce the use and disposal of single-use items in Metro Vancouver through voluntary reduction. The target audience is Metro Vancouver residents aged 18-44. Research showed that reducing single-use items was perceived as important but difficult, and guilt is not a motivator. The Superhabits campaign celebrates the small actions that you take to reduce single use items, which make you an everyday superhero. Research showed that safety during COVID-19 is the priority, but responsible action is still important to the audience.

Flexibility is built into the campaign plan to change course as needed in response to COVID-19. Concurrently, Metro Vancouver is collaborating with members to determine how best to support harmonization of single-use item reduction bylaws across the region and plan to present the recommended approach for Board approval in coming months.