

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 31, 2024

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: media@metrovancover.org.

Special Joint Board Meeting

B1 May 31, 2024 Board Budget Workshop: 2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration — Separated Motion **APPROVED**

The MVRD Board directed staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

B1 May 31, 2024 Board Budget Workshop: 2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration — Separated Motion **APPROVED**

The MVHC Board directed staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

B1 May 31, 2024 Board Budget Workshop: 2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration — Separated Motion **APPROVED**

The GVWD Board directed staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025-2029 Financial Plan.

B1 May 31, 2024 Board Budget Workshop: 2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration — Separated Motion **APPROVED**

The GVS&DD Board directed staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025-2029 Financial Plan by allocating the \$2.8 billion required to complete the NSWWTP Program according to Option 3 from Table 6 in the report. The GVS&DD Board also directed staff to phase in the costs over five years for the North Shore Sewerage Area and over one year for the remaining sewerage areas.

Metro Vancouver Regional District

E1.1 Regional Parks 2023 Annual Report **RECEIVED**

In 2023, Regional Parks continued to protect natural areas and connect people to nature, progressing towards the vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that continues to provide important climate, health, and other benefits to park visitors and the wider region. There were 14.5 million visits to regional parks and greenways with records set at four locations.

In 2023, 49,828 people took part in 578 programs, events, and outreach activities, while 4,747 volunteers and park partners contributed 18,022 hours to stewardship, education activities, and interpretive programs

and events. Ninety-nine hectares of land were added to the regional parks system while staff advanced numerous planning, design, and asset management initiatives.

The Board received the report for the information.

E2.1 Reducing Regional Air Contaminant Emissions from Small Non-Road Equipment **APPROVED**

Small non-road equipment used in landscaping and light industrial applications — such as leaf blowers and lawn mowers — generates air contaminants that are harmful to human health and the environment. Across the region, the amount of health-harming air contaminants produced from this sector is about half as much as the nearly 1.5 million light-duty vehicles in the region. Staff have had initial conversations with industry associations, equipment manufacturers, member municipalities, and the provincial government about reducing air contaminant emissions from small non-road equipment through the transition to emission-free alternatives. By July 2023, over 1,200 residents and professionals had responded to an information-gathering questionnaire from Metro Vancouver.

Electric equipment is growing in popularity, availability, and performance, and has the benefit of reducing harmful emissions and noise. A feasibility study is under way to identify types of equipment ready for the transition. Metro Vancouver’s member jurisdictions have expressed interest in a regional approach based on Metro Vancouver’s authority to manage air quality. Engagement with interested audiences would inform the development of a supportive framework for this transition, and would include a dialogue on a potential regulatory approach that could expedite the transition. After the engagement, staff will present a summary of feedback and recommendations for the Board’s consideration and further direction.

The Board directed staff to engage with interested audiences on options for developing a supportive framework and potential requirements to reduce health-harming air contaminant emissions from small non-road equipment.

E2.2 BC Utilities Commission Decisions and Local Government Interests in the Energy Transition **RECEIVED**

Decisions recently issued by the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) for three proceedings in which Metro Vancouver participated (FortisBC’s long-term resource plan, BC Hydro’s long-term resource plan, and FortisBC’s renewable natural gas (RNG) program) were generally aligned with the positions taken by the local government interveners. In these proceedings Metro Vancouver advocated for fairness in energy rates and coordinated long-term planning. Both of the utilities’ long-term plans were accepted, but the BCUC did not resolve the need for coordinated energy planning between BC Hydro and FortisBC.

The BC Government has communicated, in responses to letters from the Board, that a forthcoming Climate Aligned Energy Framework for BC is expected to address this concern. In the RNG proceeding, the BCUC denied a RNG connections service for new construction due to an unfair rate subsidized by existing ratepayers.

Metro Vancouver’s participation in this proceeding highlighted the value of local government input to provincial energy planning. Staff will continue to seek opportunities for provincial input and advocacy to encourage alignment with regional policies.

The Board received the report for information and directed staff to forward a copy of the report to the mayors and council members of each Metro Vancouver member jurisdiction.

E2.3 Best Practices in Energy and Emissions Benchmarking and Reporting for Existing Large Buildings **REFERRED**

At its January 2024 meeting, the Board chose not to proceed with engagement on a potential regulatory approach to phase in emissions limits for existing large buildings. In response to the Board’s expressed concerns about the approach, including impacts on affordability, staff have been exploring alternative means to support large buildings in the energy transition with an aim to protecting human health and reducing energy waste and associated costs. With the rise in extreme heat events and cold snaps in the region in recent years, every building needs a plan to improve energy efficiency, safeguard occupant health and comfort, and reduce emissions.

Experience in over 60 North American jurisdictions demonstrates that building benchmarking and reporting requirements are a well-accepted practice that can enable these benefits. Benchmarking consists of tracking a building’s energy and emissions performance over time and comparing it with other similar buildings so that owners have more information about their building’s performance. Benchmarking and reporting requirements have become a common approach for jurisdictions seeking to support building owners to retrofit their buildings. Staff will use feedback on this report to seek future direction from the MVRD Board on exploring options for energy and emissions benchmarking and reporting requirements in existing large buildings.

The Board referred the report to the September MVRD Board meeting

E3.1 Metro 2050 Climate Policy Enhancement Study – Recommendations **APPROVED**

The Board directed staff to prepare a bylaw to amend *Metro 2050* for consideration based on the following recommendations:

- develop a revised definition for the regional Rural land use designation
- encourage the development of local hazard and risk data that meets key requirements
- add new climate-related performance monitoring metrics
- increase intersection density and permeability of the urban street grid

E3.2 2024 Agriculture Awareness Grant Recommendations **APPROVED**

The Board awarded the annual Agriculture Awareness Grants in the total amount of \$55,000 as follows:

- BC Agriculture in the Classroom, for “Take a Bite of BC” in the amount of \$4,725
- BC Agriculture Council, for “Speak Up Training” in the amount of \$3,000
- Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust, for “Day at the Farm” in the amount of \$2,000
- Earthwise Society, for “Tomato Festival” in the amount of \$2,500
- Environmental Youth Alliance, for “Plant Gifts for Community Project” in the amount of \$4,725

- Farm Folk/City Folk, for “Days on the Farm” in the amount of \$4,725
- Fraser North Farmers Market Society, for “The Farmers Who Feed You” in the amount of \$3,400
- Growing Chef’s Society, for “Classroom Gardening & Cooking Program” in the amount of \$3,000
- Hives for Humanity, for “Knowing Our Soils” in the amount of \$5,500
- KPU Foundation, for “Productive Agroforestry Demonstrations Serving Metro Vancouver” in the amount of \$2,500
- Langley Environmental Partners Society, for “Langley Eats Local” in the amount of \$3,000
- BC Chicken Growers, for “Poultry in Motion School and PNE Attendance” in the amount of \$3,500
- Public Health Association of BC, for “Farm to School BC Celebration Farm Field Trips” in the amount of \$1,375
- The Sharing Farm, for “14th Annual Garlic Fest” in the amount of \$3,000
- Trinity Grace, for “Farm-to-Plate Marketplace” in the amount of \$5,050
- UBC Centre for Sustainable Food Systems, for “Agriculture, Food Systems and Food Justice: A Leadership Program for Youth” in the amount of \$3,000

E3.3 Metro 2050 Implementation Guideline – Regional Liquid Waste Services Planning **APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver is developing and updating a suite of implementation guidelines to support the interpretation and implementation of *Metro 2050*. A new Regional Liquid Waste Services Planning Implementation Guideline has just been completed; it is intended to help planners and engineers from member jurisdictions better understand the relationship between anticipated population growth and regional liquid waste infrastructure planning. The implementation guideline provides guidance on when and what type of growth-related data from Regional Planning and member jurisdictions is required to better plan for long-term regional liquid waste infrastructure needed to service such growth.

The Board endorsed the implementation guideline as presented.

E4.1 Alternative Funding Models for E911 and NG911 **APPROVED**

At the Mayors Committee meeting on February 1, 2023, members directed staff to explore potential funding options through the Canadian Radio Telecommunications Commission to offset increased E-Comm costs, including mobile phone user fees. Staff have reviewed this issue and recommend working with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to explore alternative funding models to cover all costs associated with E911 and NG911.

The Board directed staff to work with UBCM to explore alternative funding models for E911 and NG911 services including, but not limited to, a cellphone levy.

E5.1 Electoral Area A Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan **APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver is the local authority responsible for emergency management in Electoral Area A. The majority of rural and remote communities in Electoral Area A (those outside of UBC and the University Endowment Lands) are either within or adjacent to vegetated/forested landscapes that are susceptible to wildfires. None of these areas are covered by a fire service. To help Metro Vancouver understand how to

reduce the wildfire risk to these communities, B.A. Blackwell & Associates Ltd. was contracted in June 2023 to complete a *Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan* that follows a standard provincial template based on FireSmart disciplines. The Plan contains 35 recommendations for Metro Vancouver to consider. The recommendations fall into the following categories:

- Education (residents, administration, visitors)
- Legislation, Planning, and Development
- Interagency Cooperation
- Cross-Training and Wildfire Response Resources (training and equipment)
- Emergency Planning
- Vegetation Management

The recommendations and action items should be considered a toolbox of options to help reduce the wildfire risk and consequence to the rural and remote communities within Electoral Area A. Considering limited Metro Vancouver staff and budget resources, staff recommend seeking grant funding from the Province and preparing an implementation plan to prioritize the plan’s recommendations.

The Board:

- Endorsed the *Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan* for Electoral Area A (excluding UBC and the University Endowment Lands) for the purposes of *MVRD Open Burning Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1355, 2022*
- Directed staff to apply for a FireSmart Community Funding and Support grant to help implement the plan, and to confirm Metro Vancouver will provide overall grant management
- Directed staff to prioritize the proposed recommendations and action items in the *Electoral Area A Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan*, and to bring an implementation plan back to the Electoral Area Committee and MVRD Board for consideration.

E5.2 Electoral Area A Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Provincial Housing Legislation

APPROVED

In November 2023, the Province passed legislation to stimulate the infill and intensification of housing in single-detached neighbourhoods and transit-oriented areas throughout BC. For the rural and remote areas of Electoral Area A where Metro Vancouver has local land-use planning jurisdiction (i.e. zoning and official community plan bylaws), the *Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act, 2023* requires all single-family and duplex residential zones to allow for secondary suites and/or accessory dwelling units. The *Electoral Area A Zoning Bylaw* already allows this, and therefore complies with the new housing legislation. However, staff have identified revisions to related regulations in the zoning bylaw that would improve alignment with provincial policy guidance for zoning bylaw regulation best practices, and therefore propose the minor amendments summarized in this report. Because no public hearing will be held for this bylaw, Metro Vancouver is required to give notice and allow for the public to submit comments prior to consideration of first reading.

The Board directed staff to prepare a bylaw and give notice that a public hearing will not be held in accordance with section 464(2) of the *Local Government Act*.

E6.1 Regional Talent Accelerator: Workforce Development Needs Assessment and Opportunities

APPROVED

It is essential that a strong pipeline of skilled workers is readily available to support investment growth and prosperity in the Metro Vancouver region. The region’s workforce must meet the immediate and future talent needs of a global economy. It is reported that the province is facing a labour market shortage in key industries. Addressing the risks associated with a skills shortage is crucial for the region’s economic prosperity.

A regional talent accelerator is intended to be a workforce development centre of excellence that will work with employers, investors, levels of governments, and training providers to deliver customized real-time training solutions to build the workforce and provide a foundation for a stronger economy. The concept for a regional talent accelerator was developed as a result of research, stakeholder engagement, industry feedback, and a direction from the Invest Vancouver Management Board. To execute this workforce development solution, this report proposes that a business plan and an outreach and engagement strategy are needed to further develop the workforce development strategy, secure external partnerships, and identify a sustainable funding model.

The Board directed staff to develop a business plan for a regional talent accelerator with the support of additional resources contingent through the budget process, and directed staff to develop an outreach and engagement strategy to secure external support and identify a sustainable funding model for the regional talent accelerator.

E6.2 High-Tech Sector in the Metro Vancouver Region

RECEIVED

The Metro Vancouver Region’s High-Tech Engine: Boosting the Economic Landscape report is complete. The region is home to an emerging technology hub, which encompasses digital media and entertainment, life sciences, high-tech goods, and high-tech services. The sector’s employment grew by 75 per cent from 2009 to 2021, faster than the 33 per cent growth in the broader regional economy during the same period. Investment activity highlights the array of specializations thriving in the region. Occupations data confirms the presence of concentrations of skilled workers and provide compelling evidence of regional competitive advantages.

The report found that while scoring well on many factors critical to international firms looking to expand, including access to talent, established clusters, and competitive costs, these advantages are still not widely recognized globally, underscoring the need to promote the region’s technology sector. The adoption of Artificial Intelligence could create further competitive advantages and spur economic development in the region if combined with expertise in domains such as mining, construction, and health care.

The Board received the report for information.

E6.3 Investment Attraction Update

RECEIVED

In the first quarter of 2024, Invest Vancouver received 32 new expressions of interest in the Metro Vancouver region. The net result is a current roster of 112 companies that have expressed an interest in the region, representing 2,612 jobs and \$2.8 billion in potential direct investment. In the first quarter, Wayve, a UK-based company, announced that it has chosen the region to expand its international operations, bringing over \$18 million in direct investment to the regional economy and generating 20 local jobs. They are considering Vancouver for their first office. Companies that expressed an interest came from a variety of sources, including partner referrals and Invest Vancouver’s in-market activities. The second quarter is expected to include similar activity.

The Board received the report for information

E6.4 Global Promotion and Regional Collaboration

RECEIVED

Invest Vancouver continues to grow its reach through various promotional channels and collaboration initiatives. Aligned with the Invest Vancouver Management Board 2024 Work Plan and the 2024 Annual Plan, Invest Vancouver continues to leverage digital platforms and foster partnership opportunities to bolster economic development. Overall, Invest Vancouver's strategic approach to global promotion and regional collaboration underscores its commitment to fostering economic growth and global connectivity in the region.

Invest Vancouver effectively uses owned digital channels, including social media, website, and newsletter, to reach both a local and global audience. In 2023, Invest Vancouver achieved growth across its digital channels, including a doubling of LinkedIn followers, a 39 per cent increase in website visits, and an email open rate that doubles the industry average. Additionally, Invest Vancouver engaged in 20 regional collaborations, driving awareness and engagement, enhancing the regional economic development ecosystem, elevating industry hubs, increasing capacity and global connectedness, and catalyzing innovation.

The Board received the report for information

E7.1 Metro Vancouver External Agency Activities Status Report – May 2024

RECEIVED

The Board received for information the following submissions from Metro Vancouver representatives to external organizations:

- Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Delta Heritage Airpark Management Committee
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board
- Ocean Watch Action Committee
-  (Katzie First Nation) Treaty Negotiation Table
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- Municipal Finance Authority of BC
- National Zero Waste Council
- Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation

- Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Board of Trustees
- Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee
- Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee
- Union of BC Municipalities – Indigenous Relations Committee
- Union of BC Municipalities
- Western Transportation Advisory Council
- Zero Emissions Innovation Centre

E7.2 Alternative Approval Process for MVRD Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1381, 2024 **APPROVED**

On May 3, 2024, the Vancouver Sun failed to publish the first of two statutorily required notices for the alternate approval process (AAP) for *MVRD Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1381, 2024*. Notices must now be published on June 4 and June 11, with a new certification date of July 12, 2024.

The Board re-established the deadline for receiving responses for the AAP and approved the revised elector response form.

G1.1 MVRD Regional Parks Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1384, 2024 – Amends Bylaw No. 1177, 2012 **APPROVED**

In February 2024, the Board approved a pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in designated areas of six regional parks from Friday, June 28 to Monday, October 14, during park hours.

Staff prepared a bylaw amendment to enable the implementation of the pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in regional parks.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Parks Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1384, 2024*; then adopted it.

G1.2 MVRD Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Bylaw No. 1385, 2024 **APPROVED**

In March 2024, the Board approved a pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in designated areas of six regional parks from Friday, June 28, 2024 to Monday, October 14, 2024, during park hours.

The Province of British Columbia has jurisdiction over possession and consumption of liquor. The *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* makes it unlawful for people to possess open liquor or consume liquor in a number of places, including parks, that are not private places; however, the province has delegated authority to regional districts and other local governments to, by bylaw, designate public places where liquor may be consumed, and it has prescribed how this must be done.

This bylaw ensures compliance with the Province’s requirements and enables the implementation of the Board-approved pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in six regional parks in 2024.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Bylaw No. 1385, 2024*; then adopted said bylaw.

G2.1 Metro Vancouver Regional District Remuneration Bylaw Update

RECEIVED

The current remuneration bylaw was adopted in 2007 and includes outdated references to the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the one-third non-accountable allowance for elected officials’ work-related expenses, which was eliminated by federal legislation enacted in 2017, and in effect since January 1, 2019. A new remuneration bylaw is proposed to repeal and replace Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Board and Committee Remuneration Bylaw Number 1057, 2007 to ensure consistency with current legislation and improve ease of interpretation and application. Changes also include to meeting fee caps and meeting eligibility for the Board Chair and Board Vice Chair. There are no changes to remuneration rates or the method or schedule for determining remuneration rates.

The Board received the bylaw for information.

G3.1 Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1376, 2024 – City of Maple Ridge (Yennadon Lands)

APPROVED

In January 2024, the Board initiated a Type 2 amendment to *Metro 2050*, and gave first, second, and third readings to an amending bylaw to redesignate 22913 127 Avenue, 22992 127 Avenue, 22870 127 Place, 22948 128 Avenue, 22990 128 Avenue, 23008 128 Avenue, 23154 128 Avenue, 12640 228 Street, 12639 232 Street, 12685 232 Street, 12759 232 Street, 12761 232 Street, and 12791 232 Street from General Urban and Agricultural to Industrial and Conservation and Recreation to accommodate future industrial uses and protect an area for nature on a 25.4 hectare site. The bylaw would also adjust the Urban Containment Boundary to include 23154 128 Avenue and 12791 232 Street (approximately two hectares).

As required by the *Local Government Act* and *Metro 2050*, Metro Vancouver notified affected local governments, local First Nations, and other regional agencies of the proposed amendment to provide an opportunity for comment. Eleven responses were received, with a majority expressing either support or no objection. One public comment was also received through the Metro Vancouver website expressing support.

The Board received for information the comments from the affected local governments and agencies as presented, then adopted *Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1376, 2024*.

H1 Notice of Motion

RECEIVED

Director Buchanan provided the following Notice of Motion on May 17, 2024 for consideration at the May 31, 2024 MVRD Board Meeting:

That the MVRD Board direct staff to:

- create a substantive budget engagement process that includes:
 - newspaper ads
 - direct mailers
 - online submissions portal
 - a comprehensive budget information page on Metro Vancouver’s website
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions on the budget for all areas served by Metro Vancouver
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions explaining the budget impacts of the WWTP to those most heavily impacted
- before completion of the budget, report back to the Board with a summary of the engagement activities and feedback by sewer region, including how public engagement changed and improved the budget, Metro’s work plan, and budget allocations

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items and delegation summaries from standing committees as follows.

Regional Planning Committee – May 10, 2024

Delegation Summaries:

C1 Greg Moore

Subject: *Metro 2050* Climate Policy Enhancement Study – Recommendations

Mayors Committee – May 16, 2024

Information Items:

E2 Smart Waste Program and Draft Tipping Fee Bylaw Updates

Metro Vancouver’s robust policy and regulatory framework is a key contributor to Metro Vancouver’s North America-leading waste reduction and recycling success, and its competitive, tipping-fee-funded, cost-effective solid waste system.

In 2023, Metro Vancouver introduced two initiatives to support compliance with the generator levy’s provisions: the smart waste program and draft updates to the *Tipping Fee Bylaw*. Since 2018, the generator levy ensures that all generators of garbage in the region contribute to the cost of the regional solid waste system, and encourages the use of Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver solid waste facilities where recycling is promoted through disposal bans.

Metro Vancouver engaged interested parties on the draft *Tipping Fee Bylaw* updates and the smart waste program. Feedback informed further revisions to the draft bylaw updates, as well as the development of a smart waste program implementation plan. Next steps include initiating the smart waste program annual device testing, and bringing the proposed *Tipping Fee Bylaw* updates to the Zero Waste Committee and GVS&DD Board for consideration.

Metro Vancouver Housing

H1 Notice of Motion

RECEIVED

Director Buchanan provided the following Notice of Motion on May 17, 2024 for consideration at the May 31, 2024 MVHC Board Meeting:

That the MVHC Board direct staff to:

- create a substantive budget engagement process that includes:
 - newspaper ads
 - direct mailers
 - online submissions portal
 - a comprehensive budget information page on Metro Vancouver’s website
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions on the budget for all areas served by Metro Vancouver
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions explaining the budget impacts of the WWTP to those most heavily impacted
- before completion of the budget, report back to the Board with a summary of the engagement activities and feedback by sewer region, including how public engagement changed and improved the budget, Metro’s work plan, and budget allocations

Greater Vancouver Water District

H1 Notice of Motion

RECEIVED

Director Buchanan provided the following Notice of Motion on May 17, 2024 for consideration at the May 31, 2024 GVWD Board Meeting:

That the GVWD Board direct staff to:

- create a substantive budget engagement process that includes:
 - newspaper ads
 - direct mailers
 - online submissions portal
 - a comprehensive budget information page on Metro Vancouver’s website
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions on the budget for all areas served by Metro Vancouver
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions explaining the budget impacts of the WWTP to those most heavily impacted
- before completion of the budget, report back to the Board with a summary of the engagement activities and feedback by sewer region, including how public engagement changed and improved the budget, Metro’s work plan, and budget allocations

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items from a standing committee.

Water Committee – May 8, 2024

Information Items:

E1 Water Services Annual Wildfire Preparedness Update

Metro Vancouver provides high-quality drinking water through its member jurisdictions for 2.8 million residents in the Lower Mainland. An integral component of protecting source water quality is ensuring the forested lands surrounding the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam reservoirs remain intact and protected from wildfires. The water supply areas have a historically low incidence of wildfire largely due to maintaining a restricted access management approach. With this approach, the primary risk of wildfire remains lightning strikes during periods of moderate to extreme fire danger. To ensure fires are discovered and extinguished quickly, staff use patrols, near real-time lightning maps, local smoke reports from the public or air traffic, and rapid crew deployment and response.

Water Services Wildfire Protection Program staff have expertise in wildfire management, specialized equipment for monitoring and strategic deployment, and proven, strong interagency relationships with the provincial wildfire service and local fire departments to ensure fire season readiness.

E2 Water Supply Update for Summer 2024

Metro Vancouver’s source reservoirs get filled every winter and spring by precipitation and snowmelt, and the water needs to last through the summer and into fall. The reservoirs are currently at normal seasonal levels and Metro Vancouver has taken proactive steps, including beginning summer water storage operations earlier than usual, to maximize water storage ahead of the dry season. In the summer, daily water use in Metro Vancouver can increase by more than 50 per cent, largely due to lawn watering. Reducing outdoor water use saves water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning, and makes it less likely that restrictions will have to be escalated. Metro Vancouver will continue to proactively monitor the snowpack, weather, and regional drinking water use trends, and manage the infrastructure that delivers the drinking water supply as needed.

The overall rate of decline of the region’s average daily water use has slowed in recent years, emphasizing that water conservation remains vitally important. Proactive public education supported by robust local government enforcement is also key to managing the increased demand on the drinking water system in the summer, which is driven by outdoor use.

E3 GVWD Supply System 2023 Annual Update

This report summarizes key initiatives undertaken in 2023 by the GVWD, and was prepared following the Ministry of Health’s Guide for Communicating with Water Users and provides transparent and proactive communication with water users. It also promotes awareness of the drinking water program, one of the six elements of Health Canada’s Multi-Barrier Approach to Safe Drinking Water.

It takes a tremendous amount of effort to ensure the continued and uninterrupted delivery of billions of litres of high-quality drinking water to the 2.8 million residents and businesses that call this region home. The report includes information about the extensive water quality sampling and testing done annually, water system risk mitigation, long-term infrastructure planning, and water conservation programs. In addition, the report summarizes some of GVWD’s priority maintenance and capital projects completed to increase resiliency and accommodate the region’s growing population.

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District

G1.1 GVS&DD Notice of Bylaw Violation Enforcement and Dispute Adjudication Bylaw APPROVED

This proposed bylaw introduces the option of issuing financial penalties for select bylaw contraventions and is designed to change behaviours and encourage compliance with the existing GVS&DD bylaws that protect our regional wastewater system. Metro Vancouver has sought this authority for decades. Affected stakeholders have been informed of the proposed bylaw.

This bylaw allows enforcement officers to issue Notices of Bylaw Violation as an additional enforcement mechanism to encourage compliance with Metro Vancouver’s six liquid waste regulatory bylaws. The change brings the GVS&DD in line with the Metro Vancouver Regional District, which has had authority to enforce its regional parks, air quality, and electoral area bylaws since 2010.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Notice of Bylaw Violation Enforcement and Dispute Adjudication Bylaw 378, 2024*, then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

H1 Notice of Motion RECEIVED

Director Buchanan provided the following Notice of Motion on May 17, 2024 for consideration at the May 31, 2024 GVS&DD Board Meeting:

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to:

- create a substantive budget engagement process that includes:
 - newspaper ads
 - direct mailers
 - online submissions portal
 - a comprehensive budget information page on Metro Vancouver’s website
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions on the budget for all areas served by Metro Vancouver
 - community stakeholder and resident sessions explaining the budget impacts of the WWTP to those most heavily impacted
- before completion of the budget, report back to the Board with a summary of the engagement activities and feedback by sewer region, including how public engagement changed and improved the budget, Metro’s work plan, and budget allocations

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items and delegation summaries from standing committees as follows.

Zero Waste Committee – May 9, 2024

Delegations:

C1 Sue Maxwell – Chair, Zero Waste BC

Subject: Case Study on Results of the Previous Integrated Solid Waste & Resource Management Plan

Information Items:

E1 North Surrey and Langley Recycling Depots – Project Update

Metro Vancouver is building two new recycling depots at existing recycling and waste centres. Free recycling depots will be added ahead of the scales at the North Surrey and Langley recycling and waste centres. These new facilities will complete the implementation of consistent free recycling service across all the Metro Vancouver recycling and waste centres.

E2 2024 Food Scraps Recycling Campaign “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” Results

The 2024 “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” campaign ran from January 15 to March 10. The campaign’s objective is to increase the diversion of organic waste into the green bin. The target audience is people living in apartments and condos (couples age 25 – 34 and men 65+), who tend to use their greens bin less than people living in houses. Knowing that people tend to conform to the perceived norm in their community, the strategy was to communicate that using the green bin is now the common and accepted behaviour in the region. The campaign performed strongly, with 16.1 million impressions, over 640,000 reach, 4,350 social media engagements, and high recall among the target audience segments (17 – 25 per cent). The campaign will run again in early 2025.