

**For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 27, 2022**

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](mailto:media@metrovancover.org).

**Metro Vancouver Regional District**

**E1.1 Overview of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan, 2022–2027** **RECEIVED**

This report summarizes the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan, 2022–2027*, which was released by the Province on March 30, 2022. In addition to providing background on the *Declaration Act* and related *Action Plan*, this report highlights actions relevant to local governments, and discusses both implications for and ongoing items already addressed by Metro Vancouver. The *Action Plan* will affect local governments, including advancing First Nations’ participation in regional district boards, increasing support for urban Indigenous organizations, and reviewing the naming of municipalities and regional districts. The Province will produce annual reports on progress made to implement the *Action Plan*. In the meantime, the next steps for Metro Vancouver will be to disseminate this report to internal departments, and to educate and speak with staff about various actions in the *Action Plan* and their applicability to the work of the regional district.

The Board received the report for information.

**E1.2 External Agency Status Report for the Katzie Treaty Negotiation Table** **RECEIVED**

This report provides an overview of the Katzie treaty table negotiation efforts over the past six months including: background on Katzie First Nation, information on the First Nation’s Statement of Intent area, the status of negotiations, and the roles and responsibilities of the local government representative sitting at the treaty table.

The Board received the report for information.

**E2.1 2021 Statement of Financial Information** **APPROVED**

The Financial Information Act is provincial legislation that requires local governments to annually submit to the Board for approval the *Statement of Financial Information Report (SOFI)*. The SOFI consists of a series of statements and schedules, three of which are an integral part of the 2021 annual audited financial statements which were approved by the Board on April 29, 2022. These schedules include payments of remuneration and expenses for elected officials and employees, and payments to suppliers for goods and services.

The remuneration for elected officials in 2021 was \$1.4 million, 9.9 per cent lower than the prior year, as the prior year included retroactive adjustments to remuneration calculated from January 2019.

Total remuneration for employees in 2021 was \$185.5 million, 11.1 per cent higher than 2020, largely a result of general labour adjustments from collective agreement settlements, including two years of retroactive pay calculated from January 2020.

The Board approved the *Statement of Financial Information* for the year ended December 31, 2021 as presented.

**E2.2 Electronic Meeting Participation Policy**

**APPROVED**

An updated Board policy was presented to formalize the procedures that have taken place over the course of the past two years. It establishes procedures for the administration of, and participation at, electronic Board and committee meetings, addressing attendance and quorum; remote location requirements; how to obtain the floor; voting; confidentiality and unauthorized access; conflict of interest; and technology issues.

The Board approved the *Electronic Meeting Participation Policy* as presented and rescinded the *Electronic Meetings and Participation by Members Guideline*.

**E2.3 External Organization Appointment Policy**

**APPROVED**

At its May 12, 2022 meeting, the Finance Committee considered a draft policy setting out the process for Board appointments to external organizations. It outlines the two types of organizations to which Metro Vancouver appoints, nomination methods to do so, and requirements for eligibility, term limits, equity, reporting, and privacy. It confirms the Board makes appointment decisions, and lays out the process to follow.

**E2.4 Sponsorship Policy Amendments**

**APPROVED**

A report presented to the April 29, 2022 Board meeting directed staff to bring forward proposed amendments to the *Sponsorship Policy* in response to Invest Vancouver’s unique role as an economic development leadership service. The proposed amendments would exempt Invest Vancouver from the application and review procedure for sponsorships with a total value of more than \$1,500 and sponsorships with a total value of \$1,500 or less, provided that Invest Vancouver partnership and collaboration efforts fall within the Invest Vancouver budget, as approved by the Metro Vancouver Board during the annual budget process.

The Board approved the revised *Sponsorship Policy*, as presented.

**E2.5 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 21-266: Supply and Delivery of Light and Medium Duty Vehicles**

**APPROVED**

The Board approved award of a five-year contract in the estimated amount of \$6,500,000 (exclusive of taxes) to Metro Motors Ltd. resulting from RFP No. 21-266: *Supply and Delivery of Light and Medium Duty Vehicles*, subject to final review by the Chief Administrative Officer.

**E3.1 Initial Engagement to Develop an Approach for Managing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Large Buildings in Metro Vancouver** **APPROVED**

Buildings emit one-quarter of regional GHG emissions, primarily through burning natural gas for space and water heating. The *Clean Air Plan* and *Climate 2050 Buildings Roadmap*, both approved by the Board in 2021, call for “greenhouse gas performance requirements for existing large buildings” as a pivotal action measure to achieve regional climate targets, which would also reduce health-harming air emissions. Such requirements would address a current policy gap related to emissions from existing large buildings and complement provincial and local government action. Given the longevity of building stock in the region and the need for transparency to best allow building owners to plan for emission reductions and improvements, it is recognized that comprehensive research and engagement will be critical for successful program design and implementation. Accordingly, staff believe early signaling of long-term future emission limits for GHG and other air emissions to building owners will allow them to plan for necessary changes, and to work with Metro Vancouver staff to design optimum approaches for phased implementation.

The Board authorized staff to proceed with an initial phase of engagement to develop an approach for managing greenhouse gas emissions from large buildings as presented.

**E3.2 Engagement on Proposed Amendments to GVRD Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1087, 2008** **APPROVED**

This report sought authorization from the Board to proceed with engagement on proposed amendments to *GVRD Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1087, 2008*, coordinated with the preliminary engagement on managing greenhouse gas emissions from large buildings, recognizing that there is some overlap in the stakeholder audience. Under the current bylaw, Metro Vancouver regulates the discharge of air contaminants from boilers and process heaters. In November 2019, the Board adopted stricter ambient air quality objectives for nitrogen dioxides that align with national standards. Metro Vancouver staff seek to engage on proposed amendments to the bylaw to continue to meet the ambient air quality objectives as they become more stringent, thereby enabling continuous improvement in air quality. The proposed amendments include stricter emission limits for nitrogen oxides, additional requirements for dispersion modelling and responses when modelling indicates exceedance of air quality objectives, and additional requirements for emission stack design to reduce impacts near boilers and process heaters.

The Board directed staff to proceed with engagement on the proposed amendments to *Regional District Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1087, 2008* as presented.

**E4.1 Regional Parks 2021 Annual Report** **RECEIVED**

In 2021, Metro Vancouver worked to keep regional parks open and visitors safe during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and multiple extreme weather events. There were 16.3 million visits to regional parks – a 37 per cent increase from visitation in 2019. Staff demonstrated flexibility and creativity to continue the delivery of park programs safely. As a result, 23,670 people were able to take part in 822 programs, events, and outreach activities while 3,751 volunteers contributed 11,606 hours to stewardship, education, and interpretive programs. Nearly 76 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 information.

**E5.1 Process to Consider Stronger Climate Action Language and Policy for Metro 2050** **RECEIVED**

The Board recently directed staff to explore stronger policy directions in *Metro 2050* with regards to GHG emission reductions and regional resilience, driven in part by the unprecedented climate change-related impacts the region and surrounding areas suffered in 2021 including the heat dome, wildfires, landslides, and flooding. Consistent with the recently released Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, scientific experts recognize that further and faster action is needed to assist in reducing climate change impacts. This report presents a proposed scope of work and engagement plan to explore opportunities for stronger climate action language and policy for *Metro 2050*.

The schedule to adopt *Metro 2050* will proceed as directed by the MVRD Board, with possible consideration of bylaw adoption in July 2022. Given that land use intersects with many issue areas and the actions of other Metro Vancouver management plans, staff will concurrently be preparing the draft *Climate 2050 Land Use and Growth Management Roadmap*.

Over the latter half of 2022, staff will engage with the Regional Planning Advisory Committee, Regional Planning Committee, Climate Action Committee, and other standing committees, as well as with stakeholders and subject matter experts on the policy directions and the *Roadmap*, and will prepare recommendations for enhanced policies to be considered by the Board in 2023.

The Board received the report for information.

**E5.2 Regional Parking Strategy – Scope of Work** **RECEIVED**

Regional Planning is initiating a *Regional Parking Strategy* that builds on the apartment parking studies completed in 2012 and 2018. The *Regional Parking Strategy* will develop policy guidance aimed at reducing the amount of under-utilized parking and, as a result, the construction cost of new housing. The strategy will provide best practices and guidance on:

- Developing new and amended parking policies and regulations
- Reducing the supply of both parking spaces and vehicles
- How best to pursue greater land efficiency and housing affordability through reduced construction costs

Member jurisdictions have requested that the project scope emphasize strategic planning and the provision of guidance, rather than simply data collection. The strategy will feature a demand-side (pricing-based) element and be steered by a technical working group. The project will be completed by the end of 2023.

The Board received the report for information.

**E5.3 Social Equity in Regional Growth Management Phase 3 Study – Project Scope**

**RECEIVED**

This report provided an overview of the scope and timeline for Phase 3 of the Social Equity in Growth Management project. Regional Planning staff will pilot the use of the social equity baseline indicator mapping analyses from the 2020 phase 2 report in a series of case study “mini projects” to help support local planning efforts. This project will include a review of the draft policies of *Metro 2050* to identify ways to enhance social equity outcomes through potential future amendments of the regional growth strategy and/or the accompanying implementation guidelines. This phase of work will also involve promoting the indicator data and other resources associated with the project among local planning practitioners. Finally, this project will involve updating the social equity indicator maps with 2021 Census data in early 2023 after the required data becomes available.

The Board received the report for information.

**E5.4 2022 Agriculture Awareness Grant Recommendations**

**APPROVED**

Programs and outreach that support local sustainable food production are important contributions toward increasing awareness across the region. The funding provided through the Agriculture Awareness Grants is particularly valuable now for those community organizations doing public outreach on the value of producing or buying food close to home.

The Board awarded the annual Agriculture Awareness Grants to the following 14 non-profit organizations:

- Fraser North Farmers Market Society, for the “Nibble Network” project in the amount of \$2,500
- Hives for Humanity Society, for “Stories and Sounds of Connection around Beekeeping and Gardening” in the amount of \$2,000
- Immigrant Link Centre Society, for the “‘From Pollution to Solution’ Educational Cartoon” project in the amount of \$5,500
- See-emia Cultural Studies Society, for the “Sovereign Seedlings” project in the amount of \$4,750
- Urban Bounty/Richmond Food Security Society, for “From Field to Fork” in the amount of \$5,000
- Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust, for “Day at the Farm” in the amount of \$4,500
- BC Agriculture in the Classroom, for “Take a Bite of BC” in the amount of \$3,000
- Earthwise Society, for the “Tomato Festival” in the amount of \$2,500
- Public Health Association of BC, for “Farm to School BC” in the amount of \$3,500
- The Sharing Farm Society, for the “12th Annual Garlic Festival” in the amount of \$2,000
- BC Association of Farmers Markets, for the “PechaKucha: Local Food and Agriculture” project in the amount of \$3,000
- FarmFolk/CityFolk, for the “Visioning a Sustainable Food System in BC” project in the amount of \$4,250

- Pacific Immigrant Resources Society, for the “Local Food Literacy for Immigrant and Refugee Women in Metro Vancouver” project in the amount of \$5,500
- Growing Chefs Society, for “Edible Education Programming” in the amount of \$2,000

**E5.5 Request for Sanitary Service Connection at 13179 224 Street, Maple Ridge APPROVED**

The City of Maple Ridge submitted an application to extend sewer service to a parcel to provide servicing to allow for the expansion of an existing restaurant at 13179 224 Street. The property is outside of the Fraser Sewerage Area, on land with a *Metro 2040* agricultural land use designation, and outside of the Urban Containment Boundary. Staff review found that the application is generally consistent with *Metro 2040* given that:

- The Agricultural Land Commission has confirmed that the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* does not apply to the parcel given its size
- An on-site septic system is not feasible for the proposed use
- The connection will not result in the expansion of the existing uses on the site
- The proposal will not impact the surrounding agricultural uses
- Sewerage infrastructure is located under 224 Street, across the frontage of the property

The Board resolved that the extension of sewerage services in the City of Maple Ridge is consistent with the provisions of *Metro 2040*, and forwarded the request to the GVS&DD Board for consideration.

**E6.1 Renewal of MVRD Internal Financing of MVHC Mortgages APPROVED**

The approval of continuing to provide first mortgage financing for Semlin Terrace, Grandview Gardens, Kelly Court, Earle Adams, and Euclid Square for a five-year term at a variable interest rate based on MVRD’s estimated internal rate of return on investments, is recommended. The estimated rate for 2022 is 1.7 per cent, well below current institutional rate of 2.52 per cent. MVRD has provided first mortgage financing for these properties since 2017 and this will be the last renewal term for these mortgages. As there continues to be global uncertainty in the economy, and with anticipated interest rates hikes, financing these mortgages through MVRD provides MVHC with the greatest flexibility and financial savings. The risk of rising interest rates is somewhat mitigated in that MVHC earns the same internal rate on its reserve funds held by MVRD.

The Board approved continuing to provide first mortgage financing on five MVHC properties, and directed the Corporate Officer to publish in the newspaper, pursuant to requirements the *Local Government Act*, Metro Vancouver’s intention to lend money to the MVHC.

**E7.1 Metro Vancouver External Agency Activities Status Report – May 2022 RECEIVED**

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

- Board of Trustees of the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department

- Delta Heritage Airpark
- Fraser Basin Council, Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy Leadership Committee
- Katzie Treaty Negotiation Table
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- Municipal Finance Authority of BC
- Ocean Watch Action Committee
- Pacific Parklands Foundation
- Union of British Columbia Municipalities
- Western Transportation Advisory Council
- Zero Emission Innovation Centre Board of Directors

**G1.1 MVRD Concrete and Concrete Products Industries Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw No. 1341, 2022** **APPROVED**

Engagement on updates to air quality management fees took place from January to April 2021. Emails were sent to all facilities regulated under GVRD *Concrete and Concrete Products Industries Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1084, 2008*, with information that would result in increases of \$50 to each facility’s annual fees. Metro Vancouver heard no concerns from these regulated facilities. On October 29, 2021, the Board updated the fees when it adopted MVRD *Air Quality Management Fees Regulation Bylaw No. 1330, 2021*. This bylaw updates brings fees into alignment with the changes proposed during engagement and reflects the updated fee rates in *Bylaw 1330*.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to the *Concrete and Concrete Products Industries Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw*, then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

**G1.2 MVRD Gasoline Distribution Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw No. 1342, 2022** **APPROVED**

Engagement on updates to air quality management fees took place from January to April 2021. Emails were sent to all facilities regulated under GVRD *Gasoline Distribution Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1085, 2008* with information that would result in increases to annual fees ranging from \$50 for most facilities to a few thousand dollars for bulk and terminal facilities. Metro Vancouver heard no concerns from these regulated facilities. On October 29, 2021, the MVRD Board updated the fees when it adopted *Air Quality Management Fees Regulation Bylaw No. 1330, 2021*. An amended bylaw brings fees in alignment with the changes proposed during engagement and reflects the updated fee rates in *Bylaw 1330*.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to the *Gasoline Distribution Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw*, then passed and finally adopted it.

**G1.3 MVRD Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw No. 1343, 2022** **APPROVED**

Engagement on updates to air quality management fees took place from January to April 2021. Emails were sent to all facilities regulated under *Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Bylaw No. 1087, 2008* with information about proposed increases in fees ranging from about \$500 to \$5,000 in each facility’s annual fees. Metro Vancouver heard no concerns from these regulated facilities. On October 29, 2021, the

MVRD Board updated the fees when it adopted *the Air Quality Management Fees Regulation Bylaw No. 1330, 2021*. Updates to *Bylaw 1087* update fees in alignment with the changes proposed during engagement and reflects the updated fee rates in *Bylaw 1330*.

The Board gave first, second and third readings to the *Boilers and Process Heaters Emission Regulation Amending Bylaw* then passed and finally adopted it.

**G2.1 Metro Vancouver Regional District Election Bylaw 1340**

**APPROVED**

The Local Government Act permits local governments to establish certain electoral procedures by bylaw. Staff brought forward a new *Election Bylaw* to reflect recent changes to provincial legislation, in particular in relation to the mail-in ballot voting process, as well as general housekeeping amendments.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to *Election Bylaw No. 1340, 2022*, then passed and finally adopted the aforementioned bylaw.

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

**RECEIVED**

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

**Indigenous Committee – May 11, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.3 Quarterly Report on Reconciliation Activities**

This report provides a summary of reconciliation events and activities undertaken by Metro Vancouver over the past few months as well as information on upcoming events and activities over the next few months.

**Performance and Audit Committee – May 12, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.1 Metro Vancouver Quarterly Financial Report – March 31, 2022**

This was the first quarterly financial report for 2021. The information presented in this package is the first of these quarterly reports, representing financial information as of March 31, 2022. The results of the first quarter of 2022, indicates that Metro Vancouver’s quarter-to-date operating budgets are on target compared to budget.

Capital spending is lower than expected; however, it is early in the year and it is expected that construction will ramp up in the remainder of the year as projects previously delayed move forward. Cash flow projections and accounts receivable collections are on target and remain positive in both the likely and pessimistic scenarios.

**5.2 Improving Metro Vancouver Financial Standing – Update**



At the April 14, 2021 meeting of the Performance and Audit Committee, staff brought forward a report outlining the actions to enhance both the effect and the perspectives of Metro Vancouver’s financial management approach. This work includes reviewing key policies and enhancing transparency through improved and more frequent reporting.

While Metro Vancouver continues to maintain a solid financial position with a strong balance sheet and good indicators of financial health, these actions pursue opportunities 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 is even more important now than it was a year ago due to the uncertain macro-economic environment and growth in the capital program.

**Finance Committee – May 12, 2022**

Delegation Summaries:

**3.1 Roderick V. Louis: TransLink’s 2022 Investment Plan and Proposed Increase in Borrowing Limit**

**Climate Action Committee – May 13, 2022**

Delegation Summaries:

**3.1 Dr. Larry Barzelai, Chair of the BC branch of the Canadian Association of the Physicians for the Environment: Proposed Tilbury LNG Plant Expansion**

**Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation**

**E1.1 Construction Cost Escalation Since 2020**

**RECEIVED**

Construction costs have seen unprecedented increases over the past two years, a trend that is significantly impacting the development of new housing and, in particular, affordable rental housing.

This report provides an overview of construction cost escalation trends since 2020, highlighting how the COVID-19 pandemic and other global challenges have impacted supply chains, material and labour shortages, and increased market unpredictability. Metro Vancouver Housing will continue to assess projections for escalation rates moving forward and return to the Committee and Board to advise how this will impact housing development projects and budgeting.

The Board received the report for information.

**E2.1 Change of Address for MVHC Registered Office**

**APPROVED**

In fall 2021, Metro Vancouver changed its address to 4515 Central Boulevard in Burnaby. Pursuant to the *Business Corporations Act*, the MVHC directors must authorize this change in address, which must be kept up to date with the BC Registrar of Companies.

The Board authorized the change of the mailing address and delivery address of the corporation’s registered office to c/o Metro Vancouver Regional District, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6, and authorized the Corporate Officer to undertake all necessary actions to complete the address change.

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

**RECEIVED**

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

**Housing Committee – May 19, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.2 Status of Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation Capital Expenditures to December 31, 2021**

The capital expenditure reporting process provides for regular status updates on capital expenditures. This is the year-end report for 2021 and compares capital spending for the 2021 fiscal year to the annual budget. In 2021, annual capital expenditures for MVHC were \$13.9 million compared to a capital budget of \$49.1 million. The capital underspend in Housing Services is primarily due to additional lead time required for the design for Welcher Avenue that has, in turn, delayed the construction to 2022 and construction delays related to Kingston Gardens - Phase 1 due to permitting delays. This underspend will be partially utilized for these projects in 2022. Any additional capital funding surplus will remain with Housing Reserves to fund future capital.

**Greater Vancouver Water District**

**E1.1 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposal No. 22-015: Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite**

**APPROVED**

Sodium hypochlorite is used by Water Services for drinking water disinfection at the Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant, Coquitlam Water Treatment Plant, and the secondary disinfection facilities. Liquid Waste Services uses sodium hypochlorite for effluent disinfection at the Annacis Island, Lions Gate, and Lulu Island Wastewater Treatment Plants.

The Board approved award of a contract for an estimated value of \$11,992,000 (exclusive of taxes) to Brenntag Canada Inc., for an initial three-year term, resulting from RFP No. 22-015: Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

**E1.2 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposal No. 21-468: Newton Pump Station No. 2 – Reservoir Tunnelling and Outlets**

**APPROVED**

To meet future water supply demands, Metro Vancouver is replacing the existing Newton Pump Station in the City of Surrey with the Newton Pump Station No. 2. The project is being delivered in two phases: construction of new outlets on the existing Newton Reservoir, followed by the construction of the new pump station.

An increase in project budget is required to complete this work; however, with permanent savings realized from other projects, there will be no increase to the overall approved GVWD capital budget.

The Board authorized an increase of the project budget in the amount of \$8,000,000 for the Newton Pump Station No. 2 project, bringing the revised total project budget to \$53,000,000, and approved award of a contract in the amount of up to \$12,362,769 (exclusive of taxes) to Michels Canada Co., subject to final review by the Commissioner.

**E1.3 State of the Assets Report - Water**

**RECEIVED**

This report provides a summary of the asset inventory, condition, replacement value, and forecast long-term investment needs of the nine water asset classes. The overall condition has been assessed as “good” for water assets. Current analysis indicates that the *2022–2026 Financial Plan* contains sufficient funding to adequately maintain these existing assets. Key drivers going forward creating pressure on future budgets are growth, resilience, and regulatory changes which are not considered in this report and will be addressed separately. Confidence in the accuracy and repeatability of the data used to generate the report ranges from uncertain (asset valuation) to reliable (asset inventory, asset condition). Continuous improvement of asset data, information technologies, and business practices is ongoing to better enable evidence based decision making and sustain targeted service levels.

The Board received the report for information.

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

**RECEIVED**

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

**Water Committee – May 11, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.1 Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve Management Plan 2022**

The LSCR plays an important function in current water utility operations and future water supply planning. Home to a variety of water supply-based infrastructure including the Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant, and 10 kilometres of the Seymour water main, the LSCR also provides an excellent ecological buffer between the urban region and the water supply area. As was originally contemplated when the area was set aside, a second dam at mid-valley remains as a long-term water supply option.

The *Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve Management Plan* was updated this year. The new 2022 plan expresses a long-term vision to guide the operations of the reserve over a 10-year horizon and is based on the existing programs and uses. This report highlights high-level objectives of the 2022 plan and provides links to the *Drinking Water Management Plan* and public and agency engagement. Through the 2022 plan update process, it was determined that the original goals and principles were still substantially relevant and required only minor updates to modernize them and expand the management vision over the next decade. Primary updates were focused within the strategies and goals to better reflect current challenges and newly discovered initiatives.

**5.2 Water Services Wildfire Preparedness Update**

An integral component of the provision of water services is protection of the forested lands surrounding Capilano, Seymour and Coquitlam reservoirs. This objective is primarily achieved by restricting public access to eliminate pollution, reduce wildfire risk, and ensure the areas are solely used for drinking water supply. As a result, the water supply areas have a historically low incidence of wildfire with the primary remaining cause being lightning strikes during periods of moderate or higher fire danger. Real-time lightning detection, staff patrols, and local air traffic reports ensure fires are discovered and extinguished quickly.

The Water Services Protection Program has staff with expertise in wildfire management, an array of weather monitoring stations, equipment available for strategic deployment, and a provincial resource sharing agreement to ensure readiness for the 2022 fire season. Further, the protection team has developed several strategic interagency relationships, including the new Watershed Wildfire Strategic Partners Working Group, and together with our Corporate Security and Emergency Preparedness team hosted a *Metro Vancouver Regional Wildfire Symposium* in March 2022.

**Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District**

**E1.1 State of the Assets Report - Liquid Waste**

**RECEIVED**

This report provides a summary of the asset inventory, condition, replacement value, and forecast long-term investment needs of the eight liquid waste asset classes. The overall condition has been assessed as “good” for liquid waste assets. Current analysis indicates that the *2022–2026 Financial Plan* contains sufficient funding to adequately maintain these existing assets. Key drivers going forward that are creating pressure on future budgets are growth, resilience, and regulatory changes which are not considered in this report and will be addressed separately.

Confidence in the accuracy and repeatability of the data used to generate the report ranges from uncertain (asset valuation) to reliable (asset inventory, asset condition). Continuous improvement of asset data, information technologies, and business practices is ongoing to better enable evidence based decision making and sustain targeted service levels.

The Board received the report for information.

**E1.2 Environmental Risk Management Policy for Liquid Waste Services**

**APPROVED**

Liquid Waste Services is developing an Environmental Management System (EMS) based on ISO 14001:2015. A key aspect to its success is the development and adoption of a Board-approved environmental policy.

Establishment of the *Environmental Risk Management Policy* formalizes the utility’s commitment to achieving excellence in environmental performance, provides a framework for further development of the EMS, and drives LWS decision-making to support ongoing priority risk mitigation. LWS has been working in conjunction with Water Services to develop EMS components beneficial to both utilities.

The Board approved the *Environmental Risk Management Policy* for Liquid Waste Services, as presented.

**E1.3 Grant Funding Application for Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant Renewable Natural Gas Project** **APPROVED**

On January 17, 2022, the governments of Canada and British Columbia committed up to \$134 million towards a third intake of the Green Infrastructure – CleanBC Communities Fund, which is part of the federal government’s Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, to support cost-sharing of infrastructure projects in communities across the province. This intake supports projects starting in 2023 and completing by March 2027.

The proposed Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant renewable natural gas project will reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions and generate ongoing revenues, in support of *Climate 2050* and *Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Recovery Plan* goals. The project will install infrastructure that will clean up excess biogas at the new plant, and recover heat from treated effluent to increase excess biogas availability. The cleaned biogas will be sold to FortisBC as renewable natural gas for use throughout the region, reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions.

This grant application for \$13,400,000 from the CleanBC Communities Fund will help fund the design and construction of the project, which has a total cost of \$27.1 million, excluding owner’s costs and risk reserve.

The Board supported the application for grant funding of \$13,400,000 for the Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant renewable natural gas project to CleanBC Communities Fund, as presented.

Subject to successful grant funding, the Board would approve financing of eligible costs until the provincial government contributions are received, and approve funding for any ineligible and potential project cost overruns.

**E1.4 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposal No. 22-015: Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite** **APPROVED**

Sodium hypochlorite is used by Water Services for drinking water disinfection at the Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant, Coquitlam Water Treatment Plant, and the secondary disinfection facilities.

Liquid Waste Services uses sodium hypochlorite for effluent disinfection at the Annacis Island, Lions Gate, and Lulu Island Wastewater Treatment Plants.

The Board approved award of a contract for an estimated value of \$11,992,000 (exclusive of taxes) to Brenntag Canada Inc., for an initial three-year term, resulting from RFP No. 22-015: Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

**G1.1 Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw No. 355, 2022** **APPROVED**

This *Development Cost Charge (DCC) Expenditure Bylaw* provides authority for 2021 annual funding applied for growth capital debt servicing amounts and growth capital project expenditures.

In total, \$42.2 million of DCCs were applied for the 2021 year over the four defined sewerage areas. Total DCCs held in deferred revenue reserve balances as at December 31, 2021 were \$258.6 million.

The Board gave first, second, and third readings to the *Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw No. 355, 2022*; then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

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

**RECEIVED**

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

**Performance and Audit Committee – May 12, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.3 Semi-Annual Report on GVS&DD Development Cost Charges**

Total GVS&DD Development Cost Charges (DCCs) collected in 2021 was \$85.1 million, up from \$62.9 million in the prior year. Development in the region continued to be strong despite COVID-19. Development activity in the region for 2021 was relatively steady with January to December 2021 building permit values approaching close to \$10 billion (2020 - \$10.2 billion). The vast majority of the building permit activity in 2021 (72 per cent) was in the residential development sector (2020 - 70 per cent). Affordable housing development cost charge (DCC) waivers were approved in 2021 for a total of 2,223 units (2020 – 415 units) in the four sewer areas of Fraser, Vancouver, Lulu Island and North Shore representing close to \$4.3 million (2020 - \$1.1 million) in forgone DCC collections.

Total DCCs held in deferred revenue reserve balances as at December 31, 2021 were \$258.6 million (December 31, 2020 - \$213.1 million). DCCs will now be updated annually as part of the budget process to ensure that Metro Vancouver stays current and maximized this revenue stream to reduce rate impacts of the capital program.

**Zero Waste Committee – May 13, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.1 2021 Waste Composition Data**

Metro Vancouver’s waste composition program includes a series of annual studies to learn about the types and quantities of waste disposed in the region. In 2021, both a full-scale study examining waste disposed from all sectors and a multi-family sector specific study were completed. Results from the full-scale study indicate that waste composition in 2021 was similar to 2018, with 2020 being an outlier year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Key similarities in 2018 and 2021 waste composition include quantities of organics and building material disposed. Single-use item disposal increased in 2021 compared to 2020, but is lower overall than pre-pandemic levels. Personal protective equipment disposal, particularly masks, also increased in 2021. Multi-family waste composition demonstrates that compostable organics remain the

largest component of multi-family waste and a key opportunity for waste diversion in this sector. Waste composition results help identify priorities for solid waste management plan update and inform behaviour change campaigns such as “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage.”

**5.2 Single-Use Item Reduction Regulatory Update**

Since the Board approved the *Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws* on November 26, 2021 the Government of Canada, the Government of BC, and member jurisdictions have implemented or announced plans to implement single-use item reduction regulations. While the proposed regulations largely align with the regionally harmonized approach, there are some proposed additions such as banning plastic ring carriers at the federal level and banning compostable foodservice ware at the provincial level. The proposed regulations for Canada and BC, once enacted, will provide a high level of harmonization. At the same time, the flexibility of the proposed BC regulations will allow municipalities to pursue new policies to address single-use waste that go beyond the scope of the provincial and federal government regulations. Five of Metro Vancouver’s member jurisdictions have bylaws and three have received direction to work on bylaws. In addition, recent changes to *the BC Food Safety Act* allow customers to bring containers to be filled by restaurants.

**5.3 2022 Food Scraps Recycling “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” Results**

The 2022 “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” campaign ran from January 3 to March 6, 2022. The campaign’s primary objective is to increase the diversion of organic waste into the green bin. New in 2022 were two target audience segments: those on the fence about using the green bin (men age 18–44), and those who can further improve by reducing contamination (women age 45–65). A new key message making the connection between composting and climate change was added. Residents who have seen the campaign feel that reducing production of methane is the most important benefit of food scraps recycling (27 per cent vs 17 per cent unaware of advertising). This is likely a direct result of the new message. The campaign performed strongly, with 31 million impressions, two million reach, and over 16,000 webpage visits. There were 12,700 likes, comments, and shares on social media, which is well above average. The campaign will run again in early 2023.

**Climate Action Committee – May 13, 2022**

Information Items:

**5.3 2022 Update on Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund Projects**

This report provides an update on eight projects that were approved for funding in 2017 through 2021 under the Sustainability Innovation Fund. Of the eight projects, two are highlighted for significant milestones:

- Genomics Approach to Anaerobic Digestion Optimization. The United States Patent and Trademark Office granted a patent titled “Syntrophic Enrichment for Enhanced Digestion Processes” to Metro Vancouver in March 2022.

- Hydrothermal Processing – Biofuel Demonstration Facility. The contract for design of the hydrothermal processing unit was awarded in January 2022.

Descriptions of the other six projects that are progressing are included in the report.