

Board in Brief

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 15, 2009

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. For more information, please contact Bill Morrell, Corporate Relations, 604-451-6107

Greater Vancouver Regional District

2009 Parks Committee Program

Approved

The parks committee program will focus on these key activities: a park management plan for Surrey Bend; a concept plan for Colony Farm Park and Academy; a land acquisition plan to complete existing parks and greenways and establish new ones; a review of food service options for Centennial Beach; a review of a bylaw to implement the Bylaw Notice Adjudication System; the opening of a viewing tower beside Burnaby Lake; an overpass on the Delta-South Surrey Greenway; a sustainability-focused event at Colony Farm; planning for the Lower Fraser River Corridor and development of the Derby Reach Trail as a demonstration project.

"Experience the Fraser" - Lower Fraser River Corridor Project

Approved

The board adopted the "Experience the Fraser – Lower Fraser River Corridor" proposal dated September 9, 2008 as a framework for developing an overall recreation plan for the Lower Fraser Corridor. The plan includes trails, parks, water access, staging areas and other amenities that are the responsibility of the regional district. Metro Vancouver will accept the \$1.25 million grant received from the Province for planning, design and development of the regional recreational opportunities, related infrastructure and facilities. The region will also allocate \$250,000 to completion of a demonstration project and \$1,000,000 to planning, design and technical work within the regional district and for joint work with the FVRD and other partners to integrate the land and water-based outdoor recreation, interpretation and heritage opportunities from Hope to the Strait of Georgia into one seamless experience for the public.

2009 Special Park Districts Forum

Approved

The Board approved the attendance and payment of expenses for Parks Committee members Councillor Pietro Calendino, Burnaby, and Director Maria Harris, Electoral Area A, at the 2009 Special Park Districts Forum, June 9-12, 2009 at Lake County Forest Preserves in Illinois. The estimated cost for the two directors is \$3,000.



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Designation of a Canada-US Emission Control Area under MARPOL Annex VI **Approved**

Marine vessels and port operations have been identified as significant sources of air pollution in the lower Fraser Valley airshed and are the subject of several priority actions under Metro Vancouver's Air Quality Management Plan.

Canada is not yet a signatory to new international standards for marine diesel engines and their fuels. The new standards will reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides. The Board will write to the federal Minister of the Environment and the federal Minister of Transport, expressing support for the application to designate the coastal areas of Canada and the US as an Emission Control Area under MARPOL Annex VI.

Delegations' Executive Summaries Presented at Committee – April 2009 **Received**

The board received a report from Nola-Kate Seymoar, President and CAO, the International Centre for Sustainable Cities.

Metro Vancouver Participation at ICLEI World Congress

Approved

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is an international association of local governments, as well as national and regional local government organizations, that have made a commitment to sustainable development.

The Board approved travel budgets, totalling \$7,406.40 and the participation of Directors Joe Trasolini and Ralph Drew at the ICLEI World Congress in Edmonton, on June 14 to 18, 2009.

Charter, Metro Vancouver Port Cities and Port Metro Vancouver

Tabled

On April 24, the GVRD board endorsed the circulation of a proposed charter for Metro Vancouver cities and Port Metro Vancouver, dated Jan. 1, 2009, to member municipalities for comment.

On May 15, after directors cited municipal council concerns about recent land acquisitions by Port Metro Vancouver, the board voted to table the proposed charter for at least two months.

Oral report, by Chair Jackson

Received

Chair Jackson made a brief oral report about an upcoming Mayor's Committee meeting on May 19 to discuss enhanced policing in B.C. and possible sites for a proposed provincial remand centre for people who are in provincial custody awaiting trial.

Delta's 2009 Resoluition Concerning Improving Post-Certification Monitoring Procedures for Projects Authorized under the BC Environmental Assessment Act

Approved

The Board voted to support a Delta Council resolution about post-certification monitoring and enforcement of projects authorized under the *BC Environmental Assessment Act*.

The resolution asks the Province to "initiate a review of the policies and procedures that relate to the post-certification phase of projects authorized under the *BC Environmental Assessment Act* in order to improve transparency and accountability, including:

- i. Clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of the BC Environmental Assessment Office and other government agencies and stakeholders, providing clearer lines of accountability and providing a greater level of municipal involvement during the construction and postconstruction monitoring phase of projects.
- ii. Creating a mandated system of independent compliance monitoring by a multi-agency working group, comprising federal, provincial, regional and local government representatives, that meets at regular intervals throughout the construction and post-construction monitoring phase of the project, and which reports directly to the Environmental Assessment Office for follow-up action with the proponent.
- iii. Creating a more open system of reporting with respect to issues of non-compliance and enforcement action.
- iv. Creating a mandated community liaison committee to facilitate communication between the proponent, regulatory agencies and the local community."