



For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 15, 2015

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, 604-451-6016, Greg.Valou@metrovancouver.org or Jean Kavanagh, 604-451-6697, Jean.Kavanagh@metrovancouver.org.

Greater Vancouver Regional District

Draft Audited 2014 Financial Statements

**APPROVED &
RECEIVED**

Legislation requires that annual Audited Financial Statements be prepared for the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation and be presented at a public meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Board approved the Audited 2014 Consolidated Financial Statements for the Greater Vancouver Regional District, and received for information the Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation Audited 2014 Financial Statements.

2014 Financial Results Year-End

RECEIVED

The Board received for information an update on financial performance year ending December 31, 2014. Overall, the 2014 financial results for the Metro Vancouver entities and functions were favourable to budget with a surplus of \$30.9 million.

An Interim Sulphur Dioxide Objective for Metro Vancouver - Additional Analyses

APPROVED

Metro Vancouver's current sulphur dioxide (SO₂) objectives are based on outdated health science from the 1970s and may not adequately protect public health or the environment. Metro Vancouver staff have consulted with key stakeholders on an interim one-hour SO₂ objective of 75 ppb. There was significant support for the proposed interim objective with the understanding that Metro Vancouver will revisit its objectives after the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment adopts a new SO₂ objective in 2020.

Multi-Unit Residential Building Energy and Greenhouse-Gas-Reduction Research Grant Request

APPROVED

Multi-unit residential buildings are a growing segment of Metro Vancouver's building stock, and currently account for about two thirds of the total BC Hydro residential customers in our region.



Compared to single-family detached houses, their energy utilization and greenhouse gas emissions are excessive and growing.

The Board authorized a contribution from the Air Quality Reserve, in the amount of \$50,000, to support research managed by BC Hydro Power Smart aimed at improving knowledge about technologies and building retrofitting practices that have the potential to reduce energy consumption in, and greenhouse gas emissions from, existing multi-unit residential buildings across Metro Vancouver.

Amended GVRD Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy

APPROVED

The GVRD Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy as adopted by the Board on October 24, 2014 guides the use and management of this Fund. Minor amendments to the Policy are required to reflect the role of the Climate Action Committee in implementing the Policy as well as in the review of proposals and providing the Board with recommendations on the use of the Fund. In addition, the Policy must be amended to reflect the actual as opposed to projected Fund balance.

The Board approved the amended text to the GVRD Sustainability Innovation Fund as described in the report.

2015 Caring for the Air Report

RECEIVED

Caring for the Air is an annual, plain-language report that provides information about key air quality and climate change initiatives.

The Board received the report for information.

Consideration of the City of Port Moody's Regional Context Statement

APPROVED

Port Moody and Metro Vancouver staff have worked closely together to develop a Regional Context Statement that responds to the goals, strategies and actions of our regional growth strategy, Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping Our Future, while meeting the needs and aspirations of the municipality.

The City of Port Moody has provided a Regional Context Statement that is generally consistent with Metro 2040. The Board accepted the City of Port Moody's Regional Context Statement as submitted to Metro Vancouver on March 30, 2015.

The Metro Vancouver Housing and Transportation Cost Burden Study: A New Way of Looking at Affordability

RECEIVED

The Metro Vancouver Housing and Transportation Cost Burden study presents a new way of looking at housing affordability in the region. The study highlights the connection among housing affordability,



transportation, and the regional economy, and investigates the combined housing and transportation cost burden for working households.

The Board received the report for information and will forward it to:

- Federal Minister Responsible for CMHC, Federal Minister of Transport, Federal Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification.
- Provincial Minister Responsible for Housing, Provincial Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Provincial Ministers of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training.
- Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, TransLink, local government authorities in the region.
- BC Non-Profit Housing Association and the Better Transit and Transportation Coalition.

Metro Facts in Focus Policy Backgrounder: Short Sea Shipping in Metro Vancouver

RECEIVED

Metro Vancouver is exploring short sea shipping from the perspective of goods movements related to truck traffic and air quality impacts as well as to industrial land supply and demand impacts in the region.

The Board received the report for information.

Farm Property Tax Investigation

APPROVED

The Farm Property Tax Investigation report presents an analysis of seven farm policy tax options that could help increase actively farmed land or reduce non-farm uses of the Agricultural Land Reserve. KM Consulting, hired by Metro Vancouver, recommended that three of the farm tax policy options receive further consideration from local governments: taxes collected for other agencies, how land in the ALR is valued, and consistent assessment of farm buildings. Further work on farm classification thresholds was also proposed by municipal planning staff. Other feedback received to date supports the three options proposed by the consultant, but caution was raised about potential implications to the assessment administration and response from landowners.

The Board endorsed the advancement of the Farm Property Tax Investigation.

Solutions to Illegal Fill on Agricultural Land

APPROVED

In Metro Vancouver there is an increasing demand for disposal sites for soil excavated from construction sites, commonly referred to as 'fill'. Illegal fill disposal occurs on farmland because there is a lucrative financial benefit for haulers to dispose of, and landowners to accept, the fill.



The investigation conducted by staff revealed that six municipalities with 95% of the agricultural land in the region are challenged to stop fill from being illegally placed on farmland despite stringent bylaw requirements and expanded enforcement activities.

Metro Vancouver staff recommended that a two-year trial project be initiated to develop a web-based permit registry and tracking system for specified construction projects excavating soil as part of their permitting process. The details regarding the types of permits to monitor and information requirements would be determined by a steering group comprised of staff with a range of expertise and from various jurisdictions.

The Board endorsed the recommended regional approach to initiate a pilot project to address illegal fill.

Assessment of Impacts of Trans Mountain Expansion Project and Metro Vancouver's Submission of Written Evidence to the National Energy Board

APPROVED

Kinder Morgan Canada, through Trans Mountain Pipeline L.P., has applied to the National Energy Board (NEB) to expand its Trans Mountain pipeline that runs from Northern Alberta to the Lower Mainland in British Columbia.

Metro Vancouver, along with 14 member local governments, is participating as an intervenor in the NEB review process.

The Board:

- a) Expressed its opposition to the proposed Trans Mountain Expansion Project.
- b) Directed staff to submit written evidence to the National Energy Board that supports the GVRD Board's position, including the potential impacts on Metro Vancouver assets, infrastructure, and environment, and the inadequacy of the assessment of potential impacts put forward by the proponent in several key areas.
- c) Directed staff to include in its submission the commitments, assurances, compensation, monitoring, and other conditions that are necessary to mitigate the impacts of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project on Metro Vancouver assets, infrastructure, and environment, in the event that the Project is approved by the National Energy Board

Status of Reserves

APPROVED

The applications of reserves presented in the report are consistent with legislated requirements and Board policy on the use of reserves and provide the funding necessary to complete operating priorities currently in progress as well as reduce future debt requirements.

The Board approved the application of reserves as set out in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the report.

Capital Projects Protocol – Policy Update**APPROVED**

In response to long-standing issues that existed between the Regional District and its member municipalities regarding both the process and the fees paid to municipalities with respect to building permits, development permits, development cost charges, and other miscellaneous fees, on January 25, 2002 the GVRD Board approved the Protocol for Greater Vancouver Regional District Capital Projects.

While the Protocol has helped to clarify the process by which Metro Vancouver undertakes capital works within its member municipalities, over time it appears that the Protocol has been applied inconsistently to capital projects.

The Board referred the Protocol for Greater Vancouver Regional District Capital Projects to Metro Vancouver staff and to RAAC to consider and report back on the issues raised.

Coquitlam Search and Rescue Society Mobile Command Centre Replacement Project – Funding Request**APPROVED**

Coquitlam Search and Rescue provides search and rescue services to the Metro Vancouver municipalities of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore, Belcarra, Burnaby, and New Westminister, and their area of responsibility includes in excess of half of Metro Vancouver's Electoral Area A.

The Board approved a capital grant of \$5,000 to the Coquitlam Search and Rescue Society to assist with the acquisition of a new Mobile Command Centre.

Canada Transportation Act Review and Port Governance**APPROVED**

The Board ratified the Metro Vancouver submission to the Chair of the Canada Transportation Act Review Panel to reiterate Metro Vancouver's long-standing objections concerning the inadequate number of local government representatives on the Port Metro Vancouver Board, and the rule that prohibits the appointment of local elected officials as local representatives.

GVRD Nominee to the 2015 - 2016 E-Comm Board of Directors**APPROVED**

The Board designated Vice-Chair, Director Raymond Louie as the Metro Vancouver nominee to the E-Comm Board of Directors for the 2015-2016 term.



Preservation of Burrard Thermal as a Standby/Emergency Power Generation Source

APPROVED

The Board will write a letter to the Province of BC and to BC Hydro requesting that the decision to close the BC Hydro Burrard Thermal Plant be reconsidered, and that it be maintained as a backup/emergency power generation source for Metro Vancouver, with the end goal that this facility be powered by a renewable energy source.

2014 Schedules of Financial Information

APPROVED

The Board approved the 2014 Schedules of Financial Information for Remuneration and Expenses, and for Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services.

Delegation Executive Summaries Presented at Committee April 2015

RECEIVED

The Board received Executive Summaries of the following delegations

Intergovernment and Finance Committee:

- David Black, President, Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union, Local 378.

Mayors' Committee

- David Beattie and Allan Hunt, New Way Community Society.
- Peter Watson, Chair and CEO of the National Energy Board (NEB) and Roger Girouard, Assistant Commissioner of the Canada Coast Guard (CCG), Western Region.

Greater Vancouver Water District

Draft Audited 2014 Financial Statements

APPROVED

The Board approved the Audited 2014 Financial Statements for the Greater Vancouver Water District.

Amended Water Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy

APPROVED

The Water Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy as adopted by the Board on June 27, 2014 guides the use and management of this Fund. Minor amendments to the Policy are required to reflect the role of the Climate Action Committee in implementing the Policy as well as in the review of proposals and providing the Board with recommendations on the use of the Fund. In addition, the Policy must be amended to reflect the actual as opposed to projected Fund balance.



The Board approved the amended text to the Water Sustainability Innovation Fund as described in the report.

Status of Reserves

APPROVED

The Board approved the application of reserves as set out in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the report.

Water Supply Forecast and Water Consumption/Conservation Update for Summer 2015

RECEIVED

Due to municipal and Metro Vancouver water conservation actions, per-capita water use in the region has been declining. The Board revised the Water Shortage Response Plan in 2011 to spread lawn sprinkling over seven days of the week, and to restrict the times permitted for lawn sprinkling to morning hours only. These changes to the lawn sprinkling regulations are reducing peak demands on the GVWD and municipal water systems. Metro Vancouver staff are working with municipal staff to implement a water conservation campaign in support of the June 1 initiation of the summer lawn sprinkling regulations.

Although the existing snow pack levels are well below average, it is expected that Metro Vancouver will be able to ensure adequate water supply for the 2015 summer season. In the event of an extreme drought or unusually high demand for water, Metro Vancouver has the ability to implement additional demand management measures, if necessary.

The Board received the report for information.

Seymour River Rockslide - Status Update

RECEIVED

The Seymour River rockslide was a natural event with potentially significant consequences. Steps have been taken to manage the most-critical issues associated with the river, and with public safety. Over the coming months, Metro Vancouver staff will work on managing the longer-term issues in close consultation with the District of North Vancouver and other affected agencies

The Board received the report for information.



Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

Status of Sewerage and Drainage District (Solid Waste) Capital Expenditures to December 31, 2014

RECEIVED

The capital expenditure reporting process approved by the Board provides for interim reports to Committees in June/July and October, and a final year-end report to the Board in April of each year.

The Board received the report for information.

Metro Vancouver Love Food – Hate Waste Campaign Update

RECEIVED

On May 7, 2014, Metro Vancouver launched Love Food Hate Waste, a three-year campaign to reduce avoidable food waste at home.

Food that was purchased but never eaten is considered avoidable waste. More than half of all food waste in Metro Vancouver is avoidable.

Metro Vancouver's Love Food Hate Waste campaign is modelled on WRAP United Kingdom's successful initiative of the same name. Since its launch in 2007, avoidable household food waste was cut by 21 per cent over five years.

The Board received the report for information.

Metro Vancouver Multi-Family Recycling Toolkit Update

APPROVED

Metro Vancouver has developed the Multi-Family Recycling Toolkit, an online tool to help owners, stratas, managers, and residents improve recycling in their multi-family buildings.

Apartments, condos and townhomes typically have low recycling rates. In 2013, the regional multi-family recycling rate was only 28%, compared to 60% for single-family dwellings.

"Recycling systems vary between municipalities and individual buildings, so there's no one-size-fits-all solution," said Malcolm Brodie, Chair of Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Committee. "This new Toolkit points people to the tailored resources, signage, and best practices for their particular situation."

That the GVS&DD Board forward the report dated April 8, 2015, titled 'Metro Vancouver Multi-Family Recycling Toolkit Update' to Member Municipalities and other stakeholders for their information and engagement.

Draft Audited 2014 Financial Statements**APPROVED**

The Board approved the Audited 2014 Financial Statements for the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District

Amended Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy**APPROVED**

The Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund Policy as adopted by the Board on June 27, 2014 guides the use and management of this Fund. Minor amendments to the Policy are required to reflect the role of the Climate Action Committee in implementing the Policy as well as in the review of proposals and providing the Board with recommendations on the use of the Fund. In addition, the Policy must be amended to reflect the actual as opposed to projected Fund balance.

The Board approved the amended text to the Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund as described in the report.

Status of Reserves**APPROVED**

The Board approved the application of reserves as set out in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the report.

GVS&DD DCC Amending Bylaw 286 Resolution**APPROVED**

Amending Bylaw 286 was intended to bring the GVS&DD DCC Bylaw into line with municipal DCC bylaws and to ensure that all new development in the region contributes to the cost of GVS&DD's growth-related infrastructure.

The Board:

- Deemed that the effective date of GVS&DD Development Cost Charge Amending Bylaw No. 286, 2014 is October 1, 2015; and
- b) Directed staff to prepare a new amending bylaw to amend GVS&DD Development Cost Charge Bylaw No. 254, 2010 to clarify that the Bylaw does not apply to secondary suites.

Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – PPP Canada Funding Application**APPROVED**

Since the New Building Canada Fund was announced in March 2014, staff have spent significant efforts working with the provincial and federal governments to secure grant funding for the new Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Board:

- Directed staff to apply to the PPP Canada program during the next intake for funding of the Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant, based on a Design-Build-Finance model, with a request for an expeditious project review based on the Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant Business Case, February 6, 2015.
- Requested the BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to confirm whether the Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant project will receive provincial priority status under the Building Canada Plan - Provincial Territorial Infrastructure Component, and if so, the level of funding the Province will commit to the project.

2015 Liquid Waste Public Outreach Program Update**RECEIVED**

A public outreach program is planned for 2015 to reduce the disposal of grease and non-woven fabrics (disposable wipes) into sanitary sewers.

These materials significantly impact both Metro Vancouver and municipal infrastructure, causing damage to equipment, blocked sewers, and potential sewage spills into the environment.

Use of traditional mass marketing techniques have generally been unsuccessful in responding to these issues. Instead, Metro Vancouver staff will use a community-based social marketing approach designed to effect behaviour change. This approach will be tested in pilot projects in 2015, with a view to develop a regional approach in 2016. In addition, efforts will be taken to engage in national initiatives such as the development of ISO standards for specification for flushable products, and to promote a unified approach to this national problem.

The Board received for information the report.

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw No. 290, 2015**APPROVED**

The 2014 budget contemplated the transfer of Development Cost Charge revenues collected to meet actual debt charge funding requirements related to the Liquid Waste growth capital program.

The Board passed a bylaw to complete that process