



To: Public Works & Transportation Committee *To Public Works & Transportation -*  
 From: Victor Wei, P. Eng. Director, Transportation *Date: February 6, 2008 Feb 20, 2008*  
 Re: METRO VANCOUVER PORT CITIES COMMITTEE AND VANCOUVER FRASER PORT AUTHORITY – SUPPORT OF ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK *File: 01-0140-20-VFPO1/2008-Vol 01*

Staff Recommendation

1. That the Engagement Framework proposed jointly by the Metro Vancouver Port Cities Committee and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to form the basis for a future regional Charter between Metro Vancouver port cities and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, as outlined in the attached report, be endorsed.
2. That the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board be advised of the above resolution.

Victor Wei, P. Eng.  
Director, Transportation  
(4131)

Att. 2

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Finance.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Engineering.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Roads & Dykes.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Policy Planning.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY TAG		YES	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
		<i>W. K.</i>			
				YES	
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				NO	
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## Staff Report

### Origin

The City has received correspondence dated January 24, 2008 from the Chair of Metro Vancouver (see **Attachment 1**) seeking endorsement by the City (as it is a port city) of the preliminary Engagement Framework, which will be the model to formalize the relationship and foster consultation among Metro Vancouver port cities<sup>1</sup> and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

### Analysis

#### 1. Port Amalgamation & Transition Process

As part of the amalgamation of the three Lower Mainland ports (Port Vancouver, Fraser River Port and North Fraser Port) to form the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, a Transition Committee was formed by the three ports to assist in the process. The Transition Committee is comprised of the Chair, one director and the President and CEO from each of the three port authorities.

In parallel with the formation of the Transition Committee, Metro Vancouver established the Port Cities Committee (PCC), comprised of mayors of the port cities, to address issues involving relationships with port authorities, other governments and related agencies, and to explore consultation and liaison models.

The effective date of amalgamation of the Fraser River Port Authority, the North Fraser Port Authority, and the Vancouver Port Authority to become the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) was January 1, 2008.

#### 2. Preliminary Engagement Framework

The preliminary Engagement Framework was developed during the amalgamation process and is a non-binding agreement that serves as the preliminary basis of a regional Charter that will eventually guide the relationship between Metro Vancouver port cities and the amalgamated VFPA (see **Attachment 2**). The Framework proposes that the Charter be established within 12 months of the effective date of the Framework.

As shown in the table below, the Engagement Framework proposes four levels of liaison between the port cities and the VFPA.

Representatives		Frequency of Meeting
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority	Port Cities	
VFPA Board	Port Cities Committee	Annual
Senior VFPA Staff	CAOs/Senior Staff of Port Cities	Quarterly
VFPA Staff	Port Cities Staff	Regular
VFPA Staff of Various Disciplines	Port Cities Staff of Various Disciplines	As Needed

<sup>1</sup> The port cities include the cities of Vancouver, Delta, Coquitlam, Richmond, Belcarra, Burnaby, New Westminster, Port Moody, North Vancouver City, Surrey, North Vancouver District, Port Coquitlam, West Vancouver, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, and the Township of Langley.

The PCC, the Transition Committee and the Metro Vancouver Board have all endorsed the Engagement Framework.

Prior to the amalgamation, Richmond was one of nine municipalities<sup>2</sup> that was signatory to the *Accord between Fraser River Port Authority and Municipalities* (effective September 1, 2002), the purpose of which is to provide a co-ordinated process for the parties to collaborate for their mutual benefit. In addition, senior City staff maintains an existing liaison relationship with senior staff of the former Fraser River Port Authority that involves regular meetings on issues of mutual concern, which has proven to be very productive in past years. This Richmond-Port relationship should and is expected to continue with the new VFPA. The former Vancouver Port Corporation also had Accord agreements with Vancouver, Belcarra, District of North Vancouver, and Port Moody.

It is also expected that in addition to the development of a regional charter, there may also be accords at the individual municipality level similar to the *Accord between Fraser River Port Authority and Municipalities*. At this time, City staff and the former Fraser River Port Authority staff have developed a draft Accord that aims at coordinating and protecting the interests of Richmond and the VFPA regarding the "Fraser Port Lands" in Richmond. Staff anticipate that this accord will be brought forward for Council review later this year.

### 3. Recommended Response by City

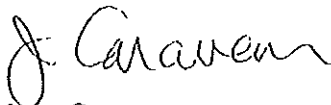
Significant efforts have been made via negotiations between the port authorities' representatives and the PCC to identify deficiencies in the current relationships between port authorities and cities. The proposed Engagement Framework brings formality, certainty, and clarity to the relationship between the parties and will be a valuable tool to foster on-going harmonious relations and meaningful consultation among all parties that have interests and obligations related to marine activity. An annual conference would create a forum to foster mutual understanding and better communications. Staff, therefore, recommend that the City endorse the Engagement Framework.

### Financial Impact

None to the City at this time.

### Conclusion

Staff recommend that the City endorse the preliminary Engagement Framework, which will serve as the model to formalize the relationship in a regional Charter between the Metro Vancouver port cities and the newly amalgamated Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.



Joan Caravan  
Transportation Planner (4035)

JC:je

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<sup>2</sup> The signatories to the Accord are Coquitlam, Delta, Langley Township, Maple Ridge, New Westminster, Pitt Meadows, Port Coquitlam, Richmond, and Surrey.



Greater Vancouver Regional District  
Greater Vancouver Water District  
Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District  
Greater Vancouver Housing Corporation

Office of the Chair  
Tel: 604-432-6215 Fax: 604-451-6614

January 24, 2008

File: CR-11-01-PCC  
CR-14-03-VFPA

Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Council  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Dear Mayor and Council

**Re: Support of Engagement Framework**

The attached *preliminary Engagement Framework* was created as a joint initiative between the Metro Vancouver Port Cities Committee and the Port Authority's Transition Committee as a model to formalize the relationship and foster meaningful consultation among all parties that have interests and obligations related to marine and port activity in the Lower Mainland.

The Port Cities Committee, the Port Authority's Transition Committee and the Metro Vancouver Board have all endorsed the *preliminary Engagement Framework*. Any further changes to the *Engagement Framework* would require further consultation with the Port Authority.

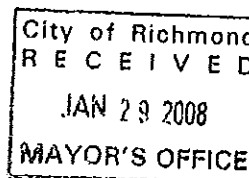
The Board of Metro Vancouver is requesting your endorsement of the *Engagement Framework* which will form the basis for a future regional Charter between the Metro Vancouver port cities and the new Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

Please forward a copy of your resolution of endorsement to Chair Lois Jackson at Metro Vancouver, 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4G8, by February 29, 2008.

Once all resolutions have been received, the Engagement Framework will be finalized by the Chair of Metro Vancouver, the Chair of Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, and the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Port Cities Committee.

Yours truly,

Lois E. Jackson  
Chair, Metro Vancouver  
LJ:imb



cc: Gordon Houston, President and CEO, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority  
Gaëtan Royer, Chair, RAAC Advisory Subcommittee of Port Cities Committee

Vancouver Fraser  
Port Authority



January 2008

**PRELIMINARY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**  
**Metro Vancouver and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority**

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Whereas the amalgamation of Vancouver Port Authority, Fraser River Port Authority and North Fraser Port Authority has resulted in a new organization known as the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA); and

Whereas several port cities within Metro Vancouver and the VFPA have entered into charters to formalize their relationships; and

Whereas the port cities and the VFPA each acknowledge the independence of the other and the obligation of each organization to act in a manner consistent with its enabling legislation and obligations; and

Whereas the port cities and the VFPA each acknowledge that their elected and appointed representatives have legal and fiduciary responsibilities to act in the best interest of their respective organizations; and

Whereas the port cities and the VFPA wish to foster harmonious relations and meaningful consultation among all parties that have interests and obligations related to marine activity including provincial and federal authorities, the VFPA, port industries, port cities, Metro Vancouver, other cities and stakeholders affected by port operations; and

Whereas the port cities and the VFPA wish to continue past practices such as local coordination meetings, attendance by port authority representatives at municipal Council meetings, harbour tours, special projects and interacting in a variety of ways that best suit local priorities; and

Whereas the VFPA and port cities wish to formalize their relationship and establish an ongoing liaison framework built on a spirit of cooperation and respect;

The VFPA and Metro Vancouver port cities hereby commit to enter into this *preliminary Engagement Framework* to guide the relationship between the VFPA and port cities effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2008.

Vancouver Fraser  
Port Authority



## DEFINITIONS

**VFPA** The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) is a non-shareholder corporation, established by the Government of Canada pursuant to the *Canada Marine Act* (CMA), and accountable to the federal Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities. The VFPA is committed to sustainable business practices that optimize the movement of passengers and cargo and the competitiveness of the lower mainland gateway.

**VFPA Board** The VFPA Board is a board of appointed directors who provide governance over the VFPA's affairs; the Board is appointed under rules set out in the CMA to represent the interests of the VFPA.

**Metro Vancouver** The Greater Vancouver Regional District, also referred to as Metro Vancouver is a federation of 21 municipalities operating under the British Columbia (BC) Community Charter and the *BC Municipal Act*. Metro Vancouver is committed to sustainable growth and the protection and enhancement of quality of life.

**Metro Vancouver Board** The Metro Vancouver Board provides the political leadership and governance over the affairs of Metro Vancouver, drawn from officials elected to municipal office and appointed by their respective municipal councils.

**PCC** The Port Cities Committee (PCC) is an advisory committee of the Metro Vancouver Board consisting of elected officials from port cities; the PCC is created and operated as set out by the Metro Vancouver Board to represent the interests of port cities.

**Port Cities** Port cities are municipalities identified in the VFPA's Letters Patent. In 2008, this includes the City of Vancouver, Corporation of Delta, City of Coquitlam, City of Richmond, Village of Belcarra, City of Burnaby, City of New Westminster, City of Port Moody, City of North Vancouver, City of Surrey, District of North Vancouver, City of Port Coquitlam, District of West Vancouver, District of Maple Ridge, City of Pitt Meadows and the Township of Langley.

## ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Metro Vancouver Board and the VFPA Board agree and commit to this *preliminary Engagement Framework* to guide the relationship between the two bodies through the following forums of effective engagement:

1. The Metro Vancouver Board and the VFPA Board will use Board and Committee meetings of both organizations as forums to discuss issues and solutions of mutual interest.
2. The VFPA may appoint representatives to attend PCC meetings in accordance with terms of reference set out by Metro Vancouver, as amended from time to time.
3. The PCC may appoint representatives to attend VFPA meetings in accordance with procedural guidelines set out by the VFPA, as amended from time to time.

Vancouver Fraser  
Port Authority



4. The parties agree to convene an annual joint meeting of the VFPA Board and PCC.
5. All parties acknowledge the need to respect the confidentiality of VFPA and PCC in-camera proceedings.
6. Staff of Metro Vancouver port cities and VFPA will establish regular meetings to discuss issues of mutual interest, exchange information about best practices and to work on regional projects such as an annual conference.
7. Representatives of the VFPA's Executive and senior staff will meet with the port cities CAOs and senior staff on a quarterly basis.
8. VFPA and the port cities staff of various disciplines will meet on an as-required basis to resolve issues as they arise from time to time in each Port City.
9. An annual conference will be convened with the following goals:
  - a. Serve as venue for an Annual Meeting of VFPA and Metro Vancouver officials;
  - b. Provide a venue to engage Federal and Provincial officials in meaningful dialogue on matters of mutual concern to VFPA and Metro Vancouver and long-term directions for Canada, British Columbia and the region;
  - c. Foster a better understanding of the VFPA as a global competitor and community partner;
  - d. Foster a better understanding of local and regional pressures and priorities affecting Metro Vancouver municipalities;
  - e. Create a forum for exchange of best practices;
  - f. Provide a venue for annual joint meeting of staff groups in various disciplines including Land Use Planners / Port Planners, Emergency Response agencies, Economic Development Officers and other sectors as required; and
  - g. Host presentations by national and international speakers on relevant topics and best practices.

This *preliminary Engagement Framework* between the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and Metro Vancouver will be expanded and formalized into a regional Charter to be developed over the next 12 months.

*Signatures:*

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*Chair, Port Cities Committee*

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*Chair, Metro Vancouver*

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*Chair, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority*