

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, February 26, 2021

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:

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Metro Vancouver Regional District

E 1.1 Barnston Island Flood Construction Level Study

APPROVED

The Barnston Island Flood Construction Level Study was commissioned to determine the appropriate flood construction level for new construction on Barnston Island. The objective of the study is to provide a consistent flood construction level across the island, balancing the interests of residents with the costs of new construction, and potential liability to Metro Vancouver associated with issuing building permits.

The study had a number of recommendations, including that new house construction be built to a minimum 7.2 metres above median sea level at its highest point, an increase in the current base elevation of three to six metres, and exemptions for certain types of construction.

The Board supported staff engagement with Barnston Island residents, including the Katzie First Nation, and relevant government agencies based on the consultant report. Staff were directed to bring forward recommendations on implementing a flood construction level for the Electoral Area Committee and MVRD Board's consideration.

E 2.1 Metro Vancouver's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

RECEIVED

This report responded to the Indigenous Relations Committee's request to examine the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. This report also reviews the regional district's commitment and efforts towards reconciliation with the 10 First Nations in the region since 2015. Given that it has been more than five years since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released the Calls to Action, this report provides information on some additional objectives that the Board may wish to discuss and consider towards reaffirming its commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

The Board received the report for information.

E 3.1 Metro 2040 Implementation Section Policy Review Recommendations

**APPROVED
IN PART**

To inform the update to the regional growth strategy, Metro Vancouver is undertaking a series of Policy Reviews, including for the Implementation Section (Metro 2040 Section F), which considers the procedural issues with implementing, administering and amending the strategy.

Taking into account the experience gained from administering Metro 2040 since its adoption in 2011, input from member jurisdictions and feedback from Regional Planning Committee members at the January 14, 2021 meeting, staff recommended several housekeeping refinements as well as the following directions to guide the drafting of new and amended policy language:

1. a) eliminate the requirement for a regional public hearing associated with Type 2 amendments;
b) ensure alternative means of meaningful regional public engagement, to replace the public hearing process noted in 1 a), including leveraging new technology; and
2. change minor amendment applications for lands with an Industrial regional land use designation from a Type 3 to a Type 2 amendment.

Point 1) of the above recommendation was carried unanimously, however point 2) was defeated and was not carried.

E 4.1 Regional Parks State of the Assets Report

RECEIVED

The regional parks system is comprised of natural and built assets. Natural assets are the ecosystems protected within the regional parks system and built assets are the trails, buildings and other amenities that provide public access and support land management. The Regional Parks State of the Assets Report provides an inventory, condition and value assessment of built assets, plus an overview and preliminary condition assessment of natural assets.

The total replacement value of built assets is estimated at \$292 million. The 10 categories of regional parks built assets are in fair or good condition. Development of methodologies to assess condition and value of the services provided by natural assets is underway and will be included in future reports.

The Board received the report for information and directed staff to incorporate the findings of the Regional Parks State of the Assets Report in the Regional Parks Asset Management Plan.

E 5.1 Major Project Delivery Governance Update

RECEIVED

The Board received for information a report that contains a governance update for the delivery of Metro Vancouver's major capital infrastructure projects as well as the draft terms of reference for a new major project external expert advisory committee.

Metro Vancouver plans for, and implements, significant capital infrastructure projects related to liquid waste and water services for the region. An external expert advisory committee is being established to provide independent advice related to the planning and implementation of major water and liquid waste capital projects. Committee members will have valuable and relevant business, governance and construction oversight experience to augment skills and experience held by Metro Vancouver staff. The input received from the committee will be advisory in nature.

E 5.2 Metro Vancouver's 2020 Zero Waste Conference**RECEIVED**

In 2020, for the first time, Metro Vancouver's annual Zero Waste Conference was a virtual event. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the conference delivered the same strong program it is renowned for but in a unique "television studio" experience. The program was anchored by four compelling and thought-provoking keynotes and a keynote discussion on solving the plastics challenge. Interspersed through the day were spotlights on innovators, entrepreneurs and practitioners in zero waste practices and policies as well as an armchair discussion on how to "build back better."

The overwhelming response from participants was that the 2020 Zero Waste Conference was one of the best — virtual or otherwise. Total number of participants was 501, compared to 530 in 2019. A key take-away from the conference is that we stand at an important cross-roads: we could return to the past or move to a more circular future. The urgency for the latter comes from science, as do many solutions. Within the marketplace, it will be important to establish new collaborations with governments and other key stakeholders that are creating the environment for innovation to thrive.

The Board received the report for information.

E 6.1 Assessment of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative**REFERRED**

The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative is a global campaign intended to spur international cooperation on the responsible use of fossil fuels. Staff completed an assessment of this initiative at the direction of the Climate Action Committee. Metro Vancouver's Climate 2050 is strongly aligned with the principles underlying the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative. The three key areas of focus are: ending new exploration and production of fossil fuels; phasing out existing stockpiles and production; and fast-tracking real solutions for a peaceful and just transition. While it is difficult to predict the impact of the proposed treaty and associated public campaign, it has the potential to contribute towards the development of global policies that limit fossil fuel use and raise public awareness.

The Board referred the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty as presented back to committee for further analysis.

E 6.2 2021 Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund Applications**APPROVED**

This report presented 10 projects recommended for funding, totalling \$1,919,000 over three years, through the Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund. The projects cover a wide range of climate action areas including carbon capture, emissions reduction, and enhancements to ecological health.

The Board approved the allocation from the Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund for the following projects:

- Assessment of Carbon Capture Technology in the Metro Vancouver Region: \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Lights, Camera, Climate Action: \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Sharing Data for Zero Emission Buildings (SDZEB): \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Responding to the Climate Emergency: Enhanced Stakeholder Engagement: \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Social and Community Data Land Use Model: \$60,000 in 2021
- Regional Land Use Assessment: \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Housing Retrofit Evolution – Pembina Institute Reframed Initiative: \$200,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Managing Capacity and Reducing Emissions: Real-time Parking Availability in Regional Parks: \$300,000 over three years starting in 2021
- Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks: \$160,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Promoting Peatland Recovery in Areas Affected by Wildfire in Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area: \$199,000 over two years starting in 2021

E 6.3 Endorsement of Host Society for the Howe Sound Ocean Watch Action Committee APPROVED

At its January 2021 meeting, the Climate Action Committee directed staff to assess Metro Vancouver's potential involvement and representation on the Howe Sound Ocean Watch Action Committee. The Ocean Watch Action Committee brings together local elected officials and others to advance actions identified in the Ocean Wise Report — Ocean Watch Átl'ka7tsem/Txwnéwu7ts/Howe Sound Edition 2020.

Metro Vancouver is the local government for Electoral Area A and participates in Howe Sound initiatives, including the Howe Sound Community Forum, primarily because portions of Electoral Area A are located in the Howe Sound region. The Howe Sound Community Forum recently recommended that local governments endorse the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society as the host society for the Ocean Watch Action Committee. Several local governments around Howe Sound — including Bowen Island Municipality, the Village of Lions Bay and District of West Vancouver — have endorsed this structure. Staff also recommended this structure as it relies on an existing society that is closely linked to ongoing work to protect the environment in Howe Sound and regularly provides updates to the Howe Sound Community Forum.

The Board endorsed the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society as the host society for the Ocean Watch Action Committee.

E 7.1 External Agency Appointment Process

RECEIVED

The Board received for information a report about the external agency appointment process.

Metro Vancouver follows different processes for the appointment of representatives to variety of committees or agencies depending on the category type. The first category is for standing committees, whose representatives are appointed by the Board Chair. In contrast, the second category is for external agencies, whose representatives are appointed by the Board, following various nomination procedures. Finally, the last category is advisory panels: public advisory panels appointed by the Board, or technical advisory panels appointed by staff.

E 8.1 Regional Economic Prosperity Service Update

RECEIVED

In July 2019, the MVRD Board endorsed the business plan for the Regional Economic Prosperity Service. An attached presentation provided an overview of the key challenges the Metro Vancouver region is facing due to the transitioning global economy and outlines the important next steps to meet these challenges and best position Metro Vancouver as an economic region. In order to support these next steps, the Regional Economic Prosperity Service will engage in activities consistent with the business plan's three core functions:

- Foster Collaboration
- Conduct Regional Data Collection and Research
- Attract Investment

Staff have been meeting with stakeholders from across the region to better understand the opportunities and challenges for the Metro Vancouver economy and to identify the best approach for the service and these functions. Key themes emerging from these meetings include the value of the regional service in providing thought leadership, acting as a regional convener and providing one voice for regional strategic priorities.

The Board received the report for information.

G 1.1 Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1310 - Redesignating Regional Park Lands to Conservation and Recreation

**RECEIVED
APPROVED**

At its October 2020 meeting, the MVRD Board initiated the amendment of the Regional Growth Strategy to augment the existing regional land use designations to Conservation and Recreation for lands currently used as regional park or greenway. To do so, the Board gave first, second and third reading of MVRD Amending Bylaw 1310, and referred it to affected local governments for comment.

The Cities of Coquitlam and White Rock, the Agricultural Land Commission and the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District provided comments, expressing no objections.

The District of North Vancouver requested the removal of six the property interests, and the City of New Westminster requested the removal of five property interests from the Bylaw. Removing the lands, as requested, from the Bylaw would not affect Metro Vancouver’s statutory rights-of-way allowing the use of those lands for greenway purposes.

The Board received the comments from the affected local governments and agencies for information; rescinded third reading of Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1310, 2020; amended the bylaw as outlined in the report; gave third reading to said bylaw as amended, before finally passing and adopting the bylaw.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

RECEIVED

The Board received information items from Standing Committees.

Indigenous Relations Committee – February 4, 2021

Information Items:

5.2 Quarterly Report on Reconciliation Activities

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

Regional Planning Committee – February 5, 2021

Information Items:

5.3 Hey Neighbour Collective Discussion Paper to Inform Metro 2050

Metro Vancouver has partnered with the Hey Neighbour Collective in a research initiative to study best practices to increase social connectedness and resilience in multi-unit rental housing throughout B.C.’s urban communities. The Hey Neighbour Collective has completed a discussion paper which contains recommendations to better support social connectedness in multi-unit buildings including:

- Tenant protections
- Protecting existing rental housing stock
- Expanding the supply of affordable rental housing stock, particularly in transit-oriented locations
- Considering new social connectedness metrics and performance measures

These recommendations have been considered, and where appropriate, will be incorporated in the drafting of Metro 2050, the update to the regional growth strategy. Socially connected communities are more resilient in times of crisis and are an important means of supporting Metro Vancouver’s efforts to build a more resilient region. This research is supportive of Metro Vancouver’s collective vision of focusing growth into compact, complete, walkable communities by identifying ways to support residents of multi-family buildings being more connected to their neighbours and neighbourhoods.

George Massey Crossing Task Force – February 5, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 George Massey Crossing – Project Status

Over the past year, the Province completed a business case for the replacement of the George Massey Tunnel. The business case included two short-listed options: an eight-lane bridge and an eight-lane immersed tube tunnel. As the project is expected to enter a new phase with the completion of the business case, the Metro Vancouver George Massey Crossing Task Force has been reconvened.

Regional Parks Committee – February 10, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 Regional Parks Permit Framework

The Regional Parks Permit Framework describes a permit system that provides individuals, groups and organizations with the required authorization to use a regional park for an activity that would otherwise be prohibited, or to acquire temporary exclusivity over a specific area of a park or a regional parks facility. The framework defines and describes the various types of permits used in the system and provides direction to staff involved in the permitting process. Permits described include: filming, special events/special use, commercial use, facility rentals, camping, and special access. The framework describes the process applicants must follow to obtain any of these types of permits.

Climate Action Committee – February 12, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 Climate 2050 Discussion Paper on Energy

In October 2019, the MVRD Board directed staff to begin an engagement process for a series of issue area discussion papers to support developing the Climate 2050 Roadmaps. Staff have developed a draft discussion paper on climate change issues related to energy, including ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. This discussion paper will support public, stakeholder and government engagement for Climate 2050 and the upcoming updates to the Drinking Water Management Plan, Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Liquid Waste Management Plan.

Greater Vancouver Water District

E 1.1 2021 Water Sustainability Innovation Fund Applications

APPROVED

This report presented five projects recommended for funding, totaling \$2,200,000 over three years through the Water Sustainability Innovation Fund. The projects cover a range of areas including water supply, water quality and infrastructure.

The Board approved the allocation from the Water Sustainability Innovation Fund for the following projects:

- Building Information Modeling (BIM): Transforming Utilities Information Management: \$800,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Microplastics Study in Source Waters and Water Treatment: \$150,000 over two years starting in 2022
- Next Generation Snowpack Monitoring, Phase 2: \$400,000 over two years starting in 2021
- Visual Documentation of Key Water Services Infrastructure: \$700,000 over two years starting in 2022
- Industrial, Commercial & Institutional Sector Migration – Impact on Water Services: \$150,000 over two years starting in 2021

Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

E 1.1 Hydrothermal Processing Demonstration Facility – Additional Sustainability Innovation Fund Funding Request

APPROVED

The Hydrothermal Processing Biofuel project has previously received funding from the Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund (SIF), as well as from external partners. With the initiation of work on the Hydrothermal Processing Biofuel Demonstration Facility, the revised cost estimate is now \$19.38 million. This first-of-its-kind project has proven not surprisingly, to be difficult to scope. With design now complete, a budget shortfall of \$6.13 million exists, based on a number of necessary additional requirements identified by the design consultants. Approval of additional funding would bring the total allocation to this project from the Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund to \$14.38 million over six years. The balance of the costs will be covered by \$5 million of external funds secured from project partners, Parkland Fuel Corporation and the Province of B.C.

The Board approved additional funding of \$6.13 million from the Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund for the Hydrothermal Processing Biofuel Demonstration Facility.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

RECEIVED

The Board received information items from Standing Committees.

Liquid Waste Committee – February 11, 2021

Information Items:

5.1 Results for 2020 Wipe It, Green Bin It Campaign

The 2020 Wipe It, Green Bin It campaign asked residents to put fats, oils and grease (FOG) in their green bins, not down their sinks. In addition to region-wide promotion, the campaign targeted hot spot areas in the City of Richmond and Township of Langley, where staff monitored FOG build-up in pump stations.

The campaign ran in two phases (Thanksgiving and Christmas/holiday season) and included social media, online advertising, television, transit shelter advertising and mail-outs. Where possible, materials were tailored to hot spot areas. The campaign delivered more than 10 million impressions and reached 476,000 residents through social media, showing solid levels of engagement on social media and the campaign website. In the hot spot areas, data trends show decreases in FOG levels corresponding to campaign efforts.

Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation

No open agenda items.