



## **For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 23, 2014**

*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.*

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## **Greater Vancouver Regional District - Parks**

### **Regional Parks Forum**

**APPROVED**

The Regional Parks Forum was established in 1998 as a mechanism for facilitating dialogue between regional park staff, park partners and volunteers. Interest in the Forum has dwindled in recent years and its model is now outdated. Metro staff are working with park associations and park partners to develop more innovative, efficient and contemporary ways to foster networking through the use of social media and web-based tools, resulting in varied, more responsive mechanisms for dialogue and higher levels of citizen engagement.

The Board disbanded the Regional Parks Forum, ended the annual appointment of a GVRD director, and will thank park volunteers for their ongoing contributions and commitment to Metro Vancouver's Regional Parks program.

### **Experience the Fraser – Signage Guidelines and Installation**

**APPROVED**

Experience the Fraser (ETF) is a collaborative project between Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Regional District to create a continuous green space along the banks of the Fraser River. Signage is an important component of the project.

The Board adopted Signage Guidelines for ETP Canyon to Coast Trail and Blueways and authorized installation of ETF signage within Metro Vancouver Regional Parks based on the Signage Guidelines.

### **Contribution Agreement - Catching the Spirit Youth Society**

**APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver provides an annual grant to Catching the Spirit Youth Society, which arranges stewardship projects, environmental citizenship programs and leadership initiatives for youth in Metro Vancouver.

This three-year agreement provides some measure of stability to allow for smooth planning, program development and delivery.

The Board approved entering into a three-year contribution agreement with the Catching the Spirit Youth Society for an annual amount of \$75,000.



## **Contribution Agreement – Pacific Parklands Foundation**

**APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver provides an annual grant to the Pacific Parklands Foundation, which administers a variety of initiatives for Metro Vancouver's regional parks, including fundraising for programs and capital projects, bequests and sponsorships. This proposed three-year agreement provides some measure of stability to allow for the foundation to establish relationships with donors, and for smooth planning and continuity from year-to-year.

The Board approved entering into a three-year contribution agreement with the Pacific Parklands Foundation for an annual amount of \$175,000.

## **Greater Vancouver Regional District**

### **Provincial Legislation Relating to Undiscovered or Unregistered Archaeological Sites**

**RECEIVED**

A report examines provincial legislation as it relates to development where undiscovered or unregistered archaeological sites exist. There are significant financial consequences for private property owners, developers and local governments as a result of the application of the provincial legislation. There are a number of ways that the consequences could be addressed in a manner that would support the objectives of the Heritage Conservation Act. Some of those options could be revenue neutral to the provincial government.

The Board received the report and will forward a letter conveying the report to the Province for response and forward a copy to the Union of BC Municipalities for information.

### **New Relationship Agreements in British Columbia, 2008-2013**

**APPROVED**

"New Relationship Agreements" are intended to bolster First Nation lands, resource and economic development opportunities as well as enhance social and cultural initiatives in Aboriginal communities throughout British Columbia. The agreements are also intended to provide more opportunities for local government input and consultations on Aboriginal issues and initiatives.

A report presents a summary of New Relationship Agreements in British Columbia between 2008 and 2013. Although the New Relationship was intended to provide more opportunities for local government input and consultations on Aboriginal issues and initiatives, Metro Vancouver has neither been advised, nor consulted by the Province on any of the agreements signed to date with First Nations in the Lower Mainland area.

The Board received the report and will forward a letter to the Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation requesting that Metro Vancouver be consulted on New Relationship agreements within the region between the BC Government and First Nations prior to those agreements being finalized.



## **Regional Ground Level Ozone Strategy**

**APPROVED**

Ozone gas produced near the surface of the earth has negative environmental, health and economic impacts. Metro Vancouver has developed a ground-level ozone reduction strategy in partnership with the Fraser Valley Regional District and other agencies.

The Regional Ground Level Ozone Strategy for the Canadian Lower Fraser Valley provides strategic policy direction for ozone management in our airshed, based on up-to-date scientific understanding.

The Board endorsed the Regional Ground Level Ozone Strategy for the Canadian Lower Fraser Valley and directed staff to report back on updates to the Strategy.

## **Proposed TransLink Projects for Federal Gas Tax Funding – Part 1**

**APPROVED**

The purpose of federal gas tax funding is to provide a stable, predictable and long-term funding source for environmentally sustainable municipal infrastructure that contributes to meeting sustainability objectives.

The five projects presented in this report aim to contribute to the continual modernization of the transit fleet and assets, preservation of the reliability of transit services for existing customers, and continual improvements to environmental performance. The five projects generally support the Board's Metro 2040 and environmental objectives.

The Board endorsed the following projects in TransLink's application for federal gas tax funding:

- a) 2016 Conventional Bus Replacement;
- b) 2017 Conventional Bus Replacement;
- c) Trolley Overhead Rectifier Replacement – Metrotown;
- d) Automated Train Control Equipment Replacement; and
- e) Surrey Transit Centre CNG Facility Retrofit.

## **Proposed TransLink Projects for Federal Gas Tax Funding – Part 2**

**APPROVED**

The purpose of federal gas tax funding is to provide a stable, predictable and long-term funding source for environmentally sustainable municipal infrastructure that contributes to meeting sustainability objectives.

The three projects presented in this report generally support the Board's Metro 2040 and environmental objectives.

The Board endorsed the following projects in TransLink's application for federal gas tax funding:



- a) West Coast Express Rail Cars Buyout;
- b) Additional funding for Compass Card Bus Upgrades; and
- c) Additional funding for Hamilton Transit Centre – Richmond.

**Proposed Changes to the Agricultural Land Commission Funding Model** **APPROVED**

The Regional Planning and Agriculture Committee supports the Agricultural Land Commission's suggestion that it should be able to recover its costs for applications, similar to the municipal applications fee system, so that it can become self-sustaining.

The Board requested the Treasury Board to allow the Agricultural Land Commission to create an application and fees schedule that will move the Agricultural Land Commission towards a self-funded model.

**Consideration of the District of North Vancouver's Regional Context Statement** **APPROVED**

The Board accepted the District of North Vancouver's Regional Context Statement as received by Metro Vancouver on April 15, 2014.

**Proposed Changes to the Agricultural Land Commission** **APPROVED**

On March 27, 2014 the BC legislature passed first reading of Bill 24 that proposes significant changes to the Agricultural Land Commission legislation.

The Agricultural Land Reserve is integral to keeping land available and affordable for agriculture. While some flexibility is needed for farmers to use their land for related value-added businesses, it is unclear how farmers, not land speculators, will be beneficiaries of the new policies.

The Board will request BC Premier and the Minister of Agriculture that any legislation that arises from Bill 24 not be brought into force until consultation regarding the proposed changes to the Agricultural Land Commission has occurred with local governments.

**2014 Agriculture Awareness Grant Recommendations** **APPROVED**

Since 2008, Metro Vancouver has provided funding to non-profit organizations to conduct regionally-focused agriculture awareness activities.

The Board awarded Agricultural Awareness Grants to following eleven non-profit organizations as described in the report, for a total of \$40,000.



**Corporation of Delta Proposed Amendment to Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future for Southlands** **APPROVED**

On January 14, 2014 the Corporation of Delta submitted a request to amend Metro 2040, the regional growth strategy, in order to accommodate a development proposal known as the Southlands, a 217.5-hectare site.

The owner of the Southlands properties has proposed a comprehensive, mixed-use development that includes 950 residential units and approximately 80,000 square feet of ground-oriented commercial space.

The owner proposes to transfer 172 hectares of land to the Corporation of Delta to be held in public ownership. This land, which constitutes about 80 per cent of the site, would be used for agriculture, natural habitat, public space and greenways. The owner also proposes to provide \$9 million to the Corporation of Delta to improve agricultural drainage and irrigation, to increase the agricultural capability of the land.

Metro Vancouver held a public hearing on May 1, 2014, with written submissions accepted until May 9, 2014.

The Board gave third reading to Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1203, 2014 and notify the Corporation of Delta.

**Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future Amendment Request from Pitt Meadows – North Lougheed Planning Area** **APPROVED**

The City of Pitt Meadows has requested an amendment to Metro 2040 to re-designate Agricultural land to a combination of Mixed Employment and General Urban and to amend the Urban Containment Boundary.

The regional benefits of this proposal are increased agricultural viability in the area, increased land available for employment, and greater transportation efficiency for passengers and goods. Given Pitt Meadows' long-identified need to construct the North Lougheed Connector Road, the extensive planning work that has been undertaken, and the regional benefits that the road will enable, staff that the proposed amendment should proceed.

The Board proceeded with the Regional Growth Strategy amendment process for the City of Pitt Meadows' proposed amendment for the North Lougheed Planning Area.

**Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future Amendment to Reflect Accepted Regional Context Statements** **APPROVED**

The Board approved a bylaw to update the Regional Growth Strategy to incorporate mapping amendments in Regional Context Statements that have been recently accepted by Board accepted.



## **2014 Metro Vancouver Board Meetings – Additional Meeting Dates**

**APPROVED**

The Board established Friday, July 11 and Friday, October 10 as additional regular Board meetings for 2014.

## **Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District**

### **Village of Anmore's Request for Sewer Service for Eagle Mountain Middle School**

**APPROVED**

Anmore has requested that a Middle School located in Village of Anmore receive regional sewer service.

Under most circumstances, municipalities must become full GVS&DD members, and take on a share of the costs and liabilities associated with the regional system. However, considering the unique situation and limited scope of the request, staff recommended moving forward with the connection without requiring that Anmore become a full member. Only the school will receive sewer service and the connection will have negligible consequences for the regional system.

The Board approved the Middle School receiving regional sewerage service without the Village of Anmore becoming a member of GVS&DD, by amending the Regional Growth Strategy so that the Middle School is designated General Urban and is within the Urban Containment Boundary, allowing for regional sewerage service.

### **Cost Sharing Agreement for the Replacement of Langley Connector No. 1**

**APPROVED**

The Langley Sewerage Connector No. 1 and Carvolth Sanitary Trunk Sewer convey sewage from the City of Langley and Township of Langley to a regional wastewater treatment facility.

The Board approved the cost sharing agreement between the GVS&DD and the Township of Langley in which the latter will contribute \$720,000 (plus tax) on the replacement of the Langley Sewerage Connector No. 1, with a total estimated cost of \$1.5 million.

### **Organics Disposal Ban Consultation Update**

**RECEIVED**

Metro Vancouver has been carrying out engagement activities with organics waste producers (grocers, restaurants and hotels, schools, property managers, health facilities, and small-to - medium enterprises) considered key to maximizing the diversion of organics from disposal.

There has been a great deal of interest in, and feedback received on, the implementation of an Organics Disposal Ban for Metro Vancouver. Feedback has been received on four potential implementation options, as well as other suggestions.

A recommended implementation strategy for the Organics Disposal Ban, considering feedback from all workshops and the on - line survey is expected to be presented to the Board for consideration in mid 2014.



## Greater Vancouver Water Regional District

### **Water Supply Forecast and Water Consumption/Conservation Update for Summer 2014**

**RECEIVED**

The Board received a report that provided an annual update on the current water supply, water consumption and water conservation situation in consideration of the approaching summer peak demand period.

#### Highlights:

Due to municipal and Metro Vancouver water conservation actions, per-capita water use in the region has declined by 26 percent since 1993.

Changes to the lawn sprinkling regulations made in 2011 are reducing peak demands on the GVWD and municipal water transmission systems.

Although the existing snow pack levels are below average, it is expected that source lake storage will be sufficient to ensure adequate water supply for the 2014 summer season.

### **2013 GVWD Quality Control Annual Report**

**RECEIVED**

Metro Vancouver's water quality monitoring program continues to fulfill its role of confirming that thanks to initiatives like watershed protection and water treatment, the drinking water we provide to our customers consistently met or exceeded water quality standards and guidelines in 2013.

The Board received the report for information.

### **Seymour - Capilano Filtration Project - Project Status**

**RECEIVED**

The Board received the first 2014 quarterly status report for the construction phase of the Seymour - Capilano Filtration Project.

Most aspects of the project are complete. The Energy Recovery Facility and Twin Tunnels components are nearing completion and expected to be finished by the end of the year.