

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, June 30, 2023

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: media@metrovancover.org.

Metro Vancouver Regional District

E1.1 Regional Parks 2022 Annual Report

RECEIVED

In 2022, Regional Parks continued efforts to expand park facilities to accommodate visitation growth and make access to regional parks more equitable. There were 14.3 million visits to regional parks and greenways in 2022, with records set at three locations. Staff completed the update of the *Regional Parks Plan*, which offers a strategic vision of a resilient network of regional parks and greenways that provides important climate, health and other benefits to visitors and regional residents.

In 2022, 39,389 people were able to take part in 525 programs, events and outreach activities and 4,655 volunteers and park partners contributed 15,398 hours to stewardship, education activities, and interpretive programs and events. Over 21 hectares of land was added to the regional parks system while staff advanced numerous planning, design, and asset management initiatives.

The Board received the report for information.

E1.2 Regional Park at Cape Roger Curtis - Park Planning, Municipal Rezoning, and OCP Amendment Update

RECEIVED

The purchase of 24 parcels of land to establish a new regional park at Cape Roger Curtis on Bowen Island has been finalized. Metro Vancouver is taking steps to secure and maintain the land while the park planning, municipal rezoning, and Official Community Plan (OCP) amendment processes proceed.

Regional Parks staff are working closely with Bowen Island Municipality through the rezoning and OCP amendment process. Additional submittals, requested by the municipality, will be provided in early June for municipal advisory committee referrals and public engagement in advance of an anticipated second reading in September 2023.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.1 Air Quality Advisory Program and Preparedness for 2023

RECEIVED

Metro Vancouver issues air quality advisories to help protect public health during periods of degraded air quality. The air quality advisory program covers the entire Lower Fraser Valley airshed, including Metro Vancouver and parts of the Fraser Valley Regional District, when air quality is degraded or is expected to become degraded. Metro Vancouver works closely with health authorities, and other partners each year to update messaging and public outreach materials with actions people can take to reduce their exposure to air contaminants.

New this year, ongoing air quality status updates will be posted on Metro Vancouver’s website to increase awareness of the potential for an air quality advisory or as conditions change during an advisory. Wildfire smoke advisories in six of the last eight summers and elevated ground-level ozone due to extreme heat waves emphasize how climate change is presenting new challenges for air quality management. On May 15, 2023, the region experienced its earliest ground-level ozone advisory since the advisory program began 30 years ago.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.2 Manager’s Report

APPROVED

At its June 8, 2023 meeting, the Climate Action Committee considered the Manager’s Report, which contained information on the BC Electric Bike Rebate Program, which started on June 1, 2023 and which provides a rebate on eligible new e-bike purchases for income-qualified BC residents. Rebates range from \$350 to \$1,400 based on a person’s income. Over 12,000 applications for rebates were received in the first day, and a waitlist was created to allow provincial staff to process applications properly and in order. The rebate program is one of many provincial active transportation funding initiatives; they have funded over 300 projects totalling more than \$40 million in grants since 2014.

The committee discussed the importance of e-bikes in terms of increasing mobility and in providing a lower-cost e-transportation option, particularly for lower income residents. There was a desire to see the program expanded, as well as ensure the infrastructure for active transportation is in place as e-bikes become even more popular.

The Board resolved to write a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure requesting an expansion to the E-bike Rebate Program and enhanced, stable funding for safe active transportation infrastructure networks.

E3.1 Development Approval Process Review: Policy Implications

APPROVED

At its June 9, 2023 meeting, the Regional Planning Committee considered a report titled Development Approval Process Review: Policy Implications.

The Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing Initiative is one of the outcomes of the Province’s Development Approval Process Review, and aims to explore legislative changes to encourage gentle density and enable more infill and “missing middle” housing supply by allowing up to four units to be built on lots in areas traditionally zoned for single-family detached homes. While the provision of middle-income housing, infill, and intensification in general is positive and aligned with *Metro 2050* policies that encourage housing choice and diversity, there are some concerns over the possible unintended consequences that may result. The report summarizes recommendations compiled based on comments relating to *Metro 2050* policy directions and discussions with member jurisdictions.

In response to the report and the anticipated provincial legislation, committee members discussed their desire to communicate to the Province the uniqueness of each local government in BC, and the

importance of ensuring that the legislation builds in appropriate flexibility, such that it can be successfully implemented in varied local contexts.

The Board endorsed the comments as set out in the report, and directed staff to forward comments to the Ministry of Housing staff for consideration when drafting the pending legislative changes for the Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing Initiative. The Board also added an additional comment that local governments with significant undeveloped land designated as General Urban in *Metro 2050* be excluded from the provincial Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing Initiative.

E3.2 Metro 2050 Implementation Guideline - Regional Context Statements APPROVED

Metro 2050, the update to the regional growth strategy, was adopted by the MVRD Board on February 24, 2023. Section 446 of the Local Government Act stipulates that member jurisdictions must prepare and submit a Regional Context Statement within two years of the adoption of a regional growth strategy. In an effort to support the interpretation and implementation of *Metro 2050*, staff have updated the Implementation Guideline - Regional Context Statements with input from member jurisdiction planning staff.

The main changes in the updated implementation guideline are:

- shortening the document to focus on the RCS approval process
- including a Submission Requirements section for reference
- improve formatting to improve document readability
- creating a separate Regional Context Statement template for reference

The Board endorsed the implementation guideline as presented.

E4.1 2022 Statement of Financial Information APPROVED

The Statement of Financial Information Report (SOFI), is produced annually as required under the provincial *Financial Information Act*, and consists of series of statements and schedules, three of which are an integral part of the 2022 annual audited financial statements which were approved by the Board on April 28, 2023. These schedules include payments of remuneration and expenses for elected officials and employees, and payments to suppliers for goods and services. The Board’s approval of the SOFI schedules completes the 2022 financial reporting requirements.

The 2022 remuneration for elected officials was \$1.45 million, 5.7 per cent higher than the previous year, due to inflationary increases of 3.2 per cent, a 1.4 per cent increase in attendance at meetings, and international engagement starting up again. Expenses for elected officials and employees were \$3.1 million, up 31.8 per cent compared to prior year, as travel and training activities returned to pre-COVID levels. Total remuneration for employees in 2022 was \$194.5 million, 4.9 per cent higher than 2021. Contributing to this were increases for step and performance progression per collective agreements and policy as well as resource levels supporting the capital program.

The Board approved the Statement of Financial Information for the year ended December 31, 2022.

E5.1 Update on Metro Vancouver Engagement with the Love Food Hate Waste Canada Campaign for 2022-2023 **RECEIVED**

As part of its commitment to waste prevention, Metro Vancouver launched a regional Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW) campaign in 2015 to prevent household food waste. Building on the success of the regional campaign, Metro Vancouver launched the initiative across Canada through the National Zero Waste Council (NZWC) in 2018.

As Canada’s leading resource to prevent household food waste, LFHW Canada takes a collaborative, cross-sector approach — offering simple, actionable tips to help Canadians make their food go further and waste less. National and local activations work together to enable citizens to hear consistent messaging through a variety of outreach, communication, and media efforts, driving behaviour change over the long-term.

Metro Vancouver is one of eight partners in this national bilingual campaign. As a partner, Metro Vancouver receives creative materials for regional activations, and benefits from national media buys, access to influencers, and press outreach. The regional campaign performed strongly in 2022 and early 2023 with over four million total impressions, a reach of over one million people, and nearly 8,000 social media engagements. The national campaign garnered nearly 18 million impressions.

The Board received the report for information.

G1.1 Metro 2050 Type 3 Proposed Amendment – City of Surrey (Fraser Heights) **APPROVED**

The City of Surrey requested a Type 3 Amendment to *Metro 2050* for a 10.2-hectare site located at 11420 157A Street in the Fraser Heights area. The request is to re-designate the site from Industrial to General Urban to accommodate a residential development of 38 single-detached lots on the subject site.

The proposed amendment has been considered in relation to *Metro 2050’s* goals, strategies, and policies. Staff has concluded that, on balance, the proposed amendment is supportable.

The Board initiated the *Metro 2050* amendment process for the City of Surrey’s request, gave first, second, and third readings to *Bylaw No. 1366, 2023*; and directed staff to notify affected local governments per section 6.4.2 of *Metro 2050*.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items and delegation summaries from standing committees.

Mayors Committee – June 7, 2023

Delegations:

3.1 Erin Seeley, Chief Executive Officer, YWCA

Subject: Equity Kickstart Guide for Cities

Climate Action Committee – June 8, 2023

Information Items:

5.2 2023 Update on Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund Projects

This report provides an update on 24 projects that were approved for funding in 2019 through to 2022 under the MVRD Sustainability Innovation Fund. The projects cover a wide variety of sustainability and climate action topics, including: climate engagement and literacy; advanced air quality monitoring; buildings decarbonization and resilience; ecosystem protection; and innovations in climate policy. Of the 24 projects, four have been recently completed, one has been discontinued (primarily due to the impact of COVID-19), and the rest are in progress.

Indigenous Relations Committee – June 8, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 First Nations' Lands

This information report conveys a summary presentation on the different categories of First Nations' lands including reserves, additions to reserve, treaty lands, and additions to treaty lands. Staff will provide the presentation to the Indigenous Relations Committee at its meeting on June 8, 2023.

5.2 2023 Regional Gathering Update

This report provides details about the 2023 Regional Gathering, co-hosted by Metro Vancouver and scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation). It was held on June 16 at the scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ Longhouse. The Regional Gathering provided a valuable opportunity for leaders from the 10 local First Nations and elected officials on the Metro Vancouver Board and Indigenous Relations Committee to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest in a convivial and relaxed atmosphere. This event featured a scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ welcome and opening prayer, buffet breakfast, opening remarks from scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ and Metro Vancouver representatives, a facilitated discussion, a networking lunch, a First Nation cultural performance, closing remarks and prayer. The event expenditures (exclusive of honoraria) are estimated to be approximately \$40,000.

5.3 Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities

This report provides a summary of reconciliation events and activities undertaken by Metro Vancouver over the past three months of 2023 as well as information on upcoming events and activities over the next three months. Forty activities have either taken place or been identified for this reporting period, including 11 training sessions and 28 meetings or events intended to strengthen relationships with local First Nations. The report also highlights that, over the next quarter, there are eight planned training sessions on various topics for staff as well as 18 other meetings or relationship-building activities scheduled with First Nations. To this point in 2023, Metro Vancouver has already undertaken, scheduled or identified a total of 91 reconciliation-related activities. This number will continue to increase as the rest

of the year unfolds. By comparison, the total number of reconciliation-related activities undertaken in 2022 was just over 100.

5.4 Updates on Archaeology and the BC Heritage Conservation Act

The Archaeology Branch of the Ministry of Forests launched the *Heritage Conservation Act* Transformation Project in 2021. The main objective of this initiative is to align the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with the *BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA). This is anticipated to be one of the first significant legislative changes in BC under DRIPA.

Although the target for enactment was originally set for 2024, an updated draft of the *Heritage Conservation Act* is not anticipated for several years. In the meantime, the Archaeology Branch is making incremental changes to its permitting process, regulations, and policies. Notable changes underway include measures to reduce archaeology permit application review timeframes, reducing the number of statutory decisions required, and developing new permit application templates. It is likely there will be effects for Metro Vancouver once the new HCA is enacted; however, it is too early to anticipate what concrete changes will ultimately result from the HCA Transformation Project.

Regional Planning Committee – June 9, 2023

Delegation Summaries:

3.1 Christopher Lumsden, Planner, and Ron Gill, Area Planning – North, City of Surrey

Subject: *Metro 2050* Type 3 Proposed Amendment – City of Surrey (Fraser Heights)

Information Items:

5.2 Metro Vancouver Agriculture Portfolio Update

This report provides a review of Metro Vancouver’s role in regional agricultural planning focusing on the key projects and initiatives identified in the Regional Planning Committee’s 2023 Work Plan. The report also highlights how Metro Vancouver intersects with the agricultural sector by providing resources and opportunities for sharing information pertaining to the region’s food system across all member jurisdictions. Agriculture policy at Metro Vancouver is guided and supported by many policy documents, but particularly by *Metro 2050* and the Regional Food System Strategy. Additional direction for Metro Vancouver’s agricultural portfolio is also provided through Issue Area 4 of the *Clean Air Plan* and the draft *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap*. These documents support maintaining a healthy, resilient local food system including the continued protection of agricultural land for agricultural purposes, reducing agriculture-sector GHG emissions, supporting healthy soils, and conserving ecosystem services.

Regional Culture Committee – June 21, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 Metro Vancouver 2023 Regional Cultural Grants: Adjudication Process

Metro Vancouver’s annual regional cultural project grants, funded by the Cultural Grants Reserve, support region-serving arts and culture projects. Staff has undertaken an initial review of all received applications and will present shortlisted applications for adjudication by the committee at its July 19, 2023 meeting.

The committee will provide a recommendation on the grant award for each successful proponent to a cap of \$10,000 per project and a total distribution of \$300,000. The committee's recommended allocations will be presented to the July 28, 2023 MVRD Board meeting for final approval.

Greater Vancouver Water District

E1.1 Award of Tender No. 23-100 Capilano Raw Water Pump Station and Westburnco Pump Station Temporary Backup Power APPROVED

To ensure the continuous supply of drinking water in the event that Coquitlam Main No. 2 or No. 3 is damaged during the construction of Coquitlam Main No. 4 and at the same time a power outage occurs at the Capilano Raw Water Pump Station and/or Westburnco Pump Station, temporary backup power at these two pump station sites is required to allow the Seymour-Capilano source to back-feed the eastern portion of Metro Vancouver’s transmission system.

The Board approved award of Tender No. 23-100 Capilano Raw Water Pump Station and Westburnco Pump Station Temporary Back Up Power, in the amount of up to \$10,899,738 (exclusive of taxes) to North America Construction (1993) Ltd., for a term of three years, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received an information item from a standing committee.

Water Committee – June 14, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 Non-Potable Water Project

Using onsite water sources to supply non-potable end uses, at the building level, presents an opportunity to use water resources more sustainably and prioritize drinking water for essential uses. To support regional water conservation, the Non-Potable Water Project, funded by the Water Sustainability Innovation Fund, aims to promote water reuse and rainwater harvesting systems (non-potable water systems) by identifying and addressing barriers to the adoption of these systems.

Guiding documents were developed for stakeholders within building and water industries to support overcoming barriers associated with non-potable water systems:

- Guidebook – leads stakeholders from planning to operation of building-scale non-potable water systems
- Companion document – provides technical design and performance monitoring guidance
- Key findings document – outlines recommendations to address identified barriers to non-potable water system uptake

After publishing these documents, engagement with stakeholders will continue in order to secure an appropriate group or agency to own and action the key findings document. This project, aimed at

promoting non-potable water use, supports goals and objectives in both the *Drinking Water Management Plan* and *Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan*.

5.2 2022 GVWD Dam Safety Program Annual Update

The GVWD owns and operates seven dams that are regulated by the Ministry of Forests – Dam Safety Branch, five of which are regional drinking water supply dams and two of which store water for ecological and recreational purposes. The GVWD Dam Safety Program is compliant with the requirements outlined in the provincial *Dam Safety Regulation* (BC Reg. 11/2021) for the water supply dams, as required for all dam owners in British Columbia. There were no significant concerns identified from the 2022 routine surveillance, monitoring, or formal dam inspections

5.3 Capilano Main No. 4 Repairs and Upcoming Replacement Project

Metro Vancouver’s Capilano Main No. 4 is an aging water main that supplies approximately one-third of the region under normal operating conditions. A 1.4-kilometre section of Capilano Main No. 4 runs through Stanley Park and was installed in 1932. Recent leak history, including a leak discovered on May 10, 2023, has highlighted the importance of the construction of the Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel, which will replace this section of Capilano Main No. 4 and provide additional capacity and seismic resiliency.

5.4 Water Supply Tunnel Updates

Over the next 30 years, one million people will join the region’s nearly 2.8 million residents and Metro Vancouver’s long-term plans ensure there will be enough water for future generations by promoting conservation, improving transmission, and expanding supply. Metro Vancouver has a total of six major water supply tunnels in various stages of design and construction which are being managed and delivered by the Project Delivery department. These high-risk, high-value, complex tunnel projects are critical components of the water transmission system and are being designed and constructed to withstand a major earthquake, to protect against scour and other marine activities, and to meet projected future drinking water demands in the region.

Once complete, these projects will significantly contribute to Metro Vancouver’s goals to ensure that the transmission components of the drinking water system are expanded and strengthened to allow the continued supply of safe, clean drinking water to the region’s residents and businesses.

Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

E1.1 Change Order to the Contract Resulting from RFP No. 19-007: Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant – Design and Construction Engineering Services APPROVED

At its June 2, 2023 meeting, the Board approved the Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant (NLWWTP) Expansion Project advancing to detailed design (Stage Gate 2). The plant’s design is being revised to incorporate value engineering opportunities identified in a comprehensive cost and design review and accommodate accelerated population growth in northeast Surrey.

A proposed change order in the amount of up to \$20,655,821 will allow CH2M Hill Canada Ltd. To complete the detailed design work, incorporating the construction cost saving measures and the Stage 1

plant capacity increase from 230,000 to 280,000 service population. This change order will increase the total contract value to \$65,981,187. The requested change order is below the program management consultant’s internal estimate for the work and can be accommodated within the current approved budget for the Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant Program.

The Board approved a change order in the amount of up to \$20,655,821 (exclusive of taxes) to CH2M Hill Canada Ltd., subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E1.2 Amendment to Central Aggregates Biosolids Management Contract Resulting from SRFOI 21-018 **APPROVED**

The *Liquid Waste Management Plan* requires Metro Vancouver to beneficially use biosolids. Metro Vancouver biosolids have been beneficially used by Lafarge Canada Inc. at their Central Aggregates gravel pit to reclaim exhausted gravel extraction areas for agricultural use. Lafarge submitted a proposal to amend their existing contract under Standing Request for Expressions of Interest No. 21-018: Biosolids Management. The amendment would increase the volume of Metro Vancouver biosolids that could be managed on the site by increasing the area to be reclaimed and extending the contract until 2026. Lafarge has demonstrated successful management of biosolids for Metro Vancouver at the site and proposed a reasonable price.

The Board approved an amendment to the contract with Lafarge Canada Inc. in the amount of up to \$4,097,000 (exclusive of taxes) for biosolids management at the Central Aggregates gravel pit, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E1.3 Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan: Biennial Report for 2021-2022 **APPROVED**

In accordance with the 2011 *Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan* (ILWRMP), Metro Vancouver must submit a biennial report by July 1, 2023 to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy outlining progress by Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions in implementing ILWRMP actions through 2021 and 2022. Board approval is requested to submit the attached biennial report by the required deadlines to the Ministry, followed by an opportunity to receive comments on the report. The biennial report outlines significant progress in regional liquid waste management over the preceding two years along with continuing challenges, especially during wet weather.

Review and update of the ILWRMP is currently underway, and approval of a more streamlined and targeted progress reporting approach will be requested for the next plan. The next plan will be modernized, with more impactful actions that better serve regional needs

The Board directed staff to submit the Biennial Report to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, in accordance with the requirements of the liquid waste management plan, and to arrange for the Liquid Waste Committee to receive public comments on the Biennial Report at its September 13, 2023 meeting.

E2.1 Extension of Recycling and Waste Centres Operations and Maintenance Services Contracts **APPROVED**

At its June 15, 2023 meeting, the Zero Waste Committee considered a report titled Extension of Recycling and Waste Centres Operations and Maintenance Services Contracts.

The committee endorsed the recommendations presented in the report and directed staff to provide additional information to the Board, regarding the proposed one-time price adjustments for recycling centre operations.

The Board approved an amendment in the amount of \$61,481,000 for a two-year extension from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 to the existing Contract 16-071 with Halton Recycling Ltd. (doing business as Emterra Environmental) for operation and maintenance of the North Shore, North Surrey, and United Boulevard recycling and waste centres; and approved an amendment in the amount of \$7,553,000 for a two-year extension from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 to the existing Contract 16-114 with GFL Environmental Inc. for operation and maintenance of the Maple Ridge and Langley recycling and waste centres, both subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E3.1 North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Program – Program Overview and Background **RECEIVED**

The Board received report with background information on the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Program.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items from standing committees.

Zero Waste Committee – June 15, 2023

Information Items:

5.2 Illegal Dumping Update and Gypsum Management in Metro Vancouver

Member jurisdictions and Metro Vancouver provide programs and education to help reduce illegal dumping in the region. Illegal dumping incidents were similar in 2022 compared to 2021 and down from 2020. In 2022, 42,154 illegal dumping incidents were tracked (including 940 incidents of abandoned gypsum), compared to 42,450 incidents in 2021 and 47,050 incidents in 2020. Illegal dumping clean-up costs are generally stable, with municipal costs of approximately \$3.4 million in 2022. Municipalities spend an additional \$2.5 million per year on bulky item pick-up programs.

Mattresses continue to be one of the most common illegally dumped materials/materials picked up in bulky item pick-up programs. Metro Vancouver has advocated for many years to include mattresses in provincial extended producer responsibility programs. The Province announced in 2021 that mattresses will be integrated into the extended producer responsibility program, along with some other materials, by 2025.

5.3 Waste-to-Energy Facility 2022 Financial Update

The Waste-to-Energy Facility continues to be an environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal option. In 2022 it processed 233,052 tonnes of municipal solid waste at an overall net unit cost of \$74.59 per tonne for operation and maintenance. The facility's net cost per tonne of waste processed increased in 2022 compared to 2021, primarily due to increased consumable costs (e.g., chemicals and natural gas), ash management costs, and lower throughput tonnage. Waste-to-Energy Facility unit costs are comparable to the cost of managing waste at the Vancouver Landfill and roughly half the cost of managing waste through Metro Vancouver's contingency disposal contracts. Waste-to-Energy Facility costs are funded through garbage tipping fees paid by all solid waste system users.

5.4 2023 Regional Clothing Waste Reduction Campaign Results

Now in its fifth year, Metro Vancouver's "Think Thrice About Your Clothes" behaviour change campaign performed strongly in terms of engagement and the number of Metro Vancouver residents reached. The campaign's goal is to increase diversion of textiles from the waste stream by raising awareness of the textile waste problem and empowering residents to take action. While clothing donation and recycling options were encouraged, the campaign has put additional emphasis on reduction and reuse options. Several new traditional media placements were added this year to expand campaign reach to younger audiences, with the inclusion of on-air host endorsements with Virgin Radio, SkyTrain platform posters, and digital screens located within eight post-secondary campuses across Metro Vancouver. The campaign achieved over 43.7 million impressions between digital and traditional media tactics, an increase of over 12 million impressions from the previous year.