

**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

*\* Indicates Virtual Attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Steve Kim, Vice Chair  
Mark Ashton, Citizen Representative  
Grayson Barke, Citizen Representative  
Reza Berry, Citizen Representative  
Craig Busch, Citizen Representative  
Linton Chokie, Citizen Representative  
Daryoush M. Hassani, Citizen Representative  
Edward Lau, Citizen Representative  
Hasina Razafimahefa, Citizen Representative  
Nadia Springle, Citizen Representative  
Azar Varasteh, Citizen Representative\*

ABSENT: Councillor Brent Asmundson, Chair  
Sarah Ramji, Citizen Representative (Regrets)

STAFF: Jonathan Helmus, Director Utilities  
Caresse Selk, Senior Manager Environment  
Jenny Tough, Manager Environmental Education and Enforcement  
Cassidy Stadel, Utility Planning Engineer  
Trevor Cheung, Engineering Technologist I  
Meghan Malkowich, Committee Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**1. Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

The Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 were approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. Stormwater Treatment Facility Update**

The Director Utilities gave a presentation entitled “Stoney Creek Treatment” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Opportunities to reduce maintenance costs of rain gardens by developing a volunteer-based caretaking program.
- The impact of the filtration process on organic materials in water going through the treatment process.
- Planned maintenance and the estimated lifetime of the water treatment system.
- The aesthetics of the Stoney Creek stormwater treatment facility and the ability to use the space above for recreation.
- Possible future locations for similar stormwater treatment facilities and opportunities to set aside land in advance of development.

Committee Member Grayson Barke gave a presentation entitled “How Can Municipal Governments in Metro Vancouver Reduce the Amount of 6PPD-Q Entering Fish-Bearing Watercourses?” and referred to slides in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Alternatives to common tire design and manufacturing that may reduce the amount of 6PPD being introduced into the environment.
- Opportunities for more public education to increase awareness.
- Opportunities to partner with tire manufacturers to develop solutions.

### **3. Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Update**

The Utility Planning Engineer and Engineering Technologist gave a presentation entitled “Inflow and Infiltration Update” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- How the diameter of the infrastructure impacts design capacity.
- Trends in discoveries of improper cross connections.
- The financial cost of fixing cross connections and private systems on homeowners and the City’s enforcement measures.

- Notification methods for improper connections and community engagement.
- The impacts of weather events such as atmospheric rivers on City infrastructure and future planning and maintenance.
- The lateral grant program and opportunities for increased engagement with homeowners.
- The issue of lack of visibility of underground infrastructure making the problem seem less immediate.
- Opportunities for the City to provide more resources and education for owners of private infrastructure to make improvements.
- The status of other municipalities in partnership with decreasing Inflow and Infiltration (I&I).
- Combined sewer system programs present in other municipalities and mandated infrastructure changes.
- Potential impacts of increasing development of higher density developments that utilize older infrastructure.
- City requirements to require developers to replace private and frontage systems.

The Director Utilities, Utility Planning Engineer and Engineering Technologist left at this point and did not return (8:24 p.m.).

#### **4. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)**

The Vice Chair invited Committee members to share emerging sustainability and environmental issues and events in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The status of the City of Coquitlam's Climate Action Plan and Urban Forest Management Strategy.
- The City's consideration of the Zero Carbon Step Code.
- Desire for transportation updates regarding active transportation and interest in public sentiment and engagement.
- The Fraser Mills Development and opportunities to partner with kwikwə'łəm First Nation regarding the eulachon breeding grounds in the Fraser River.
- Opportunities for public engagement to promote Earth Day, such as the upcoming Repair Café.
- The City's utilization of the Local Government Climate Action Program and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard Funds.

- Opportunities for the City to apply for funding from the Growing Canada's Community Canopies initiative led by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Green Municipal Fund.
- District energy and thermal energy networks and opportunities for partnerships with developers.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, June 24, 2025**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Councillor Steve Kim, Vice Chair

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Meghan Malkowich, Committee Clerk