For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, May 27, 2016
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 Greg Valou, 604-451-6016, Greg.Valou@metrovancouver.org or Jean Kavanagh, 604-451-6697, Jean.Kavanagh@metrovancouver.org.

Greater Vancouver Regional District - Parks

Regional Parks 2015 Annual Visitor Use and Program Statistics RECEIVED
The Board received for information a report with annual statistics for regional park visitor use, visitor services, and volunteering in 2015 as well as information related to visitor use trends and environmental factors. Metro Vancouver’s Regional Parks had 11.3 million visits in 2015, representing over five percent growth from 2014.

Greater Vancouver Regional District Sale and Exchange of a Portion of Derby Reach APPROVED
Regional Park for Other Land to be used for Park Purposes Bylaw No. 1233, 2016
The Board gave first, second and third reading to a bylaw regarding a proposal from a landowner to exchange land parcels of a portion of Derby Reach Regional Park for other land to be used for park purposes. The Board:

a) directed staff to carry out an alternative approval process to obtain elector approval for the Bylaw pursuant to section 269 of the Local Government Act.

b) established the deadline for receiving elector responses as July 14, 2016.

c) determined that the total number of electors of the area to which the approval process applies is 1,637,479.

d) directed staff to report the results of the alternative elector approval process to the Board and if approval is obtained to bring the Bylaw forward for adoption by the Board.

Greater Vancouver Regional District

Regional Affordable Housing Strategy APPROVED
The Regional Affordable Housing Strategy was adopted in 2007 to provide leadership on regional housing needs, and to advance the goals of the regional growth strategy, Metro 2040. The Board adopted the updated 2016 Strategy, and:
a) will convey the Strategy to member local governments, requesting that they endorse the Strategy as a collaborative approach through which stakeholders can advance its vision within their authority.

b) will send the updated Strategy to the BC Minister Responsible for Housing, The Hon. Rich Coleman, the BC Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development, and to the federal Minister responsible for Housing and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Hon. Jean Yves Duclos, and to other stakeholders with an interest in regional housing affordability.

c) directed staff to develop an implementation plan for actions in the Strategy for which Metro Vancouver is responsible.

Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy

The Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy identifies the process through which Metro Vancouver considers and approves expenditures from the Federal Gas Tax Fund-Greater Vancouver Regional Fund. The fund supports projects for regional transportation proposed by the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority (TransLink).

The Board approved the Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy as presented, with clarifying language added by the Board, and referred it for information to the Mayors’ Council, the TransLink Board, and the Union of BC Municipalities.

2016 Greater Vancouver Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund

The GVRD Sustainability Innovation Fund provides financial support to projects that contribute to the region’s sustainability. The Board approved funding to the following projects:

a) Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Fund: $100,000 in 2017
b) The Regional Park Solar-Powered Conversion Project: $100,000 in 2017
c) City of Langley Urban Agriculture Demonstration: $50,000 in 2017

Greater Vancouver Regional District Air Quality Management Bylaw No. 1082, 2008 – Officer Appointment

Metro Vancouver may delegate authority upon Officers to advance air quality management goals. These officers may enter property, inspect works, and obtain records and other information to promote compliance with the Greater Vancouver Regional District Air Quality Management bylaws.

Caring for the Air 2016 Report

The annual Caring for the Air report shares information about air quality and climate change in the region in a manner that is accessible, relevant, and of general interest to a wide range of readers. The fifth edition provides updates, reviews, and news about actions, activities, and performance measures related to work by Metro Vancouver and other organizations in the region in 2015.

The Board received the 2016 Caring for the Air report for information.

2016 Metro Vancouver Agriculture Awareness Grant Recommendations

Metro Vancouver provides annual funding through Agriculture Awareness Grants to non-profit organizations with an agriculture focus. The Board approved these grant allocations:

i. BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation, Take a Bite of BC project, $6,000
ii. BC Chicken Grower’s Association, Poultry in Motion Educational Mini Barn, $5,000
iii. Delta Farmer’s Institute, Agriculture Education and Outreach Website, $3,500
iv. Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust, Day at the Farm event, $3,000
v. Earthwise Society, Tomato Festival event, $2,500
vi. Environmental Youth Alliance, All for One, One for the Bees project, $4,500
vii. Growing Chefs, Classroom Gardening Program, $5,000
viii. Haney Farmers Market Society, The Market Goes to the Farm project, $500
ix. Langley Environmental Partners Society, Langley Eats Local project, $5,000
x. Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association, Grow Food, Not Waste event, $2,000
xi. The Sharing Farm Society, 8th Annual Garlic Festival, $3,000

Metro 2040: Regional Growth Strategy Performance Measures Review Project: Findings and Next Steps

Between August and December 2015, EcoPlan International conducted a review of the Metro 2040 (regional growth strategy) Performance Measures as part of a larger project to update Metro 2040 Monitoring. After significant analysis, EcoPlan International has proposed a restructured Metro 2040 performance monitoring framework to organize performance measures by function. Over the course of 2016, staff will test these proposed measures and review other potential changes to monitoring the regional growth strategy.

The Board received the report for information.
Love Food - Hate Waste Campaign Update

A campaign to reduce household avoidable food waste supports both solid waste and liquid waste reduction objectives. The Love Food - Hate Waste campaign to help residents use more of the food that they buy was launched in May, 2015.

The Board received the report for information.

2015 Statement of Financial Information

The Board approved the Statement of Financial Information for the year ended December 31, 2015.

George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project Update

The Board:

a) will write a letter in response to the correspondence “George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project” dated May 17, 2016 from the Honourable Todd Stone, BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

b) directed staff to obtain information on the environmental assessment process from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency or other federal authorities in order to recommend an appropriate course of action.

c) directed staff to report back through the Intergovernment and Finance Committee as soon as possible with an analysis of the George Massey Tunnel Replacement project based on the information available.

Metro Vancouver External Agency Activities Status Report May 2016

The Board received for information the following reports from Metro Vancouver representatives to external organizations:


b) Minutes of the Lower Mainland Local Government Association, Flood Control and River Management Committee from Alternate Director Mae Reid.

c) Pacific Parklands Foundation Update for the Period November 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016 from Director Craig Hodge.

d) Report on Delta Heritage Airpark Management Committee Status Report from Delta Councillor Ian Paton.
Greater Vancouver Water District

2016 Water Sustainability Innovation Fund Applications

The Water Sustainability Innovation Fund provides financial support to Water Utility projects that contribute to the region’s sustainability. The Board approved funding for the following projects:

a) Assessing Densification Impacts on Water Demands: $155,000
b) Mountain Lake Tapping Project: $125,000

The Board approved funding for the following projects:

2016 Water Wagon Schedule and Sprinkling Regulations Education Materials

The Board received for information the preliminary 2016 event schedule for Metro Vancouver’s Water Wagon and Tap Water Team, and an update on the sprinkling regulations education materials being provided to members and promoted to residents across the region.

Water Conservation Research and Campaign Update

The Board received for information a report on the regional water conservation campaign, which will launch in summer 2016 to expand public awareness of the quality of Metro Vancouver’s water and the importance of conserving it. The campaign is supported by the 2015 Water Sustainability Innovation Fund, and encourages year-round reduction in personal water consumption indoors and outdoors.

Water Source Supply Model and Water Shortage Response Plan Stage Activation Process

The Board received for information a report that explains Metro Vancouver’s Water Source Supply Model and Water Shortage Response Plan activation process.

Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

2016 Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund Applications

The Liquid Waste Sustainability Innovation Fund provides financial support to Liquid Waste projects that contribute to the region’s sustainability. The Board approved funding for the following projects subject to securing the required external grants:

a) Smart Sewers – Development of Wireless In-Situ Sensors: $200,000
b) Hydrothermal Processing Pilot Facility: $4 million
Intentions Paper – Proposed New Bylaw for Post-Secondary and Research Laboratories

Metro Vancouver staff propose developing a bylaw that would require post-secondary and research laboratories to submit and implement Pollution Prevention Plans for their wastewater discharges.

The Board endorsed an intentions paper for the development of a new regulatory bylaw for liquid waste discharge from post-secondary and research laboratories, and directed staff to initiate a consultation process.

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 299, 2007 – Staff Appointments

Municipal Sewage Control Officers may enter property, inspect works, and obtain records and other information to promote compliance with the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Liquid Waste Management bylaws. The Board, pursuant to the Environmental Management Act and Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 299, 2007, appointed the following Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver staff:

- Kathy Preston as Deputy Sewage Control Manager.
- James Smith, City of Vancouver, Deputy Sewage Control Manager.

The Board rescinded the following Metro Vancouver staff:

- Karen Pyne and Johanna van den Broeke as Municipal Sewage Control Officers.

Bridge Funding for the Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative

The Board approved $5,000 in bridge funding to the Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC to partially fund a scaled-back Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative in 2016. The Board will also write to the Partnership indicating its support for a request to the Province for a five-year funding commitment towards the Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative.

Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Dispute Resolution Procedure

The Board received for information a staff report advising of work underway to develop an Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Implementation Dispute Resolution Procedure, which will subsequently be provided to the Board for consideration.
Litter, Abandoned Waste & Escaped Waste Strategy

Preventing and managing litter, abandoned and escaped waste continues to be challenging and costly for municipalities around the region. The Board received a staff report for information, and approved the following actions to help reduce abandoned waste, litter, and escaped waste:

a) incorporate a surcharge for unsecured loads into the proposed 2017 Tipping Fee Bylaw.
b) develop requirements to waive tipping fees for volunteer community clean-up events.
c) develop an education and awareness program to reduce abandoned waste.
d) continue to work with members to track clean-up costs for abandoned waste.
e) continue to work with members to facilitate information sharing and collaboration in reducing abandoned waste.

Publication of Diversion Rates of Licensed Construction and Demolition Waste Facilities

Most construction and demolition recycling in the region is managed at private facilities that are licensed and regulated through Bylaw 181.

To make further progress toward the regional diversion goals and to satisfy the reporting requirements of the solid waste management plan, Metro Vancouver will post the waste-diversion rates of private licensed transfer stations and material recovery facilities online. Posting this information is intended to improve transparency for those who rely on the facilities to recycle construction and demolition waste, and to encourage best practices in recycling. The Board received the report for information.


The Board received the 2015 financial update for the Metro Vancouver Waste-to-Energy Facility located in Burnaby.

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclable Material Regulatory Bylaw – Staff Appointments

The Board, pursuant to the Environmental Management Act and Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclable Material Regulatory Bylaw No. 181, 1996:

a) Rescinded Metro Vancouver staff Karen Pyne and Johanna van den Broeke as Officers.
b) Appointed Metro Vancouver staff Michael Hughes and Luke Smith as Officers.
c) Appointed Metro Vancouver staff Kathy Preston as Deputy Solid Waste Manager.

Delegations Received at Committee May 2016

The Board received a summary report of a delegation to the May Zero Waste Committee.

Paul Oostelbos, Director, International Business Development, Shanks/Orgaworld, appeared before the Committee.