

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT



DATE: **October 3, 2022**

TO: **Mayor and Council**

FROM: **Jim Gordon, P.Eng., Director, Engineering & Municipal Operations**

SUBJECT: **Environmental Advisory Committee 2022 Annual Report**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive for information the corporate report dated October 3, 2022, from the Director of Engineering & Municipal Operations, titled “Environmental Advisory Committee 2022 Annual Report”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met five times in 2022. The activities and highlights of the committee are outlined in this Annual Report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

Council Policy 117 requires annual reports for select committees such as the EAC. Council Policy 138 provides the Terms of Reference for the EAC. These can be summarized as “The Environmental Advisory Committee will advise City Council and staff on Environmental issues in the City”.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The purpose of the EAC is to advise Council and staff on environmental issues in the City. The EAC’s mandate is to review various city plans and programs as they relate to the environment, and to provide advice and make recommendations on matters referred to the Committee by Council or staff.

An annual workplan was developed by the Committee and approved by Council. The committee met five times over the course of year, with meetings held via Microsoft Teams electronic means at the request of committee members. The EAC 2021-02022 Workplan, the EAC Action & Motion Tracking Document, and the EAC Member Feedback forms are attached as appendices to this Corporate Report. The EAC membership is outlined below:

	Position	Term
Councillor Johanson	Chairperson (2021) Vice-Chairperson (2022)	October 31, 2022
Councillor Kristjanson	Vice-Chairperson (2021) Chairperson (2022)	October 31, 2022

Phil Byer	Community Member	October 31, 2022
Jeff Holm	Community Member	October 31, 2022
Ross Hynes	Community Member	October 31, 2022
John Lawrence	Community Member	October 31, 2022
Ivan Lessner	Community Member	October 31, 2022
David Riley	Community Member	October 31, 2022
<i>Vacant</i>	Community Member	October 31, 2022
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative from Semiahmoo First Nation (Non-Voting)	October 31, 2022
Alternating members	Youth representative(s) from Earl Marriott Grassroots Environmental Club (non-voting) - members will alternate	October 31, 2022
Staff		
Jim Gordon	Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations	
Anne Berry	Director, Planning and Development Services	
Alex Wallace	Manager, Planning	
Corrine Haer	Manager, Engineering	
Janessa Auer	Committee Clerk	

DISCUSSION

Listed below are the major items discussed by the committee as per policy and Council referral:

Tree Management Bylaw 1831 and Tree Management on City Lands – Policy 611

Council referred the Tree Management Bylaw and Tree Management on City Lands to the Committee for review in previous years. A revised bylaw and policy were approved by Council in late 2021 and early 2022.

Green Teams Canada Presentation

Green Teams Canada made a presentation on the work they are doing with volunteers removing invasive species in the community. EAC members engaged in a roundtable discussion and provided positive feedback.

Water Treatment Plant Updates

Water treatment plant water quality updates were provided at each meeting and discussions held regarding the results.

Metro Vancouver “Clean Air Plan”

The Metro Vancouver Clean Air Plan was discussed, and the committee recommended that Council “...moves expeditiously to adopt the energy step code in the Zoning Bylaw”. The energy step code was discussed in several meetings within the context of upcoming provincial legislation precluding the need for specific mention in the Zoning Bylaw.

Recommendations for Council

The committee made numerous recommendations for Council consideration. Some of these were referred to staff for report to Council including a report on non-fossil fuels for the city’s fleet scheduled to be brought forward in November.

Climate Change

The committee discussed climate change extensively. A comprehensive document titled “Organizing for Effective Action on Climate Change” was submitted by committee member Ross Hynes and discussed. Now that a Manager, Engineering is in place staff will follow up with Provincial programs and take appropriate steps towards mitigation and adaptation.

Columbia Avenue Diversion Project – Now “*Stormwater Management Project on Marine Drive*”

Committee members expressed concern that biofiltration of storm waters was not a component of the project; however, this is difficult without dedicated property for this purpose. Staff will continue to investigate all aspects of this project including possibilities for biofiltration.

Climate Vulnerabilities Report and Climate Adaptation Report

Some discussion was held on these two important topics. Due to limited resources, reports are not pursued at this time.

Vegetation Control on the Hump

Preliminary discussion on this issue was held at the August 18 meeting. Follow up discussion was also held at the September 22 meeting where motion 2022-EAC-028 was carried for Council’s consideration.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

The Director of Engineering & Municipal Operations and the Director of Planning and Development Services contribute together towards the EAC.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

Many of the EAC discussions relate to climate change.

IMPLICATIONS FOR TREE PRESERVATION AND TREE CANOPY ENHANCEMENT

The new Tree Bylaw and updated Policy 611 are positive for tree preservation and tree canopy enhancement.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The activities of the EAC closely align with Council’s Strategic Priorities.

CONCLUSION

The EAC met five times and discussed many topics in detail in 2022. Climate change was at the forefront of the discussions.

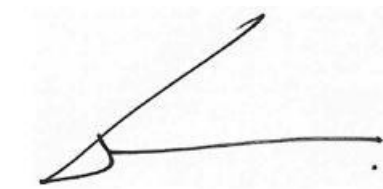
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Gordon', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jim Gordon, P.Eng.
Director, Engineering & Municipal Operations

Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer

This corporate report is provided for information purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guillermo Ferrero', with a stylized, angular script.

Guillermo Ferrero
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Environmental Advisory Committee 2021-2022 Workplan

Appendix B: Environmental Advisory Committee Action & Motion Tracking Document