

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, February 24, 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 Impacts of E-Commerce on Industrial Lands and Transportation Systems Study

RECEIVED

In support of the implementation of the *Regional Industrial Lands Strategy*, Metro Vancouver retained Colliers Strategy & Consulting Group to undertake a study on the impacts of e-commerce on industrial lands and transportation systems. Completed in late 2022, the results further the understanding of the implications of the rapid growth in e-commerce, accelerated in part by the COVID-19 pandemic, on industrial lands for the distribution of goods, as well as associated transportation and employment considerations in the region. Key recommendations from the study include:

- Create up-to-date, citywide inventories of loading zones, curbs, and congestion points to inform local strategies to address the increase in demand for curbside space
- Designate curbside delivery areas adjacent to apartment buildings to mitigate parking flow interruptions and double parking
- Rethink zoning flexibility for a more resilient city that can absorb emerging trends, while still retaining the primary intended use of lands
- Align housing densification and opportunities for emerging sustainable distribution methods to ensure that policies are current with business needs
- Explore opportunities to introduce some industrial uses to commercial areas, such as urban logistics, with shops housing multiple stages of the e-commerce supply chain in addition to retail

The Board received the report for information.

E1.2 Metro Vancouver Industrial Lands Portfolio Update

RECEIVED

This report provides a status update on the industrial lands portfolio and Metro Vancouver’s implementation of the *Regional Industrial Lands Strategy* (RILS) which was approved by the Board on July 3, 2020, after over two years of research and engagement. RILS identifies 10 priority actions and 34 recommendations that Metro Vancouver continues to implement.

Since mid-2020, Metro Vancouver has completed a number of projects to advance and implement the industrial lands portfolio. Metro Vancouver will continue to work with member jurisdictions and agencies to advance the recommendations of RILS, as implementation will require continued close collaboration with stakeholders and a long-term commitment by Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions. The Board received the report for information.

E1.3 Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future – 2021 Annual Performance Monitoring Report RECEIVED

The *Local Government Act* and *Metro 2040* require the preparation of an annual report on the regional growth strategy’s progress. This report provides a summary update on the performance measures with relevant annual change and available data. A complete profile of *Metro 2040*’s performance measures with a detailed data breakdown is available in the *Metro 2040* performance monitoring dashboard on the Metro Vancouver website. The Board received the report for information.

E1.4 Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future – 2021 Procedural Report RECEIVED

This report documents the staffing and resources required to implement, administer, and amend the regional growth strategy, and provides an annual report on the operational performance of the Regional Planning Division.

Staffing and resources required to implement *Metro 2040* include supporting and reviewing Regional Context Statements, preparing supporting implementation documents, conducting policy research and analysis, and processing proposed amendments. Since the adoption of *Metro 2040* in mid-2011, both the costs and number of staff directly associated with the Regional Planning Division has remained relatively consistent. The Board received the report for information.

E2.1 2023 Invest Vancouver Management Board Meeting Schedule, Work Plan and Invest Vancouver 2023 Annual Plan APPROVED

At its February 10, 2023 meeting, the Invest Vancouver Management Board endorsed Invest Vancouver’s 2023 work plan, which includes four priorities:

- Attract world-class companies to the Metro Vancouver region
- Strengthen our key strategic industries
- Address regional issues to increase resilience for the regional economy
- Provide a focused, sustainable regional service

The Board endorsed the Invest Vancouver 2023 Annual Plan as presented.

E2.2 Life Sciences in Metro Vancouver: Shaping a Globally Prominent R&D Hub RECEIVED

The fourth Invest Vancouver investigation into the region’s strategic export-oriented industries focuses on the life sciences industry to answer two fundamental questions: why do firms in the life sciences industry invest in Metro Vancouver, and what actions would unlock additional growth and investment in the life sciences industry?

The investigation’s findings revealed that:

- The Metro Vancouver region has a flourishing life sciences industry powered by a concentration of highly skilled talent and backed by an extensive innovation ecosystem.
- The industry has grown substantially since 2001, and this growth accelerated during the pandemic.
- With focused, coordinated support from public and private stakeholders, the industry could further expand, add jobs more quickly, and rise in prominence as a global hub.
- Addressing the need for wet lab space is critical for spurring growth. Long term, talent development and recruitment from outside the region is essential for the industry to reach its potential.

The Board received the report for information.

E2.3 2023 CanExport Community Investment Contribution Award

RECEIVED

Global Affairs Canada, through the 2023 CanExport Community Investment program, awarded Invest Vancouver approval for up to \$244,735 in match funding. The program is dedicated to supporting projects that serve to attract, retain, and expand foreign direct investment and provides reimbursement of up to 50 per cent of eligible expenses. Projects must be completed between January 1 and December 31, 2023.

Invest Vancouver proactively aligned CanExport Community Investment project proposals with planned work activities and budget for 2023. In order to implement projects effectively, project management documents will be generated in order to sequence work, manage budget and procurement processes, and identify and collaborate with project partners. The Board received the report for information.

E3.1 TransLink’s Application for Federal Gas Tax Funding for 2023 Fleet Replacement – Part B for 84 Conventional Renewable Natural Gas Buses

APPROVED

At its October 28, 2022 meeting, the Board postponed the consideration of a portion of TransLink’s application for a renewable natural gas bus replacement project under the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund program. This matter was postponed to give TransLink an opportunity to provide greater clarity on how this application fits into their Low Carbon Fleet Strategy.

The Board approved \$75.24 million in funding from the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund for TransLink’s purchase of 84 conventional renewable natural gas buses proposed in its 2023 application for Federal Gas Tax Funding as presented.

**G1.1 Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1339, 2022 APPROVED
Third Reading and Final Adoption**

Following three years of extensive engagement and policy development, *Metro 2050* was read a first and second time in March 2022 and a public hearing was held in April 2022. All 24 affected local governments have passed resolutions accepting *Metro 2050*, the update to the regional growth strategy.

The MVRD Board gave third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1339, 2022* as presented; then passed and finally adopted said bylaw.

Next, the Board directed staff to notify the Minister of Municipal Affairs as well as all affected local governments, local First Nations, organizations, and agencies that participated in the development of the updated regional growth strategy that *Metro 2050* has been officially adopted.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

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

Regional Parks Committee – February 1, 2023

Information Items:

5.2 Pacific Spirit Regional Park – Wreck Beach Update

Renowned for its natural beauty and its unique social character, Wreck Beach is a popular destination within Pacific Spirit Regional Park. As a result of its remote location and increasing use, Metro Vancouver and its partner agencies have been responding to a high number of emergencies and public safety incidents in recent years. With input from emergency response providers, strategies have been developed to improve public safety and access to Wreck Beach. This multi-pronged action plan uses an integrated approach that takes into consideration site design, education, enforcement, and partnerships.

Mayors Committee – February 1, 2023

Delegation Summaries:

3.1 Eoin Finn and Peter van der Velden, Friends of Tilbury

Subject: Expansion Proposals Fortis Tilbury LNG Facility

3.2 Roderick V. Louis

Subject: Overview – Housing Supply Act and Strata Property Act Amendments

Information Items:

5.3 Overview – Housing Supply Act and Strata Property Act Amendments

On November 21, 2022, the Province introduced Bill 43 (the *Housing Supply Act*), as well as amendments to the *Strata Property Act*, to increase housing options and speed up housing development in communities. Changes to the *Strata Property Act* to remove rental restrictions and age restrictions (with the exception of 55+ housing), took immediate effect.

However, specifics to implement the *Housing Supply Act*, which give the Province authority to set municipal housing targets, are still to be confirmed. This report provides an overview of these legislative changes along with opportunities for Metro Vancouver to work with the Province and its member jurisdictions to support coordinated housing targets, and to support the delivery of more housing across the region.

Climate Action Committee – February 2, 2023

Information Items:

5.2 Climate 2050 Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap – Scope of Work and Project Status

As part of Metro Vancouver’s *Climate 2050* strategy, Metro Vancouver staff have initiated work on the draft *Climate 2050 Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap*. Work on the roadmap began in March 2022 and engagement will occur throughout 2023. Building on the progressive climate-related policies in the draft *Metro 2050*, the roadmap will outline regional and corporate goals, strategies, actions, and performance measures for the mitigation of greenhouse gases and climate adaptation in our region.

Finance Committee – February 9, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 Authorization to Attend 2023 Standing Committee Events

This report brings forward conferences and events for approval by the Finance Committee, as required by the *Remuneration Bylaw*, approved in the 2023 budget. Twenty-two events were identified given their relevance to the various standing committee mandates; each event presents an opportunity for committee members to participate in learning, interaction, and engagement with other North American organizations, and to represent Metro Vancouver.

5.2 Authorization to Attend 2023 International Events

This report brings forward international conferences and events for approval by the Finance Committee, as required by the *Remuneration Bylaw*, approved in the 2023 budget. Metro Vancouver will participate in events that promote Metro Vancouver in a leadership role; provide opportunity for engagement and continuous improvement in the advancement of organizational goals; allow for the acquisition of knowledge and skills which directly benefit the organization and region; offer the provision of assistance to other cities or regions in the world; and enhance Metro Vancouver’s reputation in the international community. Selection of director(s) to participate requires the Board chair approval as the final step.

5.3 Treasury Report – June 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

The *Corporate Investment Policy* requires a thrice-annual investment update. This report covers the seven-month period from June to December 2022.

Metro Vancouver’s investment returns for 2022 were 2.42 per cent for short-term, 2.64 per cent for long-term, and 2.28 per cent for the Cultural Reserve Fund. Due to timing of long-term maturities and the strategy to hold larger amounts in cash to fund capital projects, investment performance slightly lags below benchmarks.

It is anticipated as investments mature, they will be re-invested in higher yielding products. In 2023, to improve cash and investment management, Metro Vancouver will use MFA's temporary borrowing process for the first time. This was approved by the Board in October 2022.

In 2022, inflation rose from 3.4 per cent as of December 31, 2021 to 6.8 per cent a year later. In addition, the Bank of Canada increased the overnight borrowing rate 400 basis points, from 0.25 per cent to 4.25 per cent. These economic factors have resulted in increases in borrowing rates, the cost of purchasing goods and services, and investment returns.

5.4 MVRD Audit Plan from BDO Canada LLP

Metro Vancouver districts and the Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation are required under provincial legislation to prepare annual financial statements, audited by a public accounting firm and approved by the Board by May 15 each year. The 2022 annual financial statements, along with the draft auditors report, will be presented to the Finance Committee at its April meeting, prior to Board approval.

This report outlines the audit approach, key audit areas, auditor responsibilities and audit deliverables. In addition, the report highlights a number of upcoming accounting standards, the most significant being the asset retirement obligation requirement, effective fiscal year 2023. Management has engaged external resources to assist with the scoping work and measurement estimates required to complete the audit standard and will report back to the Committee in the spring.

Regional Planning Committee – February 10, 2023

Information Items:

5.3 Metro 2050 Climate Policy Enhancement Study – Project Initiation

In response to Board direction, staff have initiated a Metro 2050 Climate Policy Enhancement Study to identify possible amendments to the current climate action policies and new ones that could be added to *Metro 2050* via an amendment, to enhance the regional growth strategy's climate resilience. As both relate to climate action in the region, this study is being coordinated with the development of the *Climate 2050 Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap*. Metro Vancouver staff have hosted two joint workshops in early 2023, one in person and one online. The workshops were attended by member jurisdiction staff as well as invited experts who provided input on how to refine a list of potential new or amended climate policies and actions. Next steps include reviewing the workshop data and developing draft recommendations for *Metro 2050* and the *Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap*.

5.4 Climate 2050 Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap – Scope of Work and Project Status

As part of *Climate 2050*, Metro Vancouver staff have initiated work on the draft *Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap*. Background work on the roadmap began in March 2022 and engagement will occur throughout 2023. Building on the progressive climate-related policies in *Metro 2050*, this roadmap will outline potential regional and corporate goals, strategies, actions, and performance measures for the mitigation of greenhouse gases and climate adaptation in our region.

Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation

E1.1 Names for Select Metro Vancouver Housing New Development and Redevelopment Projects

RECEIVED

The *Metro Vancouver Housing Naming Framework* is intended to provide guiding principles and a process to support decision-making when naming new development sites, or renaming existing housing sites. In spring 2022, staff initiated naming or renaming processes for a selection of Metro Vancouver Housing new development and redevelopment projects.

- Eastburn Square in Burnaby is now “The Connection”
- Civic Centre in Pitt Meadows is now “Heron’s Nest”
- Southwynde Avenue in Burnaby is now “The Steller”
- Welcher Avenue in Port Coquitlam is now “Salal Landing”

The Board received the report for information.

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received one information item and one delegation summary from one standing committee.

Housing Committee – February 3, 2023

Delegations:

3.1 Roderick V. Louis

Subject: Manager’s Report – Proposed 2023 Housing Committee Work Plan

Information Items:

5.2 Metro Vancouver Housing Cost Estimating & Stage Gate Approvals

Metro Vancouver Housing uses a standard approach to estimate project costs, account for risk, and establish stage gates for Committee/Board approval throughout the housing development process. MVH currently has five affordable housing development/redevelopment projects advancing through design and development approvals and these will be returning to Committee/Board to review active project budgets at project stage gates.

Greater Vancouver Water District

E1.1 Coquitlam Sockeye Hatchery Land Use Licence Agreement & Water Use Agreement

RECEIVED

BC Hydro is starting construction of the Coquitlam Sockeye Hatchery in 2023 within the protected Coquitlam Water Supply Area on a parcel of GVWD fee-simple land. The hatchery facility is being funded

by BC Hydro, which has the primary responsibility for fisheries restoration efforts in the Coquitlam watershed.

Sockeye stocks are severely depleted in the Coquitlam River Watershed, primarily due to loss of access to habitat in Coquitlam Lake following completion of the first hydro-electric dam over 116 years ago.

Restoration of sockeye stocks is an important cultural goal of the kʷikʷəɬ'əm/Kwikwetlem First Nation and they have been working with BC Hydro, the GVWD, and other local partners in support of this goal since 2004. The GVWD is entering into both a Land Use Licence Agreement and a Water Use Agreement with BC Hydro as a means of providing in-kind support with a land parcel and water supply for the new Coquitlam Sockeye Hatchery. The Board received the report for information.

E1.2 Award of Contract Resulting from Request for Proposals No. 22-380: Construction of Kennedy Newton Main – Phase 3 South Section **APPROVED**

Metro Vancouver is constructing the Kennedy Newton Main between Newton Reservoir and Kennedy Park Reservoir in Surrey. This new 1.8 metre-diameter, eight-kilometre-long water main will meet growing water demand south of the Fraser River. The project is being delivered in three separate phases, spread out over several years. Construction of Phase 3, the final phase, has been split into three separate contracts in order to address constraints within the local construction industry and to promote participation in the procurement process.

The Board approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$27,914,600 (exclusive of taxes) to B&B Contracting (2012) Ltd. resulting from RFP No. 22-380 for the construction of Phase 3 South Section of the Kennedy Newton Main, subject to final review by the Commissioner.

E1.3 Award of Contract Resulting from Tender No. 21-047: Backup Power Installation of Capilano Raw Water Pump Station **APPROVED**

Construction Tender No. 21-047 includes the Capilano Raw Water Pump Station Backup Power project and the Capilano Watershed Security Gatehouse project. The backup power project will help deliver water from Capilano Lake to the Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant in the event of a power outage, to ensure reliable drinking water is supplied to the region under planned and emergency conditions. The gatehouse project provides a new facility for Capilano Water Supply Area security staff and includes improvements to the entranceway off Nancy Greene Way to increase safety for vehicles and people.

The Board authorized a budget increase for the Capilano Raw Water Pump Station Backup Power project and the Capilano Watershed Security Gatehouse project in the amount of \$27 million. The funds will be drawn from known savings on another project, bringing the revised combined budget for these projects to \$83 million (exclusive of GST).

The Board approved award of a contract in the amount of up to \$49,454,982 (exclusive of GST) to NAC Constructors Ltd. resulting from Tender No. 21-047, 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 – February 8, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 Watershed Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update

Water Services, Liquid Waste Services, Regional Parks, and other Metro Vancouver departments collectively contribute to Pacific salmon conservation and restoration in the region. GVWD manages and participates in fisheries management and restoration initiatives both upstream and downstream of the dams in the Capilano, Seymour and Coquitlam River watersheds. Metro Vancouver strives to ensure fisheries protection and enhancement initiatives are evaluated, planned, and implemented in a manner that consistently meets or exceeds the *Capilano Seymour Joint Water Use Plan Provincial Order* and all pertinent regulatory responsibilities.

Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District

E1.1 Recommended Wet Weather Cost Apportionment Approach APPROVED

At its February 8, 2023 meeting, the Liquid Waste Committee endorsed a recommendation to revise the cost apportionment bylaw for liquid waste services that would change how member jurisdictions pay for sewer services by introducing separate fees for dry and wet weather flows.

Various options for wet weather pricing were developed by staff and the recommended approach, informed by municipal feedback through a working group and advisory committees, is to phase in wet weather pricing incrementally over a 10-year period commencing with requisitions in spring 2024.

The Board directed staff to prepare amendments to *Cost Apportionment Bylaw 283, 2014* for its consideration in accordance with the direction as presented, and to initiate wet weather cost apportionment in the 2024 billing cycle to be implemented incrementally over 10 years.

E2.1 Award of Contract from RFP No. 22-186: Municipal Solid Waste Contingency Disposal Services APPROVED

Despite the region’s success in reducing waste, approximately one million tonnes of garbage require disposal each year. Garbage in excess of what can be managed at the Waste-to-Energy Facility and the Vancouver Landfill is sent to remote contingency disposal. Contingency disposal requirements over the last three years have ranged from 35,000 tonnes to 145,000 tonnes per year.

The cost of the region's solid waste system, including contingency disposal, is funded through garbage tipping fees, with higher contingency disposal requirements corresponding with higher tipping fee revenues. Expected contingency disposal costs can be accommodated within the approved Solid Waste Services budget and the five-year financial plan.

The Board approved award of three separate five-year contracts, resulting from Request for Proposals No. 22-186 as follows, subject to final review by the Commissioner:

- GFL Environmental Inc. in the amount of up to \$47,330,000 (exclusive of taxes)
- Republic Services in the amount of up to \$44,720,000 (exclusive of taxes)
- Waste Management of Canada Corporation in the amount of up to \$48,510,000 (exclusive of taxes)

I 1 Committee Information Items and Delegation Summaries

The Board received information items from standing committees.

Liquid Waste Committee – February 8, 2023

Information Items:

5.2 2022 “Wipe It, Green Bin It” Campaign Results

The disposal of fats, oils, and grease into the sewer system costs the region over \$2.7 million every year. In its sixth year, the 2022 “Wipe It, Green Bin It” campaign asked residents to put fats, oils, and grease in the green bin and not down the sink. The campaign ran in the fall and in the lead-up to Thanksgiving, targeting a time of heavier seasonal cooking. It included social media, YouTube, television, banner ads, Google adwords, and a website. The campaign generally performed well and delivered 16 million impressions, 1,200 engagements, 1.6 million video views, 13,000 clicks for more information, and 14,000 website visits. Monitoring of fats, oils, and grease at pump stations generally shows a drop in their levels since 2019. In 2023, the campaign will run again with similar timing and creative materials and will also include a post-campaign survey.

Zero Waste Committee – February 9, 2023

Information Items:

5.1 2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report

The overall regional recycling rate increased from 64 per cent in 2020 to 65 per cent in 2021. Sector-specific recycling rates increased in the commercial/institutional and the construction and demolition sectors. In the residential sector, the recycling rate in 2021 was similar to 2019, but lower than 2020 — a year marked by increased residential organics recycling during the pandemic, potentially due to more eating at home. Glass recycling dropped in 2021 when processing facilities were closed as a result of the November flooding emergency. Reuse increased in 2021 compared to 2020, when pandemic shutdowns impacted charities and businesses accepting clothing for reuse.

5.2 Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Vision and Guiding Principles Engagement

Metro Vancouver is launching engagement this spring on the development of the vision and guiding principles for the *Solid Waste Management Plan* update. Regional districts are required by the Province to develop, and submit for approval, plans for the management of municipal solid waste and recyclable materials.

Prior to this year, a pre-engagement phase and the forming of advisory committees in support of the solid waste management update were completed. Engagement with First Nations, government, and advisory committees is essential to the process. Climate Action Committee members will be invited to the April Zero Waste Committee meeting to help ensure greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate change considerations are fundamental elements of the vision and guiding principles. A robust and transparent public engagement process will involve the waste and recycling industry, waste producers, businesses, communities of interest, and Metro Vancouver residents. Following the engagement, a report will summarize participation and outline how input and feedback was considered in developing the vision and guiding principles.

Metro Vancouver continues to pursue initiatives to achieve zero waste, reduce greenhouse gas emission, and advance the circular economy, in parallel to the development of an updated *Solid Waste Management Plan*.