Board Orientation and Strategic Planning Program

Heather McNell
Acting Commissioner / Chief Administrative Officer

November 27, 2026

metrovancouver

BOARD ORIENTATION AND STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRAM

Setting the Stage / Building Common Understanding

Nov 27, 2026

Inaugural Board Meeting:
- *Oath of Office*
- *Elect Chair & Vice Chair*
- *Orientation & Strategic Planning*
- *Overview of Metro Vancouver Services*

- Director Survey

Dec 3, 2026

Orientation: Board Development
- Keynote Speaker
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Mentors' Panel
- Board Governance Review
- Meeting Procedures

- Networking session

Dec 4, 2026

Orientation: Foundations & Budget
- Legal Responsibilities
- Metro Vancouver Services
- Asset Management, Capital Planning, Major Projects
- Financial Management

Board Budget Workshop

Dec 11, 2026

Board Budget Workshop

MVRD / MVHC / GVS&DD & GVWD Board meetings to consider approval of 2027 budget and endorsement of 2027-2031 financial plan

Charting a Course for 2027-2030

Jan 15, 2027

Orientation & Input:
- Liquid Waste Services

GVS&DD and GVWD Board meetings

Tour

Jan 29, 2027

Orientation & Input:
- Regional Parks
- Air Quality
- Invest Vancouver

MVRD and MVHC Board meetings

Feb 12, 2027

Orientation & Input:
- Solid Waste Services
- Water Services

GVS&DD and GVWD Board meetings

Feb 26, 2027

Orientation & Input:
- Metro Vancouver Housing
- Regional Planning
- Electoral Area
- Other Services

MVRD and MVHC Board meetings

Mar 5, 2027

Board Strategic Planning Session

Ital = Board meetings

MATERIALS

Welcome Folder

- Onboarding materials

Orientation Binder

- Contact Information
- Handbook for Board Members
- Relevant Policies & Procedures
- Introduction to Metro Vancouver Services





Inside Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel

Introduction to Metro Vancouver

Heather McNell

Acting Commissioner / Chief Administrative Officer

November 27, 2026

metrovancouver

Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver provides critical services to over three million people every day

—

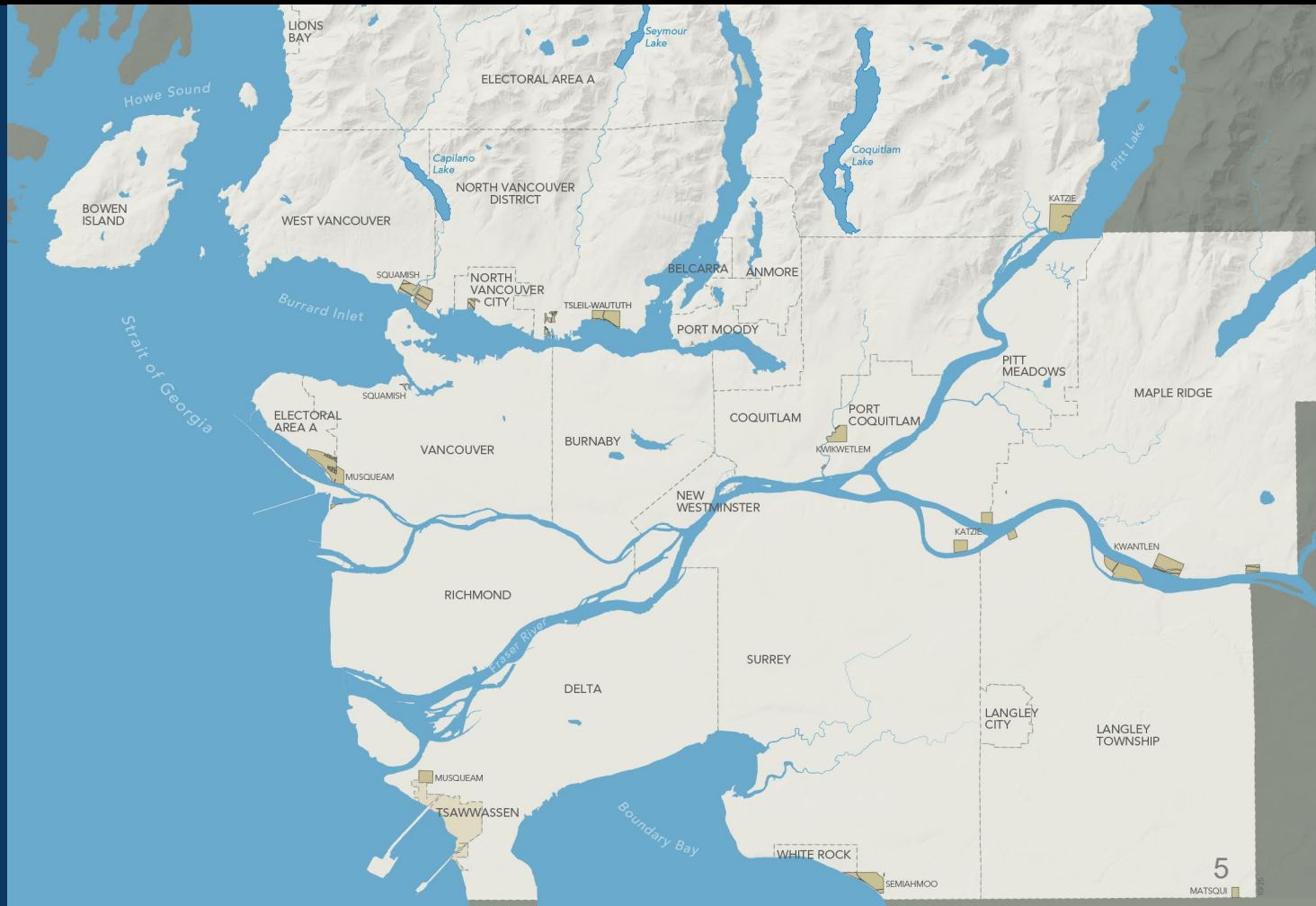
Over half of BC's population

—

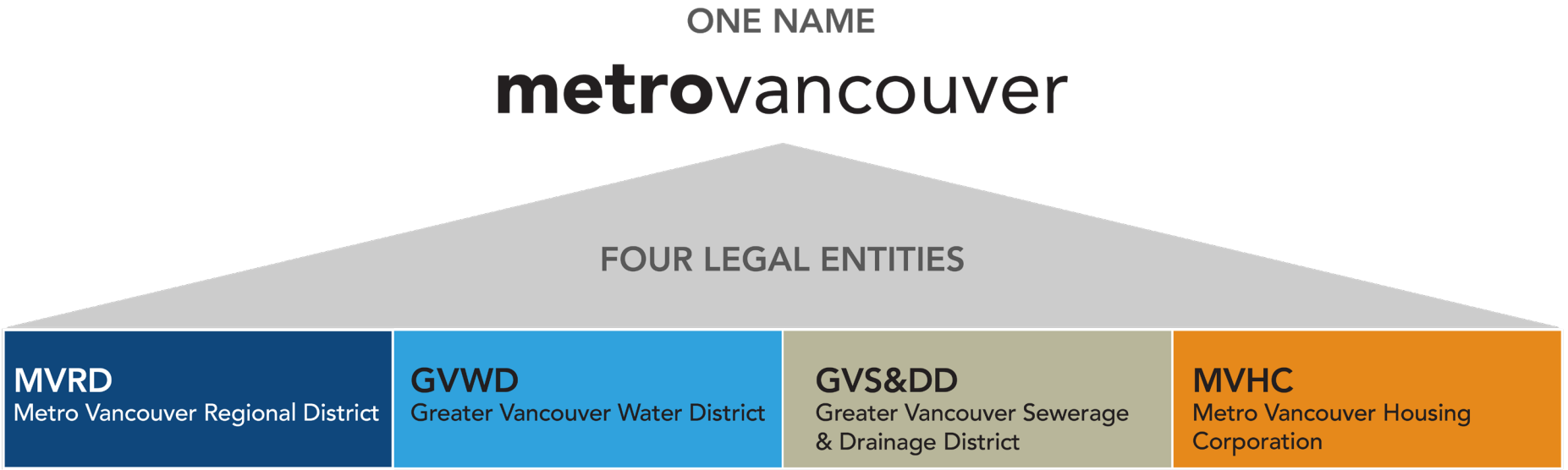
21 Municipalities

1 Treaty First Nation

1 Electoral Area



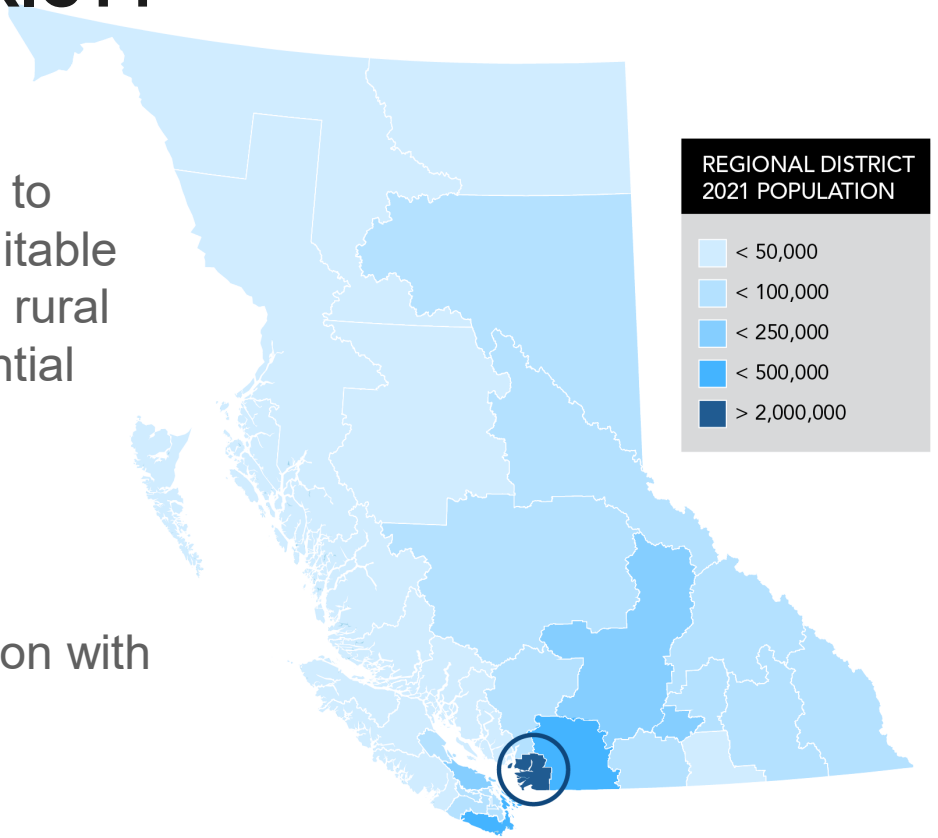
WHAT IS “METRO VANCOUVER”



Organized together for efficiencies and economies of scale

WHAT IS A REGIONAL DISTRICT?

- Established by the Province in 1965 to support cooperation and enable equitable cost-sharing between municipal and rural areas for shared priorities and essential services
- 27 regional districts
- Metro Vancouver largest by population with 3.1 million residents



Governance

Metro Vancouver Voting Structure

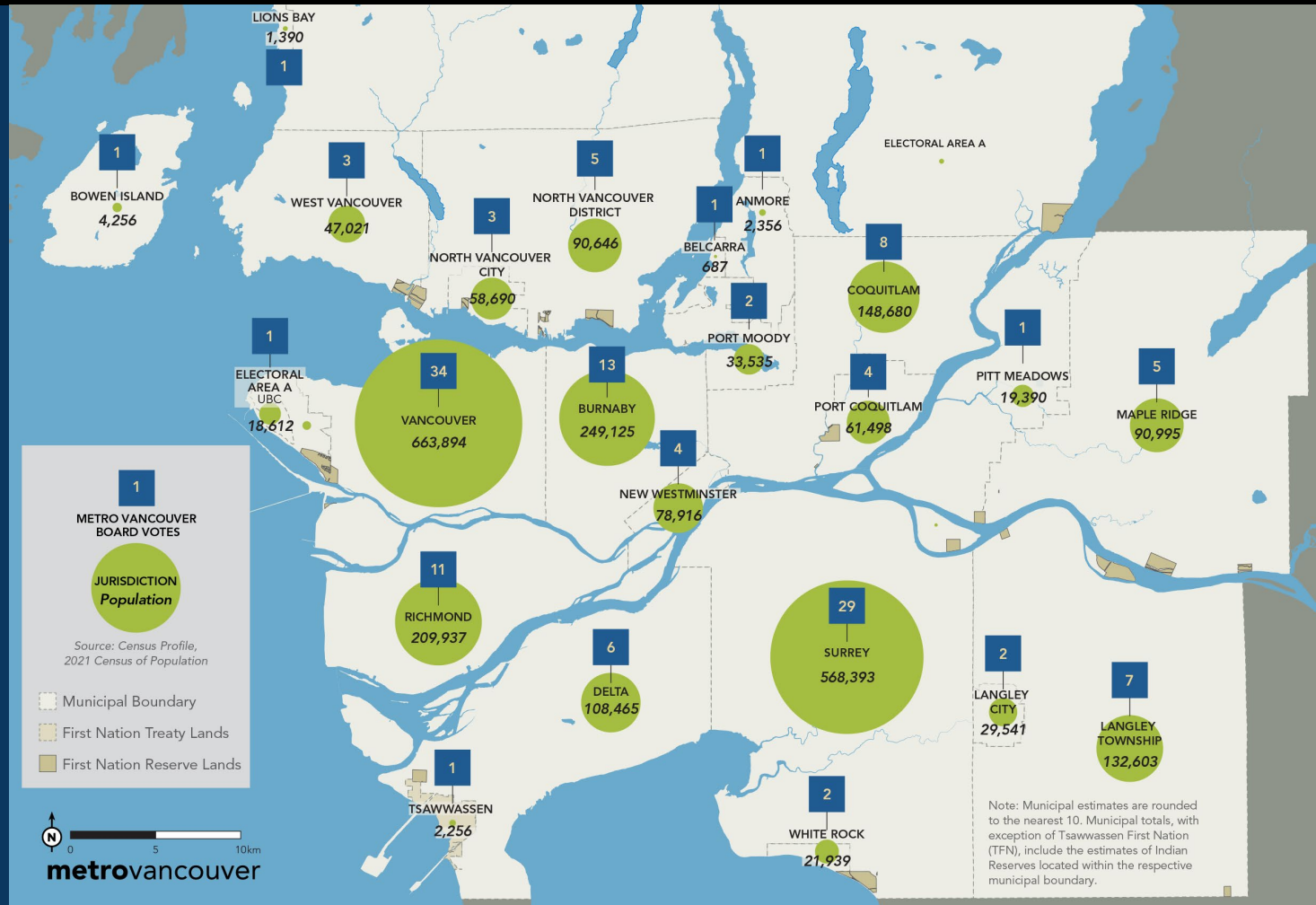
21 Municipalities
1 Electoral Area
1 Treaty First Nation

Currently:

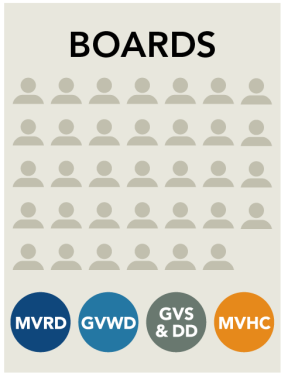
1 vote for every **20,000** residents

1 director for every **100,000** residents

Not all MVRD members are members of GVS&DD and GVWD



GOVERNANCE



Set strategic direction, policy, and provide oversight for services

STAFF

Commissioner/ CAO

Water
Liquid Waste
Solid Waste
Metro Vancouver Housing
Regional Parks
Air Quality
Regional Planning
Invest Vancouver
Corporate & Support Services

Day-to-day operations; implement Board direction; deliver programs

BOARD COMMITTEES

Consider and discuss matters, and provide recommendations to the Boards

METRO VANCOUVER SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Heather McNell

Acting Commissioner / Chief Administrative Officer

Ravi Chhina, Deputy CAO, Operations

Regional Parks, Human Resources, Corporate Services, External Relations

Linda Sabatini, Chief Financial Officer / General Manager

Financial Services

Jessica Beverley, Corporate Solicitor / General Manager

Legal, Indigenous Relations, Board and Information Services, Environmental Regulation & Enforcement

Nick Kassam, General Manager

Procurement & Real Estate Services

Jonathan Cote, General Manager (Acting)

Regional Planning, Housing and Air Quality Services

Peter Navratil, General Manager

Liquid Waste Services

Marilyn Towill, General Manager

Water Services

Paul Henderson, General Manager

Solid Waste Services

Bob Cheng, General Manager (Acting)

Project Delivery

Legal Entities & Services

METRO VANCOUVER SERVICES

ONE NAME

metrovancouver

FOUR LEGAL ENTITIES

MVRD	GVWD	GVS&DD	MVHC
Metro Vancouver Regional District	Greater Vancouver Water District	Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District	Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation









Metro Vancouver Regional District

MVRD

Services

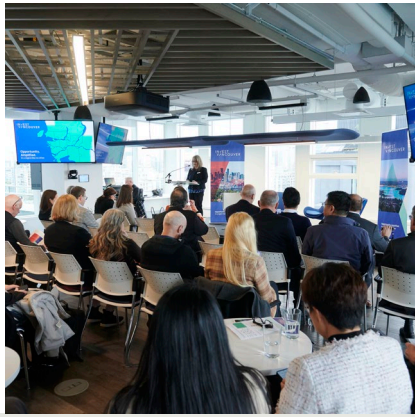
- Regional Parks (1967)
- Air Quality (1972)
- Regional Planning (1967)
- Invest Vancouver (2021)

9-1-1 Emergency Call Answer Service
Regional Emergency Management (IPREM)
Regional GPS
Sub-Regional: Electoral Area Services, Regional Employers Services, Sasamat Fire Protection









Regional Parks (1967)

- ~14,000 hectares of land (86% sensitive and important ecosystems)
- ~15 million visits in 2025
- Visits growing ~3.2% each year since 2004
- Priority when established was to protect green space as the region grew and provide nature recreation opportunities for residents



Minnekhada Regional Park

Scale of Service

MVRD

24 regional parks

2 regional park reserves

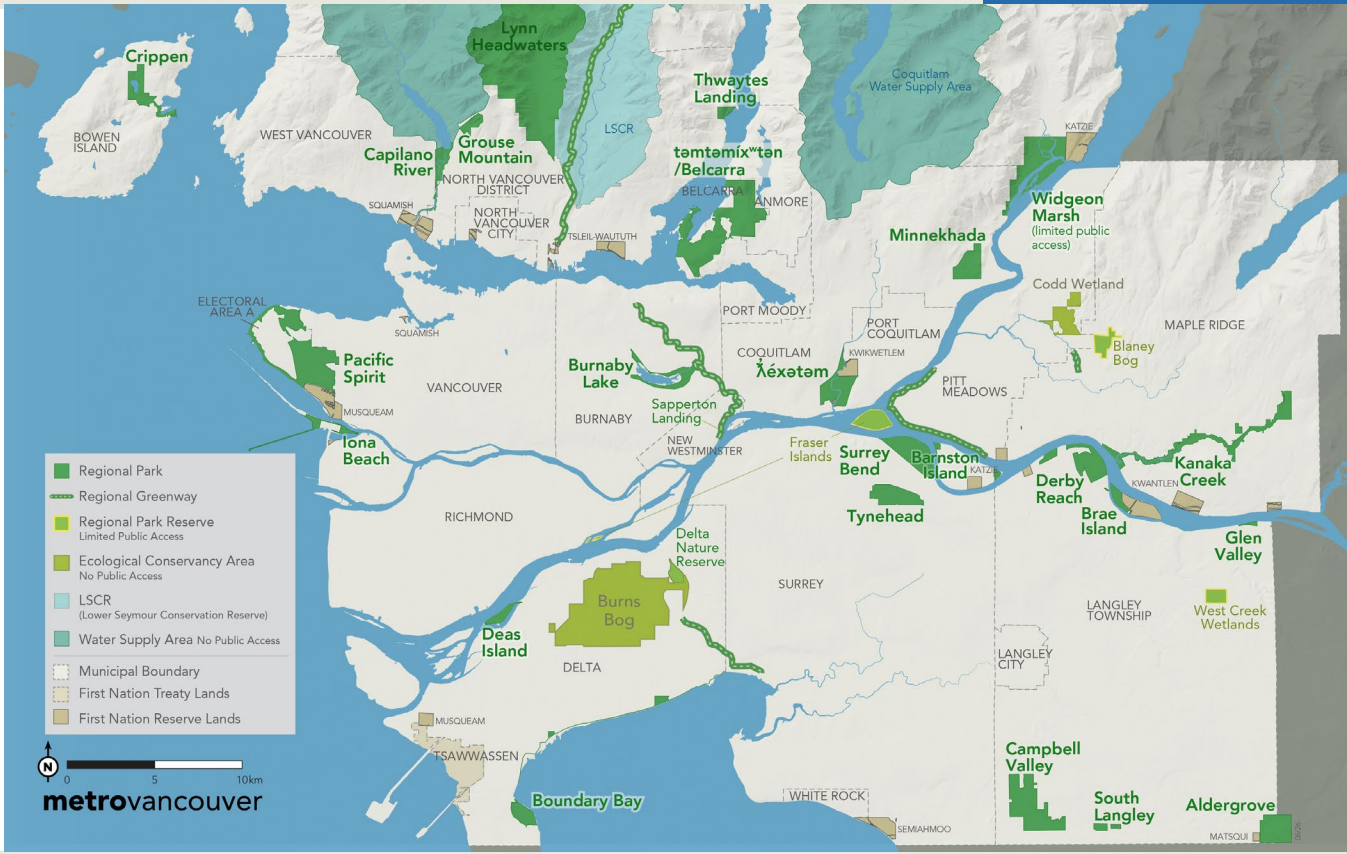
2 ecological conservancy areas

5 regional greenways

~15 million annual visits

291 km of trails

14,000 hectares or **5%** of the region's land base



Air Quality (1972)

- Protect human health through air quality monitoring, management, and regulation
- 45% decline in smog-causing emissions since 2000
- Manage permits, air quality warnings, and up to 4,000 complaints annually



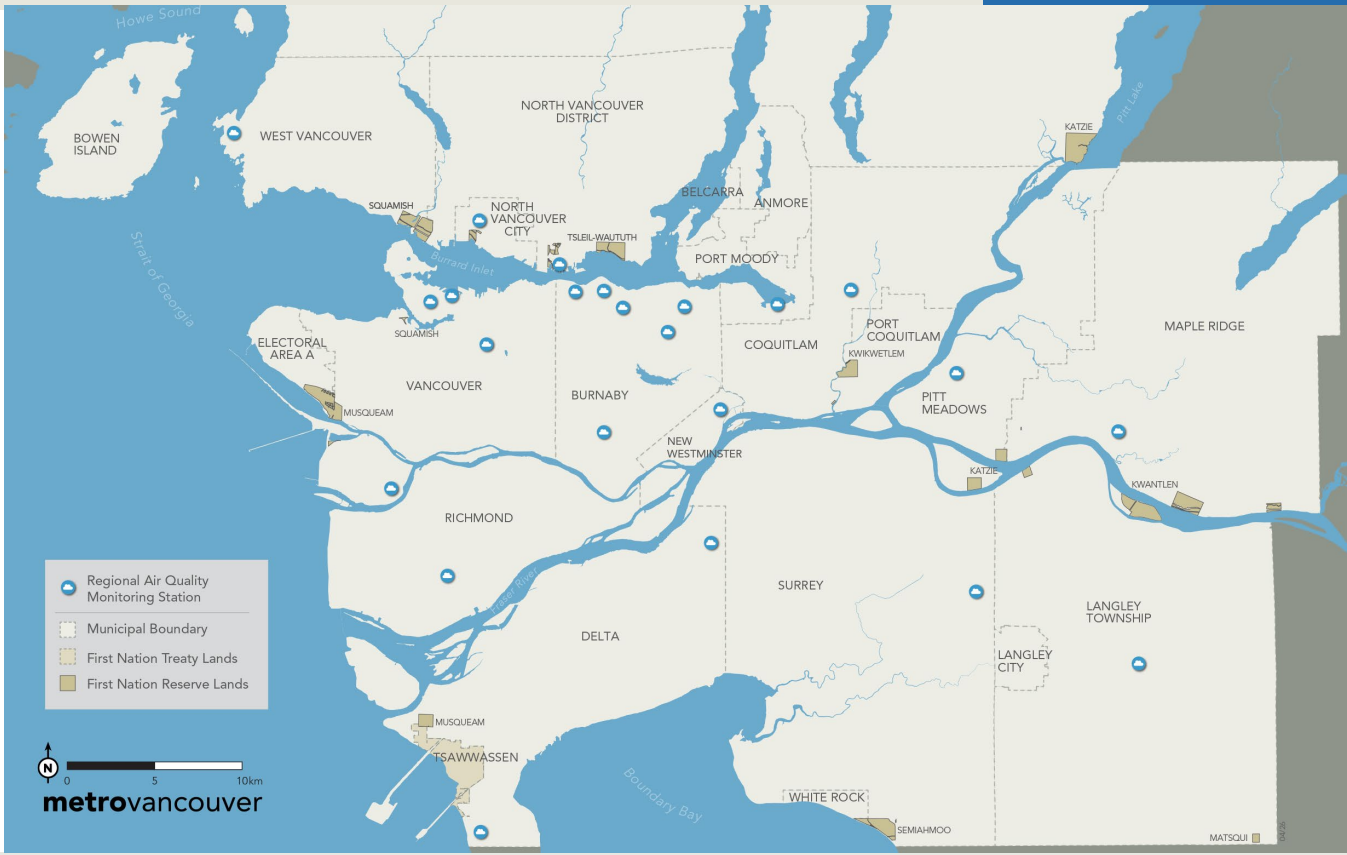
Lower Mainland's unique geographic characteristics capture air contaminants

Scale of Service

MVRD

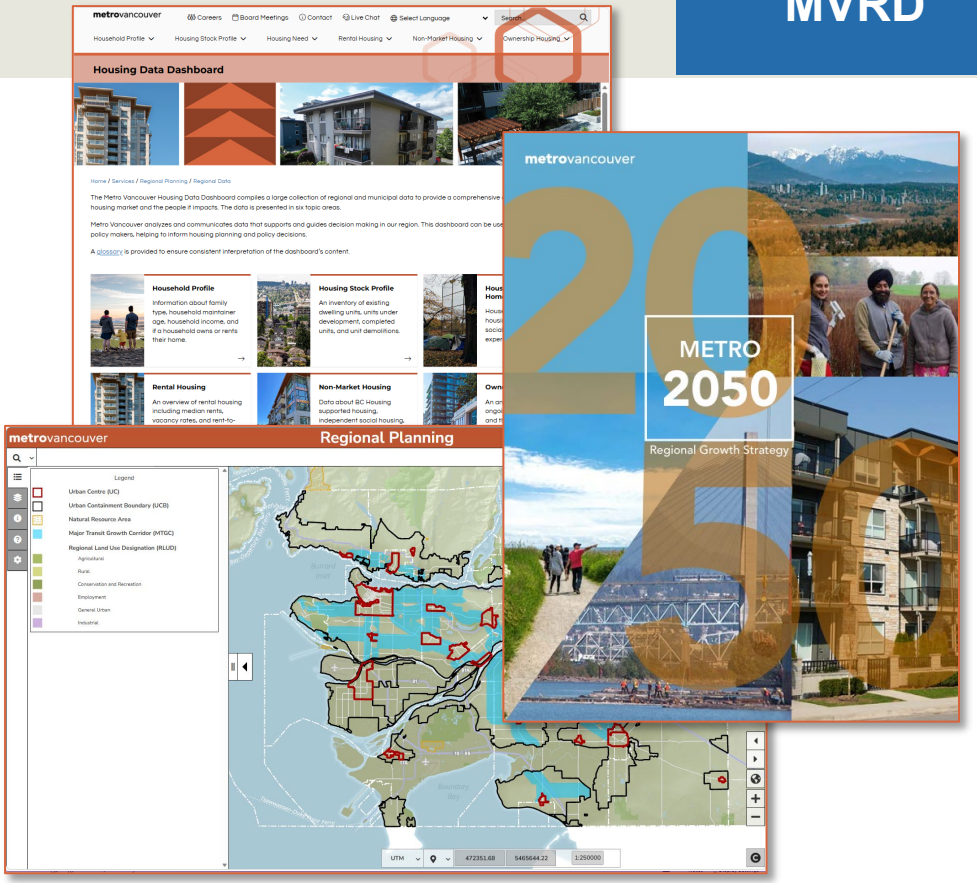
24 air quality monitoring stations in Metro Vancouver

6 air quality monitoring stations in Fraser Valley Regional District



Regional Planning (1967)

- Regional Growth Strategy Development / Coordination
  - Undertaken by 11 regional districts across BC
- Data & Long-Range Population, Housing, and Employment Projections
- Policy Research and Coordination



Invest Vancouver (2021)

- MVRD has undertaken regional economic development work since 1988
- Launched "**Invest Vancouver**" brand and strategic approach in 2021
- Since 2024, landed or expanded 31 companies, adding 1,502 jobs
- Allows the region to compete with city-regions like Montreal, Toronto, Calgary in attracting investment and jobs
- The region makes up the third largest economic region in Canada



Event at WebSummit (Above). Life Sciences event at Zymeworks (Below).



Greater Vancouver Water District

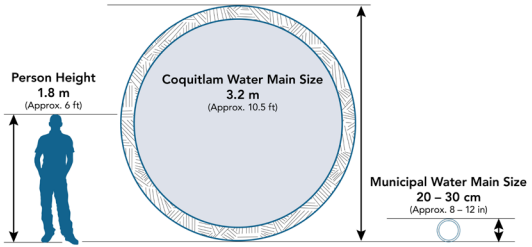
GVWD

Services

Water (1924)

The Essentials:

- Statutory corporation
- Drinking Water Management Plan (2026)
- 100-year plan for water delivery
- Member jurisdictions billed at wholesale rates
- Centralized corporate services











Scale of Service

3 water supply areas and source reservoirs

2 treatment plants

Over **170,000** drinking water tests per year

520 km of water mains delivering **1 billion litres**

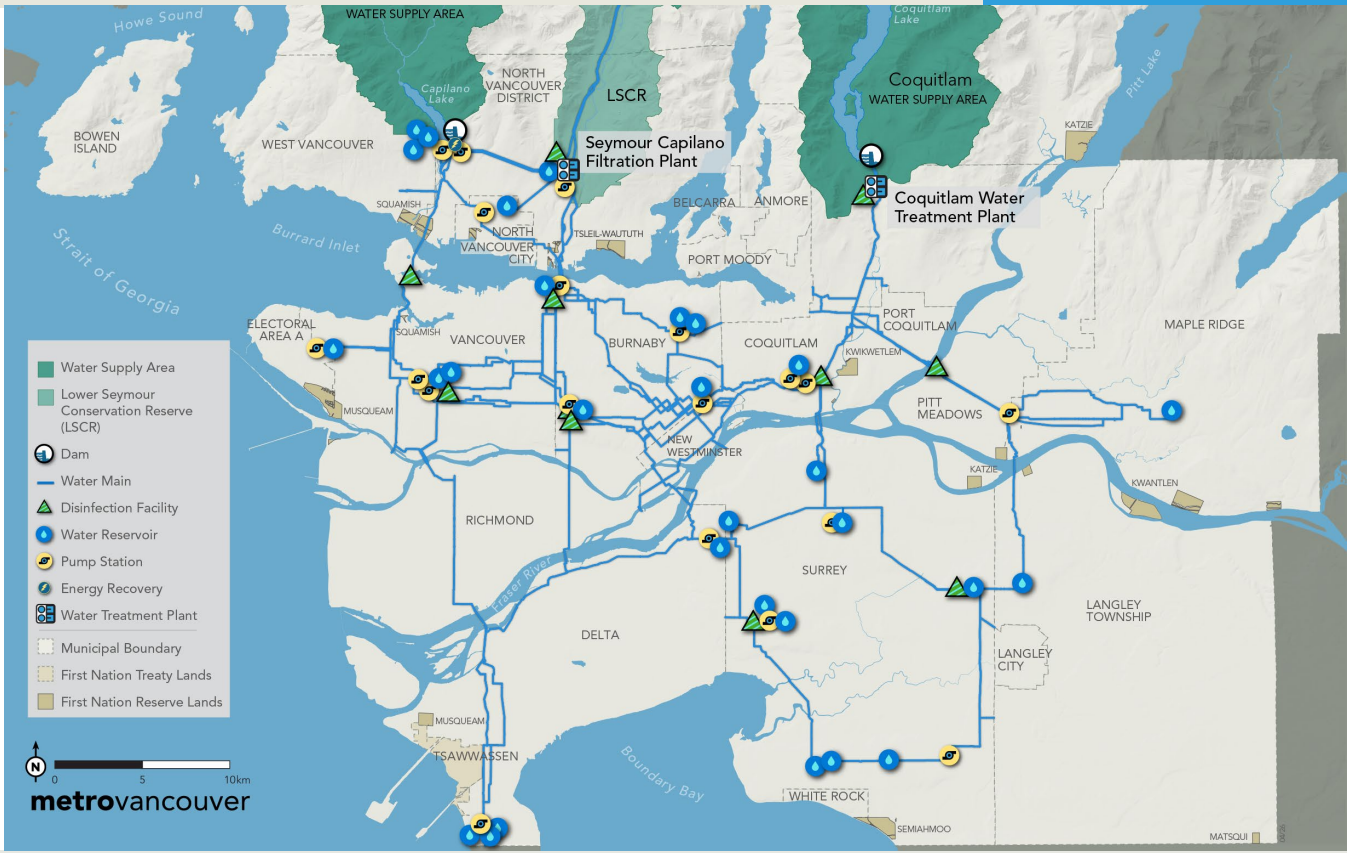
Over **1.5 billion litres** in summer

5 dams

28 storage reservoirs

19 pump stations

8 rechlorination stations



Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District

Services

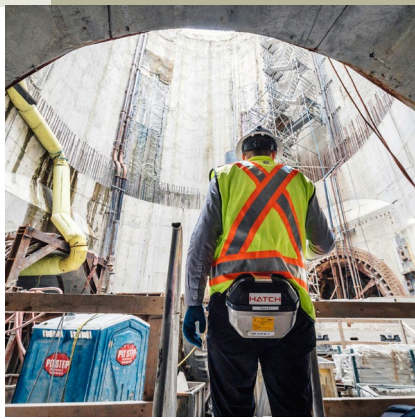
Liquid Waste (1914)

Solid Waste (1974)

The Essentials:

- Statutory corporation
- Provincially mandated and approved management plans
- Centralized corporate services









Liquid Waste

- Treat wastewater for return to Burrard Inlet, Fraser River, Georgia Straight
- Large capital program to respond to regulatory requirements, growth, and asset renewal
- 80% of the capital program for the next 5 years is for 9 projects, 4 of which are wastewater treatment plants



Annacis Island WWTP Outfall Construction

Scale of Service

530 kilometers of trunk sewers

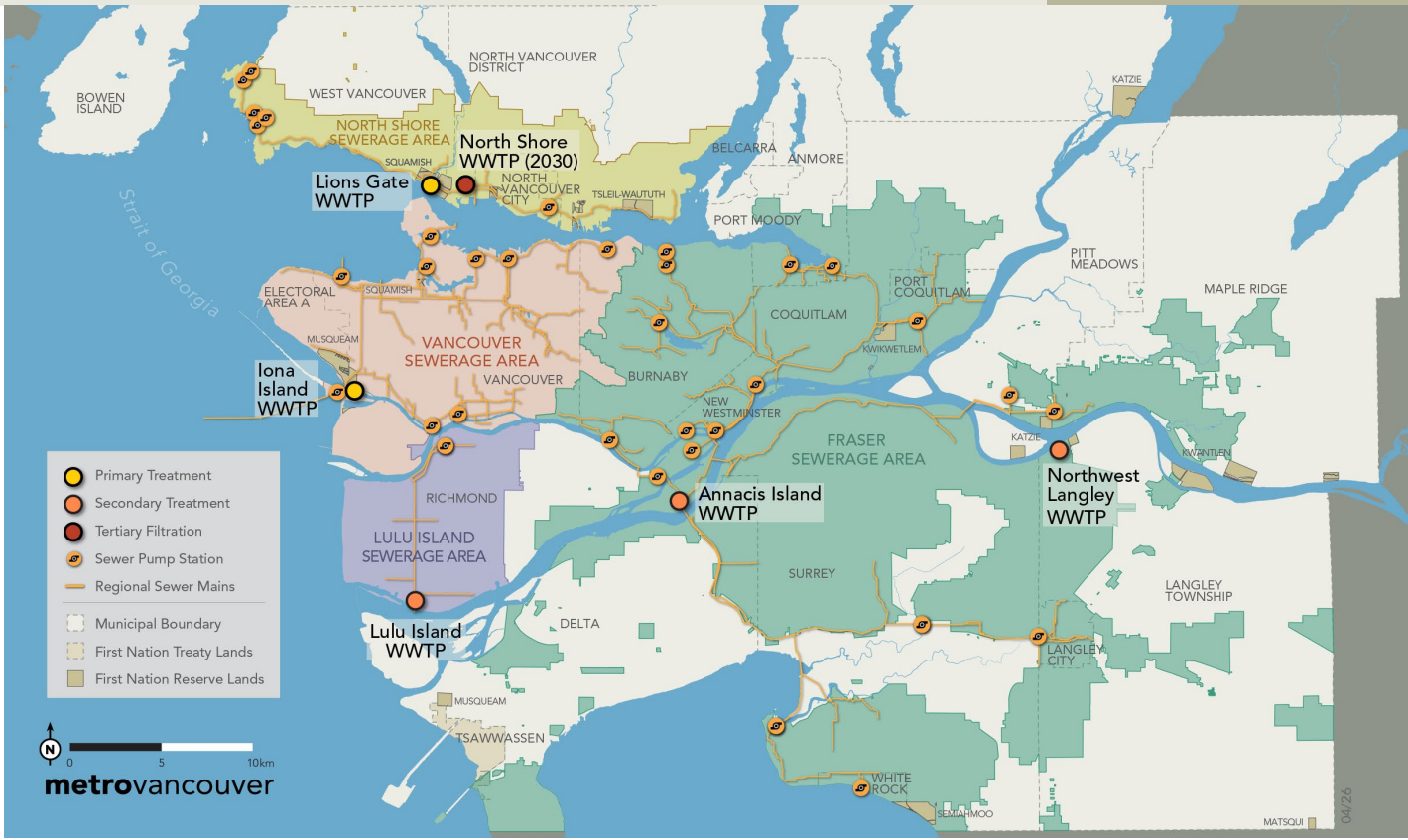
35 pump stations

3 storage tanks

5 treatment plants

Average of **1.2 billion litres** of wastewater per day

3 urban drainage areas: Still Creek/Brunette, Port Moody/Coquitlam, University



Solid Waste

- Manage a system of waste and recycling centres
- 65% diversion rate (2024): More than twice the Canadian average
- 30% reduction in waste per person from 2010 to 2024
- System based on user-pay model
- Generator levy encourages haulers to bring garbage to regional facilities and helps reduce waste



Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre

Scale of Service

1.1 million annual users

6 recycling and waste centres

1 waste-to-energy facility

65% recycling rate

Advance waste prevention and the circular economy



Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation

MVHC

Service

Metro Vancouver Housing (1974)

The Essentials:

- Non-profit organization providing non-market, rental housing
- Metro Vancouver Regional District is sole shareholder
- Established under *Business Corporations Act*
- Operations funded through rents paid for by tenants (no cost to taxpayer)









Scale of Service

MVHC

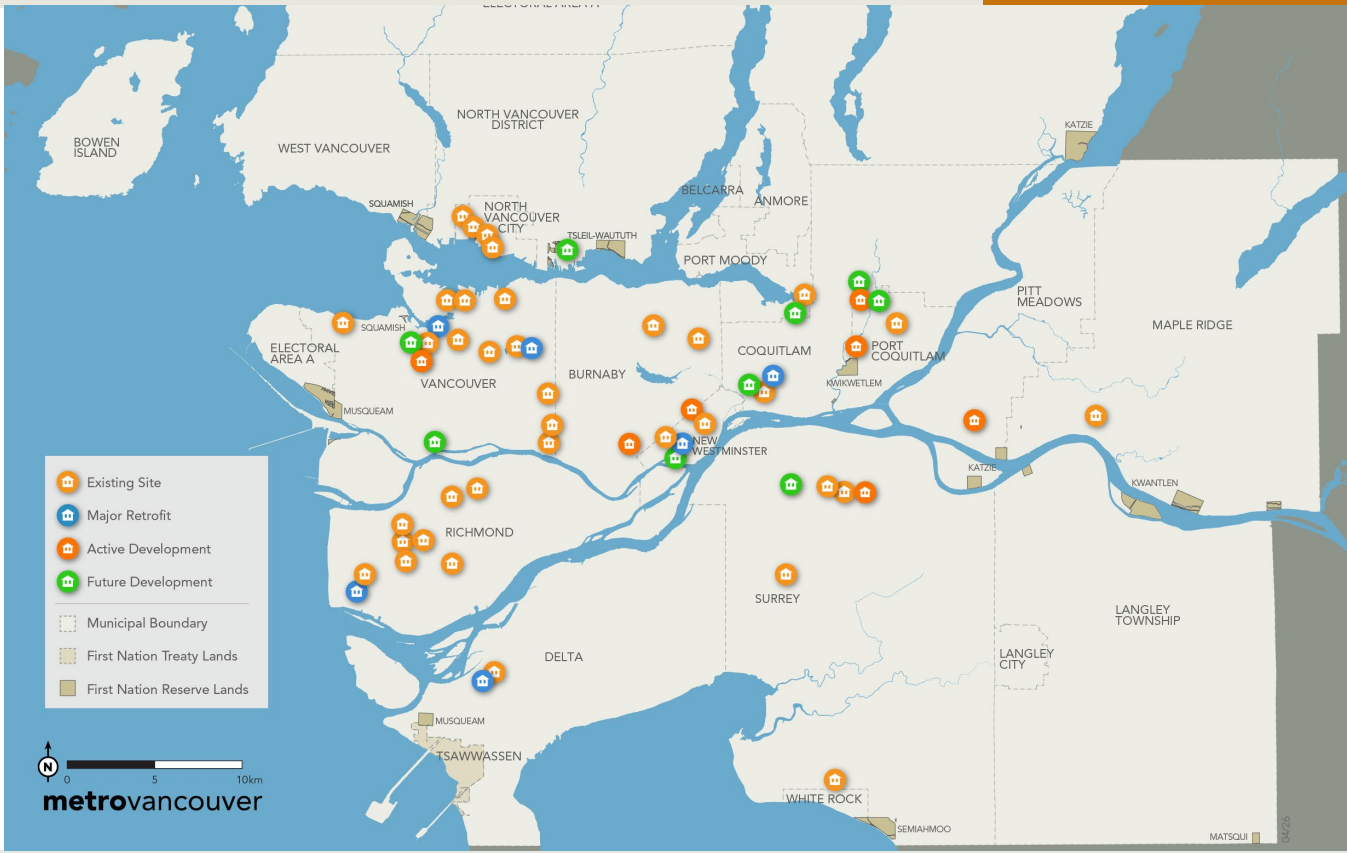
One of largest non-market housing providers in BC

3,400+ units

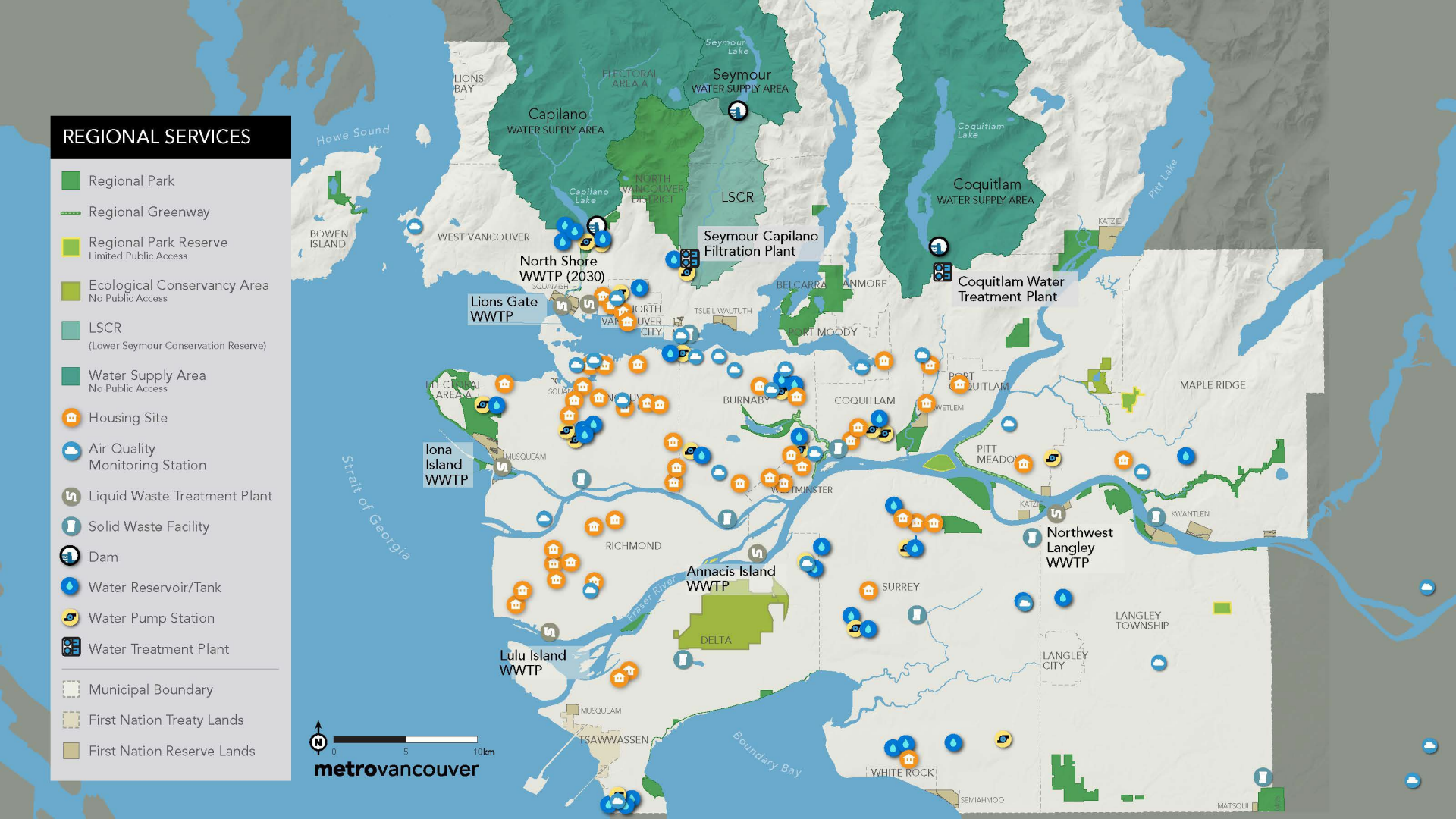
50 sites

~10,000 tenants

~2,000 new units under development



All Together

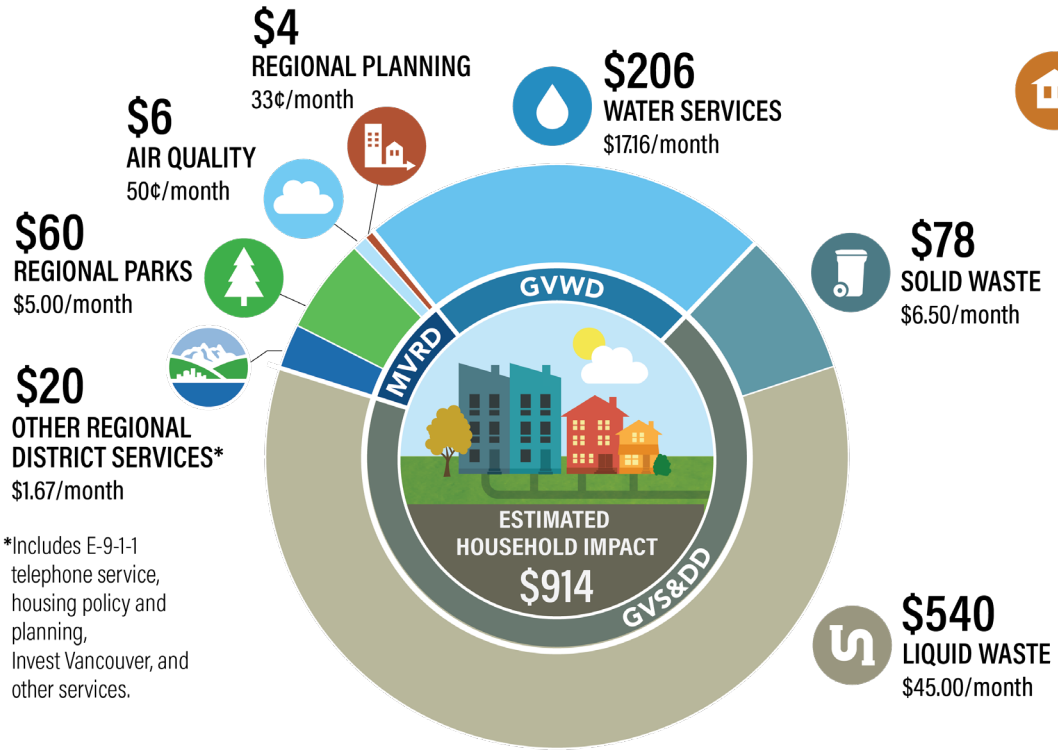

REGIONAL SERVICES
Regional Park
Regional Greenway
Regional Park Reserve
Limited Public Access
Ecological Conservancy Area
No Public Access
LSCR
(Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve)
Water Supply Area
No Public Access
Housing Site
Air Quality
Monitoring Station
Liquid Waste Treatment Plant
Solid Waste Facility
Dam
Water Reservoir/Tank
Water Pump Station
Water Treatment Plant
Municipal Boundary
First Nation Treaty Lands
First Nation Reserve Lands
Howe Sound
Strait of Georgia
Seymour
WATER SUPPLY AREA
Capilano
WATER SUPPLY AREA
Coquitlam
WATER SUPPLY AREA
LSCR
Seymour Capilano
Filtration Plant
Coquitlam Water
Treatment Plant
North Shore
WWTP (2030)
Lions Gate
WWTP
Iona
Island
WWTP
Annacis Island
WWTP
Lulu Island
WWTP
Northwest
Langley
WWTP
WEST VANCOUVER
BOWEN
ISLAND
BURNABY
COQUITLAM
PORT MOODY
PORT COQUITLAM
MAPLE RIDGE
PITT MEADOWS
RICHMOND
SURREY
DELTA
LANGLEY
TOWNSHIP
LANGLEY
CITY
TSAWWASSEN
WHITE ROCK
Fraser River
Boundary Bay
0
5
10km
metrovancouver

AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD COST

(Projected for 2027)

~90%
toward utilities
(water, liquid waste, solid waste)

~10%
toward regional district services



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



Survey to come via email to Board Directors



Thank You

metrovancouver