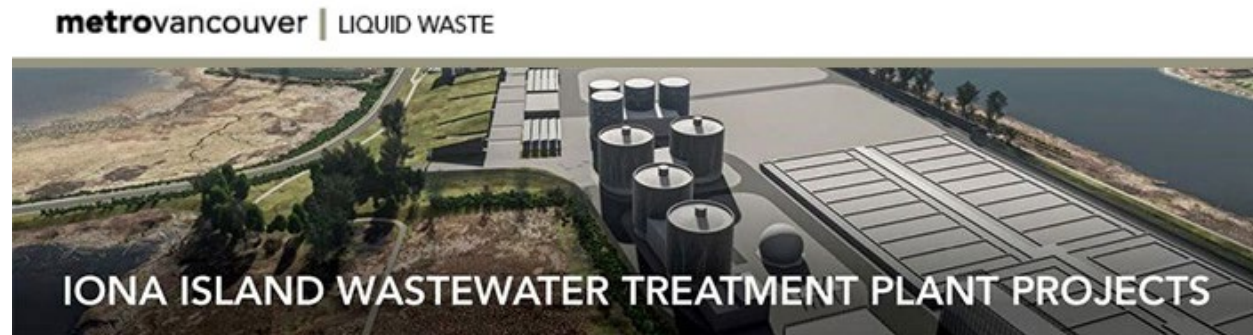


From: [Metro Vancouver](#)
To:
Subject: Iona Projects Updates – Upcoming Engagement
Date: September 16, 2024
Attachments:



You are receiving this newsletter because you have expressed an interest in, or a connection to, the Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects, the adjacent Iona Beach Regional Park, resource recovery opportunities, or the area's ecology.

[Learn more about the projects](#)

September 16, 2024

Barge Berth Engagement - Fall 2024

Metro Vancouver continues to explore suitable locations for a barge berth to support construction of the Iona Projects. Transporting construction materials by barge would ensure safer, more efficient delivery of construction materials to the site over the projects' 15-year timeline, when compared to using trucks alone.

Proposed Sites – Fourth Site for Consideration and Engagement

To date, three sites (Site 1, Site 2, and Site 3) have been explored. Over the past two years, we have heard various points of feedback and concerns related to the proposed sites on Iona Island.

Through our previous engagement and conversations with stakeholders, Metro Vancouver has identified a fourth location on Sea Island for consideration. This site is an existing barge facility owned and operated by the Vancouver Airport Authority (YVR) and located on the eastern point of Sea Island, adjacent to the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet.

Community Engagement

Metro Vancouver will engage the local community on any feedback and considerations specifically relevant to Site 4, and add the site to the Site Selection Study.

Public engagement on the fourth site will take place throughout September and October 2024. Your feedback on Site 4 is valued and can be provided in the following ways:

- In-person on September 24, 2024 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at BCIT Aerospace Technology Campus 3800 Cessna Drive, Richmond
- In-person on October 8, 2024 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Dunbar Community Centre 4747 Dunbar Street, Vancouver
- Complete a questionnaire between September 23 – October 15. The questionnaire will be available at metrovancover.org/iona on September 23.

Community engagement on Sites 1-3 took place between October 2023 and May 2024. Previous engagement reports are available on the [project webpage](#).

Sites

Locations being considered for the barge berth include:

Site 1: Northwest of Iona Island

Site 2: Adjacent to the construction laydown area

Site 3: In McDonald Slough

Site 4: Existing YVR facility (new)



Why an Additional Site is Being Considered

Metro Vancouver has heard various points of feedback and concerns related to the three proposed sites on Iona Island. Recurring concerns from the community focused on proximity to residential neighborhoods, environmental impacts, potential health impacts, and marine safety. This led to exploring site locations off of Iona Island.

Through earlier work, Metro Vancouver determined that no other locations, other than the three proposed, on Iona Island meet the geographical and logistical requirements to be considered for a barge berth site. Metro Vancouver was able to identify a fourth location on Sea Island that is an active barge facility owned and operated by the Vancouver Airport Authority.

Site Selection Study

Metro Vancouver continues to undertake the Site Selection Study. At this time, the site study is being expanded to include Site 4. No final decision has been made on the location of the barge berth. The study will evaluate:

- Input from xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam)
- Input from community members
- Ecological impacts
- Functionality
- Costs
- Schedule

Metro Vancouver will provide an update on the Site Selection Study once the study concludes.

Thank You

Thank you for your participation in engagement activities to date. We appreciate the time and effort you have contributed to moving the projects forward.

By participating in our engagement opportunities, you can help us make better decisions on projects or plans that affect you and your neighbours. Your input can maximize the benefits of a project, minimize the impacts, and provide new ideas or initiatives for your community.

To stay up to date on project updates and engagement opportunities, [subscribe to the Iona Projects mailing list](#).

About the Projects

The Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant in Richmond, BC was commissioned in 1963 and today serves approximately 750,000 residents in the Vancouver Sewerage Area (serving Vancouver, parts of Burnaby and Richmond, the University Endowment Lands, and UBC). The facility provides primary treatment and processes about 200 billion litres of wastewater each year.

The plant is being upgraded to protect public health and the environment in our growing region. The design concepts for the projects include:

- **Tertiary wastewater treatment** to improve the treated wastewater quality being discharged to the Salish Sea
- **Ecological restoration projects** to restore Iona Beach Regional Park's diverse and sensitive ecosystems, build climate resilience, increase park visitor connection to nature, and create integration between the wastewater treatment plant and Park
- **Resource recovery opportunities** to help support the region's carbon neutrality objectives, by recovering important resources such as reclaimed water for non-potable uses, and biogas captured and used at the plant to generate heat for operations as well as supply for renewable natural gas to the Fortis BC natural gas distribution system
- **Extensive ground improvements** to protect the plant from earthquake events and account for future sea level rise this century

The projects are now in the Early Works and Preliminary Design phase, with early works to prepare the site underway. Please visit the [project web page](#) to see a list of engagement events and meeting summaries from the Project Definition Phase (June 2018 to February 2022).

Visitors to xʷəyeyət (Iona Island) may see crews conducting work related to these activities.

For more information about the numerous projects that make up the Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects, please see the [conceptual design background paper](#).


Keeping You Informed

Thank you for your interest in the Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects. If you know others who are interested in the project, please forward this email and encourage them to sign up for future newsletters by visiting the [project web page](#).

metrovancouver

switchtocold.ca

Do your laundry in cold. Our sea otters will thank you.



Contact Us

A Community Liaison is available to address questions and concerns:
Community Liaison: 604-432-6200 (Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm)
After Hours Emergency: 604-451-6610
Email: IonaWWTP@metrovancover.org
Website: metrovancover.org

Follow Us



Metro Vancouver is a diverse organization that plans for and delivers regional utility services, including water, sewers and wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. It also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, provides affordable housing, and serves as a regional federation. The organization is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation located in the region of the same name. The organization is governed by a Board of Directors of elected officials from each member jurisdiction.