
To: Utilities Committee

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Date: March 28, 2017 Meeting Date: April 6, 2017

Subject: **Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant: Engagement and Communications Activities and New Name**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Utilities Committee receive for information the report dated March 28, 2017 titled “Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant: Engagement and Communications Activities and New Name”.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on engagement activities and to introduce the new name for the new treatment facility.

BACKGROUND

Metro Vancouver has entered the design and construction phase for a new treatment plant to serve the North Shore municipalities. The award of a Design-Build-Finance contract for the new plant will soon be made. As part of the Project Agreement, the successful proponent will lead engagement activities for the design and construction of the new plant. To distinguish the new plant from the existing plant, reflect its new location and to reflect Metro Vancouver’s commitment to using liquid waste as a resource, the new plant will be named the North Shore Water Resource Recovery Centre.

This report is being brought forward to inform the Committee on engagement activities and the transfer of engagement responsibilities to the preferred proponent.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Since completion of Indicative Design in 2013, Metro Vancouver has continued to engage the community through the following activities:

- Annual newsletter sent to approximately 2,000 residents and businesses
- Booth at the annual Norgate community days
- Project updates at the Norgate Annual General Meeting
- Open house at Norgate Elementary School
- Meetings with the Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee
- Pre-construction activity notice to surrounding businesses
- Ongoing meetings with Squamish Nation to discuss mutual interests related to the treatment plant and the construction of the new conveyance pipeline

Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee (LGPAC)

LGPAC met five times between 2015 – 2017 to discuss the plant design and educational opportunities; the RFQ and RFP process; community spaces; construction mitigation and traffic management; update on funding and evaluation process; and the process for installing an air quality monitoring station. In the spring of 2016, LGPAC members and Metro Vancouver staff visited the LOTT Olympia education centre to learn more about their education and outreach programming.

Upcoming Activities

Metro Vancouver will help to prepare the community and First Nations for the upcoming design and construction work through the following activities:

- Media release on the announcement of the successful proponent.
- Project update newsletter distributed to residents and businesses in the Norgate community introducing the successful project proponent, the plant design, and the new name.
- Final LGPAC meeting to introduce the successful proponent and provide information about the design and construction schedule.
- LGPAC will produce a report on activities and submit this to Metro Vancouver after the last meeting, at which point their term will end as per their Terms of Reference.
- Update letters to First Nations.

Handover to the Successful Proponent

After the contract is awarded, the successful proponent will become responsible for engagement and communications activities. Metro Vancouver has set out minimum requirements for community engagement in the Project Agreement. These requirements include, but are not limited to: preparing a communications plan, hosting two public meetings, providing a Community Liaison Officer to respond to community questions and issues, and providing community updates on significant construction activities. Metro Vancouver will continue to be involved, to provide oversight and approval of public materials.

RENAMING THE TREATMENT PLANT

‘Wastewater Treatment Plant’ reflects the historical view that liquid waste is an unusable output needing collection, treatment and disposal. The Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan promotes actions that recognize liquid waste as a resource from which nutrients, energy, and water may be recovered. Renaming the plant to focus on resource recovery and higher quality treatment helps to illustrate this shift in liquid waste management.

Water Resource Recovery

‘Water Resource Recovery’ shifts the focus to resource recovery of the treated water that is returned to the environment to continue to protect Burrard Inlet. It illustrates the connection of wastewater to the water cycle and our water supply, rivers and oceans, which helps to further communicate and raise awareness of the connection between what we put down the drain and its journey back to the receiving water. Reclamation includes beneficial use of biosolids, energy generation, reclaimed water and resource recovery.

Going forward, all engagement and communications materials will use the new plant name.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Engagement and communication activities are part of the Project Agreement and included in the contract award.

SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

Metro Vancouver has entered the design and construction phase for a new treatment plant to serve the North Shore municipalities. The successful proponent will become responsible for engagement activities. Metro Vancouver has set out minimum requirements for community engagement in the Project Agreement. These requirements include, but are not limited to: preparing a communications plan, hosting two public meetings, providing a Community Liaison Officer to respond to community questions and issues, and providing community updates on significant construction activities. Metro Vancouver will continue to be involved, to provide oversight and approval of public materials.

Staff propose to announce a new plant name with the completion of the contract award and the commencement of the design and construction phase. The new name, 'North Shore Water Resource Recovery Centre', better reflects Metro Vancouver's commitment to using liquid waste as a resource, providing a higher quality of effluent to protect Burrard Inlet, recovering resources from the treatment process and engaging the community.