

To: Utilities Committee

From: Fred Nenninger, Director, Policy Planning and Analysis

Date: February 9, 2015 Meeting Date: April 1, 2015

Subject: **Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant – Quarterly Report**

RECOMMENDATION

That the GVS&DD Board receive for information the report titled “Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant – Quarterly Report” dated February 9, 2015.

PURPOSE

To update the Board on the work underway for the Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant (LGSWWTP) project.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan* approved by the BC Minister of Environment in 2011, the Lions Gate Plant is required to be upgraded to secondary treatment by December 31, 2020. The Board authorized funds in 2011 and subsequent budgets to proceed with the initial work.

PROJECT STATUS

In preparation for the Design and Construction phase of the project, work has commenced on developing the work plan and project schedule based on the Project Definition and Indicative Design completed in 2014. Considering the size, scope and the stated objectives of the project, services from a number of key external consultants (owner’s engineer, legal, financial and commercial) will be required to assist Metro Vancouver on procurement contracts development, selection of design-build contractor and contract administration. In order to meet the regulatory completion date of December 31, 2020 for the secondary upgrade, Request for Proposals for these services have been issued and evaluated.

New Building Canada Fund Update

Since mid-2013, Metro Vancouver has been working closely with both the federal and provincial governments to confirm the process for submitting a formal Building Canada Fund (BCF) application, including the completion of the required P3 screen, and to secure the Province’s endorsement of the project as a provincial priority under BCF. In early January, Metro Vancouver made a presentation to the two North Shore Members of Parliament, Andrew Saxton (North Vancouver) and John Weston (West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky) on the Lions Gate SWWTP, and both MPs expressed their support for the project. An information package on the project has been provided to Mr. Saxton and Mr. Weston and they have indicated they will use this to promote the LGSWWTP to their caucus colleagues and to area MLAs. They have also indicated that they will forward a letter of support for the Lions Gate project funding to the Minister of Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Although there has never been a prescribed process for applying for BCF funding under the New Building Canada Plan, in February Metro Vancouver sent letters to BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone and federal Minister of Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs Denis Lebel, formally requesting BCF funding for the Lions Gate project. Metro Vancouver staff will be following up to request a meeting with Minister Stone – as the Minister responsible for determining provincial priorities for BCF – in late March.

At the staff level, Metro Vancouver has been holding regular meetings (every 4-5 weeks) with senior staff at the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development to update them on the Lions Gate project. Staff have also been providing senior officials with P3 Canada, Infrastructure Canada and the Ministers Regional Office in Vancouver updates on the project. P3 Canada has indicated that a DBF procurement model would not necessarily be considered a funding priority under the current program.

While the exact timing is unclear at this time, the next required step is for the Province to identify the Lions Gate project as a priority project which will in turn trigger a review of the project by Cabinet and the Treasury Board.

Metro Vancouver has also sent information on the project to key staff in federal Finance Minister Joe Oliver's office as a follow-up to a similar package of information that was sent to Minister Lebel late last year.

Engagement and Consultation Program Update

This section provides an update on key engagement and consultation activities since June 2014 and an overview of upcoming activities including an update on the Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee (LGPAC).

In the Design and Construction phase, engagement and consultation will focus on the areas of community integration, mitigation planning, and education and awareness opportunities.

The Public

MV staff continue to update the public through the Lions Gate project website and periodic emails to the Lions Gate public database. MV staff attended the Norgate Park Community Association Annual General Meeting (June 18) and provided a project update. MV staff hosted a booth at Norgate Community Day (August 23) where community members had an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the project. As part of the Development Permit application process, MV hosted a Public Information meeting (September 18). Approximately 40 people attended the information meeting. Community notifications were sent out for the geotechnical and environmental investigations taking place along West 1st Street and the railway right-of-way between November and December.

Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee

Recruitment of LGPAC members for the Design and Construction phase took place between July and October 2014, however confirmation of the new membership is on-hold pending award of the Owner's Engineer's contract.

First Nations

Ongoing engagement meetings have continued with Squamish Nation to discuss shared interests within the project area and to advise them of the project milestones and engagement opportunities.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Project initiation is proceeding in accordance with the current schedule and within the budget approved by the Board in 2011 for the initial project work.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The Development Permit Application has been submitted and reviewed by the District of North Vancouver. The District has provided the design information required to complete the Development Permit process, which will occur once the design-build-finance contract work commences.

SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

In preparation for the Design and Construction Phase of the project, work has commenced on developing the work plan and project schedule based on the Project Definition and Indicative Design completed in 2014. Request for Proposals have been issued for an Owner's Engineer, legal services, and a financial/commercial advisor. Evaluation of submittals is underway.

Metro Vancouver continues to engage the provincial and federal governments at both the political and staff level to secure Building Canada funding and provincial endorsement for the Lions Gate project as a provincial priority under the Building Canada Fund.

The engagement and consultation program will continue in 2015 with periodic updates to the community and regular updates will be provided to the Utilities Committee and Board.

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