SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 2, 2026
In-Person Meeting
10:30 am – 11:30 am
(Appreciation Lunch: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm)
Metro Vancouver Head Office: Room 2912

MEETING NOTES

The Meeting Notes of the Public/Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC), held in person at the Metro Vancouver – Head Office. The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2026.

Attendees: Director Hodge (Vice-Chair), Adelyn Chan, Allen Lynch, Amika Watari, Ben Liegey, Bill Chan, Brenda Martens, Gil Yaron, Jamie Kaminski, Marcelle Moreira dos Santos, Michael Zarbl, Raman Johal, Sarah Scanlan, Sean Miles, Sue Maxwell, Tara Immell, William Selten

Absent: Director Kirby-Yung (Chair), Christoph Schultz, Cassidy vander Ross, Cody Irwin, Daryl Foster, Daniel Rotman, Doug Schell, Grant Hankins, Jake Turek, Jaye-Jaye Berggren, Jennifer Henry, John Doherty, Kevin Huang, Komal Fatima, Louise Schwarz, Matthew Morin, Stephanie Voysey, Ulwiana Metha-Malhotra

Metro Vancouver Staff: Brooke Atkinson, Chris Allan, Chris Underwood, Karen Storry, Paul Henderson, Samantha Joy, Stephanie Liu, Terry Fulton

Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel Members: Ryan Williams, Peter Fassbender

1.	**WELCOME** The Vice-Chair, Director Hodge, welcomed PTAC members and introduced Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel members, Ryan Williams and Peter Fassbender. Engagement Panel members provided information on the engagement panel's role, including seeking new and innovative paths for consultation for Metro Vancouver that include voices not typically heard and increase the level of understanding about the solid waste management plan.	Vice-Chair
2.	**AGENDA** • The Vice-Chair, Director Hodge, reviewed the April 2, 2026 Agenda.	Vice-Chair
3.	**PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES** • Reviewed the February 19, 2026 meeting notes and there were no additions raised; notes were accepted as provided. Members also submitted one-pager feedback and the submissions are posted online: PTAC member Feedback Summary and one-pager submissions	Vice-Chair

4.	**DISCUSSION ITEMS**	Vice-Chair

	Solid Waste Management Plan Update:
	4.1 Revised Draft Plan and Initial Draft Plan Feedback Summary
	Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, presented the revised draft plan and initial draft plan feedback summary.
	
	Member discussion:
	• Requested clarification on the focus area to "expand efforts to prevent disposal of food waste". Comment that the "disposal" terminology may imply focus on recycling or recovery to prevent disposal, and not enough on waste prevention. Similar comment for other focus areas such as "expand efforts to prevent disposal of valuable building materials".
	  • Staff confirmed that the focus areas emphasize priority areas of action and consider all actions at all levels of the waste hierarchy.
	• Question of clarity for how the focus areas relate to the plan actions, strategies, vision, and guiding principles
	  • Staff confirmed that the focus areas were identified by determining common themes within the actions that are expected to have the biggest impact when implementing the plan
	• Question of where the accountability for Metro Vancouver falls within the plan actions.
	  • Staff clarified that the solid waste management plan requires approval by the Minister of Environment and Parks and then becomes a legally binding document that will guide the region's actions over the next decade and beyond.
	• Question of what actions under RETHINK are being prioritized if there is not an allotted budget for them?
	  • Staff confirmed that the waste hierarchy is an important consideration when determining the order in which actions are implemented.
	• Comments on the draft plan:
	  • The plan should include more focus on reducing GHG's
	  • Comment that the edit made to the hierarchy (removing the material component of "Recovery") did not address previous comments from some members of the committee that Goal 5: Recovery of material for the purpose of replacing fossil fuels is not supported
	  • Only one mention of the term "zero waste" in the plan, and the plan does not adopt the Zero Waste International definition of zero waste.
	  • There should be more about collaboration with interested parties in the plan, especially if RETHINK is a priority
	  • No addition of phasing out the incinerator in the plan as requested, and no detailed Waste-to-Energy Facility capital costs outlined in the plan
	  • Plan should include a 5-year target, along with the 10-year targets
	  • Suggested plan improvements:
		Terry Fulton

	○ Illegal dumping is in recycling but should be in DISPOSE
	○ EPR is in reuse when should be in RECYCLE
	○ Both of these make it look like we're focusing higher on the hierarchy than we are.
	
	4.2 Plan Implementation and Reporting
	Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services presented on the plan implementation and reporting.
	
	Member discussion:
	• Question of how it is decided on what goes into the annual report? Do we report when targets are not met? Recommendation to have a plan monitoring committee formed in advance of the next annual report.
	  • Staff confirmed that annual reports are provided to the Zero Waste Committee and outline both areas of success and areas where targets are not met, including actions that can be taken to advance toward targets.
	• Comment on the importance of publishing annual statistics or information in a visually appealing manner, to increase transparency for the public.
	• It was suggested that a publicly available dashboard with a few key performance indicators be used.
	  • Staff are in the process of developing a dashboard for waste composition studies and will see if it can be expanded.
	• Question if there is a record of staff effort / time invested in updating the solid waste management plan?
	  • Metrics are available on engagement participation, and the number of updates to committees including the Zero Waste Committee, but staff time has not been tracked.
	• Question if there will be a formal annual report for 2024. The committee received information on 2024 statistics but no report.
	  • Staff confirmed the biennial report is still in progress and will include the 2024 statistics that have been shared.
	• Question about when the implementation schedule will be available.
	  • The revised plan includes a high-level implementation schedule for focus areas. We intend to take a flexible approach, working with the plan monitoring advisory committee and adapting to priority areas over time.
	• Question if there are any associated dates for each of the actions?
	  • Staff confirmed that there are some dates in the implementation schedule at a high level, which is newly added to the revised version of the draft.	

	5. INFORMATION ITEMS **5.1 Zero Waste Committee** Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, provided an update on the February Zero Waste Committee meeting.	Paul Henderson

	6. ACTION/STANDING ITEMS **6.1 Action Tracker** **6.2 Public/Technical Advisory Committee Updated 2026 Work Plan** **6.3 Regional Waste Flows February 2026**	Brooke Atkinson
	7. ADDITIONAL ITEMS **7.1 Public/Technical Advisory Committee Draft 2026 Work Plan** **7.2 Collaborative Engagement Program Video** **7.3 Regional Waste Flows February 2026**	Brooke Atkinson
	8. NEXT STEPS The Vice Chair thanked the members for their participation and contributions to PTAC over the last four years and 22 meetings. The committee was very dedicated and provided valuable advice and ideas to staff for the plan update.	Vice-Chair

Attachment 1: Draft Meeting Notes – February 19, 2026 – Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee
Attachment 2: Action Tracker
Attachment 3: Public/Technical Advisory Committee Draft Work Plan 2026
Attachment 4: Collaborative Engagement Program Video - https://metrovancouver.org/media-room/video/1132673783
Attachment 5: Regional Waste Flows February 2026