

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ZERO WASTE COMMITTEE**

REGULAR MEETING

**Friday, February 11, 2022
9:00 a.m.**

**Meeting conducted electronically pursuant to the Procedure Bylaw
28th Floor Boardroom, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia
Webstream available at <http://www.metrovancouver.org>**

A G E N D A¹

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 February 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for February 11, 2022 as circulated.

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 January 20, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held January 20, 2022 as circulated. *pg. 3*

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1 Sue Maxwell, Director, Zero Waste BC

Subject: A Zero Waste Agenda for BC *pg. 8*

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

5.1 Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated February 3, 2022, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee”. *pg. 10*

¹ Note: Recommendation is shown under each item, where applicable.
February 4, 2022

5.2 Manager’s Report

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated February 4, 2022, titled “Manager’s Report”.

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6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 Correspondence dated January 24, 2022 from Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy re. Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

pg. 19

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.

10. ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION

That Zero Waste Committee adjourn/conclude its regular meeting of February 11, 2022.

Membership:

Froese, Jack (C) – Langley Township
Hodge, Craig (VC) – Coquitlam
Calendino, Pietro – Burnaby
Elford, Doug – Surrey

Fathers, Helen – White Rock
Fry, Pete – Vancouver
Little, Mike – North Vancouver District
Martin, Gayle – Langley City

McDonald, Bruce – Delta
Morden, Mike – Maple Ridge
Steves, Harold – Richmond
Vagramov, Rob – Port Moody

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ZERO WASTE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Zero Waste Committee held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022 in the 28th Floor Boardroom, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Mayor Jack Froese*, Langley Township
 Vice Chair, Councillor Craig Hodge*, Coquitlam
 Councillor Pietro Calendino*, Burnaby
 Councillor Doug Elford*, Surrey
 Councillor Pete Fry*, Vancouver
 Mayor Mike Little*, North Vancouver District (arrived at 9:04 a.m.)
 Councillor Gayle Martin*, Langley City
 Councillor Bruce McDonald*, Delta (arrived at 9:17 a.m.)
 Councillor Harold Steves*, Richmond
 Mayor Rob Vagramov*, Port Moody (arrived at 9:18 a.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councillor Helen Fathers, White Rock
 Mayor Mike Morden, Maple Ridge

STAFF PRESENT:

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services
 Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Chief Administrative Officer
 Natalia Melnikov, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

OPENING REMARKS

Director Sav Dhaliwal, Board Chair and Ex Officio committee member, acknowledged the contributions of the Metro Vancouver Standing Committee members in what has been a challenging time for the region due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic along with unprecedented weather events and recognized the vital role this Committee will play in moving forward.

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by Section 3.6.2 of the *Procedure Bylaw*

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 January 20, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for January 20, 2022 as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 November 17, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held November 17, 2021 as circulated.

CARRIED

9:04 a.m. Mayor Little arrived at the meeting.

3. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Alison Wood, Ocean Ambassadors Canada

Alison Wood, Ocean Ambassadors Canada, provided an overview of the East of Seymour project, highlighting the project's initiatives, lessons learned and the plans to expand this model to more communities.

9:17 a.m. Councillor McDonald arrived at the meeting.

9:18 a.m. Mayor Vagramov arrived at the meeting.

Request of Staff:

Staff were requested to connect with Ocean Ambassadors Canada to explore collaboration opportunities.

The presentation material titled "East of Seymour Zero Waste Takeout" is retained with the January 20, 2022 Zero Waste Committee agenda.

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

5.1 2022 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan

Report dated January 13, 2022, from Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with its Terms of Reference, the 2022 Work Plan, and annual meeting schedule.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee:

- a) receive for information the Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference and the 2022 Annual Meeting Schedule, as presented in the report dated January 13, 2022, titled “2022 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”; and
- b) endorse the 2022 Work Plan, as presented in the report dated January 13, 2022, titled “2022 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”.

CARRIED

5.2 Flood Emergency Response: Regional Solid Waste System Impacts Summary

Report dated January 13, 2022, from Chris Allan, Director, Solid Waste Operations, providing the Zero Waste Committee with an update on the Metro Vancouver’s response to recent flood events and system impacts as a result of the flood emergency in November 2021.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the GVS&DD Board receive for information the report dated January 13, 2022, titled “Flood Emergency Response: Regional Solid Waste System Impacts Summary”.

CARRIED

5.3 2021 Integrated Solid Waste & Resource Management Plan Biennial Report

Report dated January 13, 2022, from Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with the draft 2021 Biennial Report on progress for the Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to:

- a) invite feedback on the draft 2021 Integrated Solid Waste & Resource Management Plan Biennial Report from public stakeholders and Indigenous Nations; and
- b) submit the 2021 Integrated Solid Waste & Resource Management Plan Biennial Report and feedback to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

CARRIED

5.4 2021 Zero Waste Conference

Report dated January 13, 2022 from Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations, and Ann Rowan, Division Manager, Collaboration and Engagement, External Relations, providing the Zero Waste Committee with an update on the 2021 Zero Waste Conference.

Members were shown a video on the on-going zero waste initiatives and the impacts waste plays in climate change. Video material is not retained with the January 20, 2022 Zero Waste Committee agenda.

Members were advised that the date for the 2022 Zero Waste Conference will be announced at a later date.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated January 13, 2022, titled "2021 Zero Waste Conference."

CARRIED

5.5 Manager's Report

Report dated January 13, 2022 from Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with an update on the 2022 standing committee events, Waste-to-Energy Facility District Energy System agreement with WHO, and 2022 Food Scraps and Think Thrice About Your Clothes recycling campaigns.

Members were provided with a presentation on the structural damage to the Coquitlam Recycling and Waste Centre, noting that efforts are underway to minimize the impacts to the local communities.

Presentation material titled "Coquitlam Recycling and Waste Centre Structural Damage" is retained with the January 20, 2022 Zero Waste Committee agenda.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated January 13, 2022, titled "Manager's Report".

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

No items presented.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

No items presented.

10. ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That Zero Waste Committee conclude its regular meeting of January 20, 2022.

CARRIED

(Time: 9:55 a.m.)

Natalia Melnikov,
Legislative Services Coordinator

Jack Froese, Chair

50319703 FINAL

DELEGATION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Name or Organization: Zero Waste BC

Subject: Outlining the report “A Zero Waste Agenda for BC”

Presenting to: Zero Waste Committee

Date of Meeting: February 11, 2022

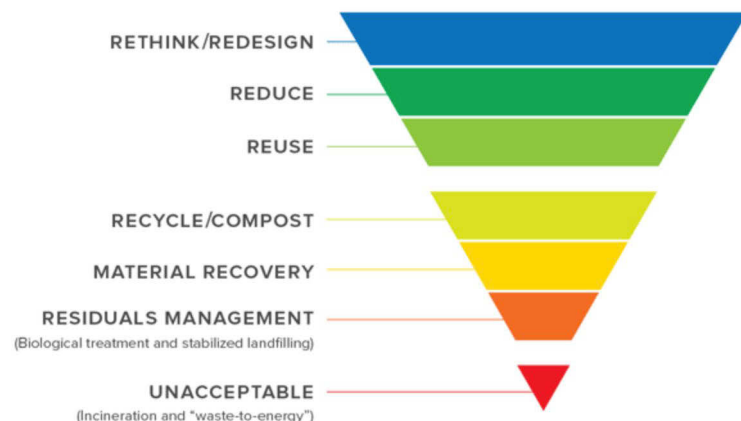
Zero Waste BC -February 11th, 2022

Presentation to the Mero Vancouver Zero Waste Committee

Summary

Zero Waste BC, in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, published a report [A Zero Waste Agenda for BC](#) which outlines the state of waste in BC as well as a proposed suite of actions that could help take BC to close to zero waste by 2040. Our research found that despite expansion and improvements in recycling and organics composting programs across BC from 2008-2018, the amount of waste disposed has been static. It shows that we need to work on changing our system and reducing and reusing the materials and products we use. We recommend using the Zero Waste Hierarchy as a planning tool.

THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 7.0



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When steps closer to the top of the hierarchy are pursued, benefits aside from less waste include more jobs, lower GHG emissions and fewer environmental impacts. In fact, GHG emissions across BC could be reduced by 7.1 million tonnes by 2040 through pursuing zero waste. To do that, we recommend these key directions for the province to enact:

- Develop a Zero Waste by 2040 Strategy
- Focus on redesign, innovation and shifting culture
- Ensure reduction and reuse are fundamental to the strategy
- Account for GHGs and ecosystem impacts
- Extend product lifespans
- Address Construction & Demolition waste and decrease plastics
- Develop a Crown Corporation to collect and manage flows where needed

- Create demand for recycled materials
- Gather better data and make it public
- Ensure there are green jobs and a just transition framework
- Eliminate energy recovery from waste and close disposal loopholes

As Metro Vancouver embarks on its next solid waste management plan, we think that this report can help to inform that plan. The opportunities include using the Zero Waste Hierarchy as a planning tool with a focus on the top three rungs (rethink/redesign, reduce and reuse); phasing out incineration and waste burning; looking at how best to use the waste budget to achieve zero waste; engaging the whole community; and seizing the opportunity to shape the BC Circular Economy Strategy.

Zero Waste BC would be happy to help Metro Vancouver become a true leader in zero waste.

To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Sandy Young, Senior Engagement Specialist, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations,
Solid Waste Services

Date: February 3, 2022 Meeting Date: February 11, 2022

Subject: **Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Solid Waste and Recycling Industry
Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory
Committee**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated February 3, 2022, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the development of an updated solid waste management plan, Metro Vancouver is initiating two new committees: Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (Industry Advisory Committee) and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee (Public/Technical Advisory Committee).

Submissions for participation in the Industry Advisory Committee and applications for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee were received from December 10, 2021 to January 31, 2022. Approximately 30 Industry Advisory Committee submissions and more than 90 Public/Technical Advisory Committee applications were received over the seven-week period.

The Industry Advisory Committee and Public/Technical Advisory Committee opportunities were shared broadly through email notifications to over 770 and 1,200 contacts, respectively. The first meeting of the Industry Advisory Committee is scheduled for March 1, 2022.

The Public/Technical Advisory Committee membership will be selected by the Zero Waste Committee and GVS&DD Board in upcoming closed meetings following review of staff recommendations by the solid waste management plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Zero Waste Committee on the Industry Advisory Committee and Public/Technical Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

In July 2021, a report to the Board described the draft terms reference for the Industry Advisory Committee. In November 2021, the Board approved sectors/areas of interest and selection criteria for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee. This report describes the outreach efforts for the call for membership submissions (Industry Advisory Committee) and applications (Public/Technical Advisory Committee), and subsequent steps in convening the advisory committees.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Advisory Committee Membership

The Industry Advisory Committee is open to participation by representatives of private waste and recycling collection and processing companies and their industry associations. The purpose of the Industry Advisory Committee is to provide a forum for industry contribution, discussion, and advice on management planning, operations, and policy issues related to solid waste and recycling services in Metro Vancouver. All potential participants that meet the membership requirement and submit a statement of interest declaration are able to participate in the Industry Advisory Committee. The Industry Advisory Committee will be an important resource in updating the solid waste management plan, and will continue beyond the development of an updated solid waste management plan.

The Public/Technical Advisory Committee will consist of individuals with relevant personal qualities and experiences, from a range of backgrounds, who will provide advice and input on the development of the next solid waste management plan. Applicants for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee completed an application to identify the sector(s)/area(s) of interest they represent (e.g., public, recycling industry, waste industry, government agency, etc.), and how they demonstrate the personal characteristics that will be used to evaluate potential committee members (e.g., represents the interests/perspective of a group of people/sector, demonstrates community/committee involvement and the ability to work collaborative with others, etc.).

Sharing the Opportunities

Metro Vancouver invited submissions for the Industry Advisory Committee and applications for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee during a seven-week period from December 10, 2021 to January 31, 2022. The application deadline for both committees was extended two weeks beyond the original end date to augment the opportunity to express interest.

The call for Industry Advisory Committee membership submissions was advertised through email notifications to over 770 waste and recycling industry contacts, on three occasions in the seven-week period. A dedicated web page presented information about the Industry Advisory Committee and instructions to complete a membership submission. Potential applicants were invited to submit interest to participate in both the Industry Advisory Committee and Public/Technical Advisory Committee. Membership on the Industry Advisory Committee does not preclude or diminish the potential for selection to the Public/Technical Advisory Committee.

The call for applications for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee was shared broadly through three email notifications, on four social media channels, and on the solid waste management plan update web page during the application period. Over 1,200 contacts interested in receiving updates on the Metro Vancouver solid waste management plan or identified as being potentially impacted by the solid waste management plan update received the email notifications. Social copy and creative assets were included in the email notifications for recipients to share across their personal and professional networks. An additional email notification to boards of trade and chambers of commerce in the region featured the opportunity.

Staff reached out to 35 organizations in a special effort to target recruitment of potential committee members belonging to typically underrepresented or equity-denied communities. Details were shared on supports available to help these potential members participate to the best of their ability.

Applicants were asked how they heard about the opportunity to apply for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee with email notifications and social media to be the most popular, reaching over half and nearly one-third of applicants, respectively.

Submissions for the Industry Advisory Committee and Public/Technical Advisory Committee

Approximately 30 individuals submitted statement of interest declarations for the Industry Advisory Committee. More than 90 individuals completed applications for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee.

Next Steps

The first meeting of the Industry Advisory Committee is scheduled for March 1. Director Craig Hodge is the Zero Waste Committee representative on the Industry Advisory Committee, and is a co-chair of the committee. A second co-chair will be elected from among committee members. Updates on the progress of the Industry Advisory Committee will be provided to the Zero Waste Committee as required.

Staff recommendations for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee membership will be reviewed by the Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel prior to being considered by the Zero Waste Committee and Board in closed meetings. The Public/Technical Advisory Committee will be convened once the membership is confirmed.

Meetings of both advisory committees will be open to the public to observe by request and agenda packages and meeting minutes will be made available on the respective web pages.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for general meeting and secretariat expenses can be carried out within the approved Solid Waste Services budget.

CONCLUSION

As part of the development of an updated solid waste management plan, Metro Vancouver issued a call for Industry Advisory Committee membership submissions and Public/Technical Advisory Committee applications over a seven-week period from December 10, 2021 to January 31, 2022. The opportunities were shared broadly through email notifications and, for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee, on four social media channels. To advance equity and inclusion on the Public/Technical Advisory Committee, special efforts were made to target recruitment of potential committee members belonging to typically underrepresented or equity-denied communities. Approximately 30 statement of interest declarations for the Industry Advisory Committee and over 90 applications for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee were received. The first meeting of the Industry Advisory

Committee is scheduled for March 1, 2022. The Public/Technical Advisory Committee will convene following member selection by the Board.

References

1. [Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee](#)
2. [Solid Waste Management Plan Update](#)

004156005

To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

Date: February 4, 2022 Meeting Date: February 11, 2022

Subject: **Manager's Report**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated February 4, 2022, titled "Manager's Report".

Management of Post-Consumer Health Products Pharmaceuticals at the Waste-to-Energy Facility

The Health Products Stewardship Association (HPSA) is responsible for the management of post-consumer pharmaceuticals in the Province of British Columbia. The material includes unused and expired drugs, and generally encompasses prescription and non-prescription (over-the-counter) medications, with a total of approximately 100 tonnes per year of the material requiring disposal. Inappropriate disposal of post-consumer pharmaceuticals, for example into the sanitary sewer system, may result in discharges that could harm the environment. Improper disposal of post-consumer pharmaceuticals is one of the many routes of entry of these products into the environment.

Post-Consumer pharmaceuticals collected by HPSA are currently managed at facilities outside of the British Columbia. HPSA has approached Metro Vancouver requesting that the material be accepted at the Waste-to-Energy Facility. The Province of British Columbia has advised that the material is municipal solid waste and is acceptable for management at the Waste-to-Energy Facility. Based on Metro Vancouver's Tipping Fee Bylaw, the material would be accepted at the Special Handle Waste rate of \$255 per tonne.

As a condition of acceptance of the post-consumer pharmaceuticals, HPSA will work with Metro Vancouver to encourage consumers to appropriately manage the products, with the goal of reducing the inappropriate disposal of these materials. In 2021, HSPA launched a three-year strategic communications and marketing plan with the objective of building greater awareness of the proper management of post-consumer pharmaceuticals across British Columbia and with constituents of the Metro Vancouver community. HSPA created an integrated campaign that leveraged executive, earned, paid, social and owned channels and brought awareness of the need to understand proper disposal techniques and issued a call to action to all British Columbians to bring back unwanted medications to pharmacies. The campaign was a success, generating over 81 pieces of coverage and 8.26 million media impressions across the county within the first few days of launch, with 63 stories appearing in B.C.-based outlets alone. Continued acceptance of the post-consumer pharmaceuticals would be contingent on HPSA continuing to engage on proper management.

Metro Vancouver also does a regional campaign (the Unflushables) to encourage people to properly dispose of items that are commonly flushed down the toilet. In recent years, the Unflushables campaign has put an increased emphasis on proper disposal of medications. Metro Vancouver will work with the HPSA to ensure that messaging is aligned.

Coquitlam Recycling and Waste Centre Structural Damage Update

On January 15, 2022 Metro Vancouver had to stop receiving garbage at the Coquitlam Recycling and Waste Centre due to a support column being damaged by a piece of mobile equipment. A structural engineer assessed the damage and deemed the area unsafe for use until stabilized. A team commenced design work immediately, subsequently repairs were done and the facility was reopened on January 31, 2022.

All services, other than garbage, remained accessible and small vehicle loads of garbage continued to be received during repairs. Large loads of garbage were re-directed to other regional facilities where increased levels of staffing and traffic control were implemented to prevent delays.

Under the operating contract Metro Vancouver's contractor is responsible for all costs associated with this incident.

United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre Opening Communications

In preparation for the opening of the United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre, Metro Vancouver has prepared communications materials that will help users be aware of the transition and familiarize themselves with what to expect at the new centre. Materials highlight the recycling opportunities at the facility. Communication materials include a webpage with facility information and, an interactive map, site signage at old and new sites, email newsletters, targeted digital advertising, and social media.

Contingency Disposal Procurement

The existing contingency disposal contracts with Waste Management and Republic Services will expire on June 30, 2022. In addition to Solid Waste Services requirements for garbage contingency disposal, Liquid Waste Services also requires contingency disposal for off-spec biosolids. A competitive procurement process is currently underway for a new contract(s) for both Solid Waste and Liquid Waste. The request for qualifications (RFQ) closed on January 21, 2022 with submissions from the following proponents:

- Arrow Transportation
- Republic Services
- GFL Environmental Inc.
- RemedX Remediation Services Inc.
- Secure Energy
- Waste Management of Canada Corp.
- Wessuc Inc.

A short list of proponents is being prepared for the request for proposal (RFP) stage and once the RFP process(s) is complete a contract(s) award recommendation will come forward to the Board for consideration.

Alternative Fuel and Recyclables Recovery Project Procurement

Metro Vancouver's request for qualifications for the Alternative Fuel and Recyclables Recovery Processing Strategy closed on November 24th 2021 with one respondent: Geocycle Canada Ltd., a subsidiary of Lafarge Canada. Metro Vancouver is reviewing the submission. The alternative fuel and recyclables recovery project will involve processing of approximately 60,000 tonnes per year (more than 5% of all regional garbage) of small load waste received at Metro Vancouver recycling and waste

centres to recover recyclables and alternative fuel. This project will reduce overall waste disposal and eliminate up to 20,000 tonnes of regional GHG emissions by using small load-based alternative fuel in place of fossil fuels.

Waste in Its Place Promotion

The 'Waste in its Place' campaign will be in market March 15 – April 25, with Google Search live through December. This campaign targets abandoned waste and illegal dumping and is in its sixth year. The campaign objectives are to reduce instances of illegal dumping across the region and increase the likelihood of residents disposing of waste responsibly. The target audience is adults age 18–34, renters, and people in multi-family homes. In 2022, a focused campaign will launch one week prior to spring break, when an increase in home cleaning and purging is most likely. Based on member feedback and data, focus areas will be furniture, mattresses, construction and demolition material, and yard waste. Creative will be carried forward from 2021, with new graphic icons to represent demolition materials and yard waste, and updated key messaging. The primary tactic will be Google Search as well as organic posts on Metro Vancouver social media channels. All campaign messaging will direct the audience to www.wasteinitsplace.ca where residents can select their municipality for specific disposal programs and recycling and waste centre locations.

Due to evolving messaging around disposable personal protective equipment, the 2022 Waste in its Place promotions will not include a personal protective equipment component.

Metro Vancouver Recycling and Waste Centre Recycling/Disposal Cost Estimator

Metro Vancouver is developing a recycling and disposal cost estimator to help customers understand the cost of recycling and disposal at Metro Vancouver recycling and waste centres. Some materials are received at no cost (e.g. scrap metal for recycling), and other materials (e.g. yard trimmings, clean wood and garbage) are received at various costs depending on the material type. Metro Vancouver communications typically refer to the cost per tonne for various materials, whereas the cost estimator allows residents to estimate the recycling/disposal cost of an item or items using smaller weights and different units of measure (e.g. kilograms). The cost estimator is expected to increase the ease of calculating recycling and disposal costs, and provide customers with relevant information ahead of visiting recycling and waste centres. The cost estimator will be integrated into the Metro Vancouver website once it is ready for public use.

2022 Zero Waste Committee Work Plan

The attachment to this report sets out the Committee's work plan for 2022. The status of work program elements is indicated as pending, in progress or complete. The listing is updated as needed to include new issues that arise, items requested by the Committee and changes in the schedule.

Attachment

Zero Waste Committee 2022 Work Plan

50070145

Zero Waste Committee 2022 Work Plan

Report Date: February 4, 2022

Priorities

1st Quarter	Status
2021 Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Biennial Report	Complete
Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre Operations Contract Award	Pending
Invited Presentation from Ocean Ambassadors on East of Seymour Zero Waste Takeout	Complete
Flood Disaster Response Solid Waste Management System Summary	Complete
National Zero Waste Council 2021 Accomplishments and 2022 Projects	Pending
2021 Zero Waste Conference	Complete
2nd Quarter	
2021 Disposal Ban Inspection Program Results	Pending
2021 Food Scraps Campaign Results	Pending
2022 Single Use Item Campaign	Pending
2021 Waste-to-Energy Facility Financial Summary	Pending
2022 Think Thrice Textiles Campaign Results	Pending
2021 Waste Composition Data	Pending
Alternative Fuel and Recyclables Recovery Procurement Contract Award	Pending
Contingency Disposal Contract Award	Pending
Love Food Hate Waste	Pending
Solid Waste Services Capital Program Expenditures Update as at December 31, 2021	Pending
Waste-to-Energy Facility – Bottom Ash Beneficial Use Pilots	Pending
3rd Quarter	
2021 Waste-to-Energy Facility Environmental Performance Summary	Pending
2022 National Zero Waste Council Projects	Pending
2022 Textiles Campaign Results	Pending
2022 Zero Waste Conference Update	Pending
City of Vancouver and City of Burnaby District Energy Right-of-Way Agreements	Pending
Illegal Dumping Data and Programs	Pending
Innovation and Continuous Improvement	Pending
Repair and Reuse	Pending
Solid Waste Management Plan Engagement	Pending
Solid Waste Residuals Management Options Study	Pending
Solid Waste Services Capital Program Expenditures Update as at April 30, 2022	Pending

4 th Quarter	
2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report	Pending
2022 Abandoned Waste Campaign Results	Pending
2022 Create Memories Not Garbage Update	Pending
2022 Single-Use Item Campaign Results	Pending
2023-2027 Financial Plan – Solid Waste Services	Pending
2023 Tipping Fee Bylaw Revisions	Pending
Solid Waste Services Capital Program Expenditures Update as at August 31, 2022	Pending



Reference: 385268

January 24, 2022

Sav Dhaliwal, Chair
Metro Vancouver Board
4730 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 0C6

Sent via email: chair@metrovancover.org

Jack Froese, Chair
Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Committee
4730 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 0C6

Sent via email: jfroese@tol.ca

Dear Chair Dhaliwal and Chair Froese:

Thank you for your letter of December 17, 2021, regarding Metro Vancouver's regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws.

I appreciate that you have approved a regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws and thank you for sharing additional information regarding your request that municipalities be authorized to require businesses to charge prescribed minimum fees for single-use cups. I have shared your letter with the ministry staff who are working on implementing our CleanBC Plastics Action Plan and related initiatives.

On July 27, 2021, I announced changes to the Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation (the Regulation) under the *Community Charter* that enabled all municipalities in B.C. the authority to implement bylaws banning certain single-use items, including polystyrene foam (Styrofoam) food service ware, plastic bags, and other single-use items. Bans can be an effective way to eliminate unnecessary single-use items that are commonly found in the environment, for which there are alternative reusable options available and there is a common successful approach to decrease their use. There are several [municipalities](#) across B.C. that have adopted single-use plastics bylaws. The addition of items to the Regulation created provincial consistency for municipal regulations on single-use and plastic items.

...2

Through our ongoing work to implement the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan and public engagements, we have heard from local governments that single-use beverage cups and lids are priority items that need to be addressed to decrease single-use plastics, littering and pollution. Ministry staff have been in contact with the City of Vancouver regarding their beverage cup bylaw and are following the implementation and outcomes of the new bylaw that came into effect on January 1, 2022. This information will be considered in analysis for further provincial actions, including future regulations to reduce single-use items and plastic pollution.

In addition, as you are aware, in November 2021 the Province amended the *Environmental Management Act*, enabling the Province to regulate single-use products, as well as packaging, throughout B.C. Following up from this amendment, the ministry will be conducting engagement on single-use and plastic item regulations in spring 2022. The engagement will include further information on how the Province will regulate single-use and plastic items provincially as well as continuing to enable local governments to take further action. The spring engagement will include consultation with local governments to ensure there is the appropriate opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed regulatory changes, including the consideration of a minimum fee for single use cups.

We will continue to work with Metro Vancouver as well as other local governments, Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and the public as we move forward to refine policy and regulatory approaches on the action plan that result from the public engagement.

Thank you again for taking the time to write, and for sharing your thoughts on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G. Heyman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

George Heyman
Minister

December 17, 2021

File: CR-12-01
Ref: SD 2021 Nov 26

The Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Gov
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
VIA EMAIL: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Heyman:

Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

At its November 26, 2021 regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (Metro Vancouver) adopted the following resolution:

That the GVS&DD Board:

- a) *approve the following regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws:*
 - i. *ban on plastic checkout bags with prescribed minimum fees for recycled paper bags and reusable bags;*
 - ii. *ban on polystyrene foam service ware containers;*
 - iii. *ban on plastic drinking straws not required for medical and accessibility needs with alternatives such as paper drinking straws provided only on request by the customer;*
 - iv. *ban on plastic stir sticks with all other utensils provided only on request by the customer; and*
- b) *write the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting that municipalities be authorized to require businesses to charge prescribed minimum fees for single-use cups.*

Metro Vancouver commends the Province for authorizing British Columbia municipalities to restrict the sale and use of certain single-use items through *Ministerial Order No. M309-2021* (Ministerial Order). The Ministerial Order allows our member jurisdictions to move forward on single-use item reduction bylaws with confidence. We are also encouraged to hear of provincial and federal efforts to develop regulations, which will increase harmonization beyond the region.

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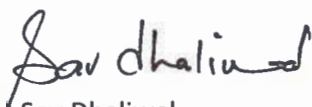
In addition to the measures included in the Ministerial Order, we were informed of other actions that could further enhance the municipalities' ability to encourage the reduction of single use items. Specifically, the requirement to include fees on single-use cups would be an important tool in reducing single use items.

The reduction of single-use cups would help achieve our shared goal of reducing waste, in addition to decreasing streetscape waste collection costs for B.C. municipalities. Audits show that disposable cups are one of the most discarded items in streetscape garbage bins. Furthermore, the plastic-lining in many disposable paper coffee cups make it challenging to recycle.

Providing B.C. municipalities with the ability to require a minimum fee on single-use cups would allow the municipalities in the region to harmonize with upcoming regulations in the City of Vancouver. Starting January 1, 2022, business license holders in the City of Vancouver must charge a minimum fee of \$0.25 for every disposable cup distributed. In addition, business locations must report the number of disposable cups distributed if they do not participate in a reusable cup-share program. The City of Vancouver heard from businesses that their cup bylaw and reporting requirements are strong motivators for adopting innovative reuse models.

Please consider providing B.C. municipalities with the authority to charge a prescribed minimum fee for single-use cups. The board report is attached for your information. Any questions related to this feedback may be directed to Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services by phone at 604-432-6400 or by email at Paul.Henderson@metrovancover.org.

Yours sincerely,



Sav Dhaliwal
Chair, Metro Vancouver Board



Jack Froese
Chair, Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Committee

SD/PH/ks

Encl: Report dated November 9, 2021, titled "Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws" (Doc # 48021045)

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To: GVS&DD Board

From: Karen Storry, Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Services

Date: November 9, 2021 Meeting Date: November 17, 2021

Subject: **Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws**

RECOMMENDATION

That the GVS&DD Board:

- a) approve the following regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws:
- i. ban on plastic checkout bags with prescribed minimum fees for recycled paper bags and reusable bags;
 - ii. ban on polystyrene foam service ware containers;
 - iii. ban on plastic drinking straws not required for medical and accessibility needs with alternatives such as paper drinking straws provided only on request by the customer;
 - iv. ban on plastic stir sticks with all other utensils provided only on request by the customer; and
- b) write the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting that municipalities be authorized to require businesses to charge prescribed minimum fees for single-use cups.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A harmonized approach to single-use item reduction bylaws is important to reduce confusion for residents and improve efficiencies for businesses. A proposed regionally harmonized approach includes:

- bans on plastic checkout bags, stir sticks, drinking straws (except straws required for medical or accessibility needs), and foam service ware containers;
- minimum fees that the businesses keep for recycled paper bags and reusable bags;
- alternatives to plastic straws and all utensils only provided on a by-request basis; and
- reporting on the distribution of regulated bags on a by-request basis.

The regionally harmonized approach was developed through iterative engagement with member jurisdiction staff and industry stakeholders. Various revisions to the harmonized approach were made following feedback from municipal staff and industry. Both municipal staff and industry were supportive of a regionally harmonized approach.

Staff recommend that the GVS&DD Board write to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting municipalities be authorized to require businesses charge a minimum fee for single-use cups, which the businesses would keep.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to report back to the GVS&DD Board (Board) on a harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws.

BACKGROUND

In spring 2021, Metro Vancouver received letters from City of New Westminster, City of Delta and City of Coquitlam asking Metro Vancouver to lead the harmonization of municipal bylaws in the region. On May 28, 2021, the Board approved the following motion:

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to collaborate with member jurisdictions, the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and other stakeholders on the development of a standard for municipal single-use item reduction bylaws for the Board's consideration.

This report recommends an approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws and that the Board write the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting municipalities be authorized to require businesses charge a minimum fee for single-use cups.

HARMONIZED APPROACH TO MUNICIPAL SINGLE-USE ITEM REDUCTION BYLAWS

A harmonized regulatory approach for single-use items across the region benefits both residents and businesses. Metro Vancouver does not have the authority to regulate the sale or distribution of single-use items. The primary regulatory tool used in the region is municipal single-use item reduction bylaws.

Existing Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

A number of local communities have bylaws to reduce single-use items. In general, the bylaws are similar but not identical. Therefore, a regionally harmonized approach would help facilitate consistency between the municipal bylaws in the region. See Attachment 1 for a summary of existing and pending municipal single-use item bylaws.

Provincial Actions

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy signed *Ministerial Order No. M309-2021* (Ministerial Order) on July 26, 2021. This Ministerial Order allows local governments to enact certain single-use item reduction bylaws without seeking approval from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. While the Ministerial Order allows for increased overall harmonization, municipalities may select different approaches for some items and provide different exemptions. Therefore, a regionally harmonized approach that aligns with the Ministerial Order will help reduce the potential for a patchwork of single-use item reduction bylaw requirements in the region.

On October 26, 2021, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy announced updates to the provincial regulatory framework that will allow province-wide bans. The first phase of new regulations is expected in early 2023. A regional approach supports municipalities that want to enact bylaws in advance of province-wide regulations.

Input from Member Jurisdictions

Metro Vancouver hosted a member jurisdiction staff workshop on June 22, 2021, to review bylaw options. Workshop participants supported a regional approach including bans on plastic checkout bags, plastic stir sticks, plastic straws not required for medical or accessibility needs, and polystyrene

foam service ware containers. Most participants also supported additional measures to avoid simply swapping out banned plastic items for alternatives. These include providing utensils and alternatives to plastic straws only on request by the customer, and fees for recycled paper bags and reusable bags that the business keeps. Participants also suggested that a regionally harmonized approach should include exemptions and clarifications.

Following the workshop, a proposed harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws was developed and shared with member jurisdiction staff. Presentations on the approach were sequentially provided to the Municipal Waste Reduction Coordinators Committee, Regional Engineers Advisory Committee Solid Waste Subcommittee, Regional Engineers Advisory Committee, and Regional Administrators Advisory Committee. Revisions were made to the approach following feedback from those committees. There was general support for a harmonized approach at each of the staff committees.

A key update made following feedback from municipal staff was adding a requirement for businesses to keep records of the number of bags distributed, and the ability for municipalities to request data on the number of single-use bags distributed by businesses. This data would assist in understanding the extent of reduction in distribution of single-use bags over time, and would be based on financial data (fee data) that businesses typically collect and retain.

Some municipal staff suggested that a regional harmonized approach should go beyond what is allowed under the Ministerial Order, for instance, including a requirement for fees on single-use cups. Municipal bylaws with provisions not included in the Ministerial Order would require approval by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, which at a minimum would delay implementation. Some municipal staff also suggested Metro Vancouver provide guidance on enforcement. Once municipal bylaws are in place, Metro Vancouver would work with municipalities to share information and support best enforcement practices.

Municipal staff requested that Metro Vancouver advocate for municipal authority to require prescribed minimum fees for single-use cups without specific Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy bylaw approval. Municipal staff suggested the Board write to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to advance this request.

Feedback from Industry and Other Stakeholders

Metro Vancouver held a webinar on October 13, 2021, for industry and other stakeholders to provide input and feedback on the harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws. An online questionnaire was posted on the single-use items web page from September 28 – October 25, 2021 asking how the respondents' organization would be affected by regional harmonization, and if there was anything Metro Vancouver should consider when developing a regionally harmonized approach.

The majority of respondents supported the idea of a regionally harmonized approach. Common themes from the feedback included:

- support for harmonized approach to single-use items bylaws;
- request for clarification on current exemptions in existing bylaws;

- concerns over requirement for businesses to report the number of bags distributed;
- concerns that the proposed regional approach is not stringent enough and needs to include more items; and
- harmonizing fees on bags.

Reporting of bags distributed would be on an as-requested basis and with reporting based on the fees collected by the businesses.

Businesses asked for sufficient lead time to comply with bylaws. Under the Ministerial Order, a mandatory six-month minimum transition period following bylaw adoption is required prior to bylaw requirements taking affect.

Further modifications and clarifications to the proposed approach were made following feedback from industry and other stakeholders. For instance, one fee for single-use bags is included in the proposed approach rather than an initial lower fee increased after a transition period. Fee adjustments by retailers would result in costs each time the fees changed, for administration and reprogramming point of sale software.

Attachment 2 includes a summary of the input and feedback received from industry representatives and other stakeholders and Metro Vancouver’s response to the feedback received.

Proposed Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

Table 1 summarizes the proposed regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws, which is based on the following principles:

- existing single-use item reduction bylaws in the region;
- approaches allowable under the Ministerial Order; and
- input from member jurisdiction staff and stakeholders.

Table 1 Summary of the Proposed Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

Approach		Items
Ban		Plastic bags, plastic straws (not required for medical or accessibility needs), plastic stir sticks, and polystyrene foam service ware containers
Minimum fees		\$0.25 for recycled paper bags, \$2.00 for reusable bags
Only on request by the customer		All utensils regardless of material, alternatives to plastic straws
Reporting		The number of recycled paper and reusable bag distributed in the past 12 months on an as-requested basis based on the value of fees collected

The proposed regional approach also includes definitions, exemptions, and scope clarifications. The proposed Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws is included in Attachment 3.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the GVS&DD Board:
 - a) approve the following regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws:
 - i. ban on plastic checkout bags with prescribed minimum fees for recycled paper bags and reusable bags;
 - ii. ban on polystyrene foam service ware containers;
 - iii. ban on plastic drinking straws not required for medical and accessibility needs with alternatives such as paper drinking straws provided only on request by the customer;
 - iv. ban on plastic stir sticks with all other utensils provided only on request by the customer; and
 - b) write the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy requesting that municipalities be authorized to require businesses to charge prescribed minimum fees for single-use cups.

2. That the GVS&DD Board receive the report dated November 9, 2021, titled “Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws”, for information and provide staff with alternate direction on regionally harmonized approaches to single-use item reduction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Municipalities would ultimately be responsible for implementing bylaws within their communities. Metro Vancouver’s role of facilitating the harmonization of bylaws can be completed within the current Solid Waste Planning budget.

CONCLUSION

Metro Vancouver worked with member jurisdiction staff and industry stakeholders to develop a regionally harmonized approach to municipal single-use item reduction bylaws. Staff recommend the Board approve the attached harmonized approach for municipal single use item reduction bylaws.

Attachments (*Orbit #49096173*)

1. Summary of Existing Bylaws
2. Feedback Summary of What We Heard and What We’re Doing
3. Regionally Harmonized Approach to Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaws

References

1. [Ministerial Order M306-2021](#)

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