

METRO VANCOUVER ELECTORAL AREA 'A'
OCCASIONAL BULLETIN NO. 2 – September 2011
From Maria Harris – Electoral Area A Director

Dear Electoral Area 'A' Residents and Property Owners,

In an effort to better inform you of what's happening at Metro Vancouver, staff has developed an electronic list serve through which we can send you occasional bulletins.

1. Description of 'Electoral Area A'

Metro Vancouver's Electoral Area A is a unique and dispersed area within the lower mainland. The area comprises over 800 square kilometres of land, most of which is located in the northern part of Metro Vancouver. The area varies from urban and suburban to remote seasonal and rural uses.

More detail on each area is available at

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/electoralA/Pages/CommunityProfiles.aspx>.

2. Major Management Plans Now in Place

Some very significant region-wide plans have been in progress for the last three years. All of the plans listed below have recently been approved by the Metro Vancouver Board and, where required, by the Province.

Regional Growth Strategy

Metro Vancouver's new Regional Growth Strategy: *Metro Vancouver 2040 – Shaping our Future* was adopted on July 29th, 2011, after being accepted by all affected local governments in the region. The Regional Growth Strategy looks out to 2040 and provides a land use framework on how to accommodate the over 1 million people and 600,000 new jobs that are projected in the next 30 years. For details on the Regional Growth Strategy go to:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/planning/development/strategy/Pages/default.aspx>

Solid Waste Management Plan

The Solid Waste Management Plan is a comprehensive plan to minimize garbage generation, maximize recycling and protect the environment. The Plan includes:

- New goals for diverting 70 per cent of the Metro Vancouver region's waste through recycling, composting and other programs by 2015, increasing to 80 per cent by 2020.
- Strategies for reducing the amount of waste produced by 10 per cent by 2020.
- A range of options to deal with the greatly reduced waste stream that this plan will produce.

For more information see:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solidwaste/planning/Pages/default.aspx>

Drinking Water Management Plan

Metro Vancouver's Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) and member municipalities work as partners to supply clean, safe drinking water to two million people and associated businesses. Metro Vancouver is also responsible for developing long range plans for managing the region's three drinking water sources - Coquitlam, Capilano and Seymour.

UBC and the University Endowment Lands (UEL) pay for and consume GVWD water. Other communities in Electoral Area A, along with a number of properties elsewhere in Metro Vancouver, supply their water independently of the GVWD.

The Drinking Water Management Plan (DWMP) ensures that our region's water needs will be met affordably and sustainably. This will be done by using water more efficiently so that the water supply stretches out into the future even as the region's population continues to grow.

For more information:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/water/planning/Pages/default.aspx>

TransLink: "Moving Forward: Improving Metro Vancouver's Transportation Network"

TransLink is currently developing the 2012 Supplemental Plan and Outlook. This proposes changes to the 2012 Base Plan and Outlook, which if approved by TransLink's Board of Directors and Mayors' Council, outline a series of transportation network expansion projects that would be funded by \$70 million in additional annual revenue. Public consultation on the Plan is open until September 23rd. For details, go to <http://www.translink.ca/en/Be-Part-of-the-Plan/Plans/10-Year-Transportation-Plan/2012-Supplemental-Plan.aspx> (Note: Public consultation on the Broadway Corridor and Surrey Rapid Transit feasibility studies will be carried out separately and at another time.)

3. Consultation Processes Underway

Update on Land Use Regulation in Electoral Area A (Covering All Areas except UBC and UEL)

Development in all parts of the Electoral Area is subject to land use and density controls. For most parts of the Electoral Area (except UBC, UEL, Bowyer and Passage Islands), a GVRD Zoning Bylaw No. 1028, 2005 is in effect. The Zoning Bylaw can be viewed at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/electoralA/Pages/default.aspx>.

Updates to the GVRD Zoning Bylaw have been in development for some time with support from the Electoral Area A Advisory Planning Commission. No changes to use or density are being proposed in any zone

It is anticipated the updated Zoning Bylaw will be presented to the Electoral Area Committee on October 7th, 2011 then on to the Metro Vancouver Board for initial readings. A public hearing is likely in early 2012. Notice will be provided once the date has been set for the public hearing in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act.

For more information on the Zoning Bylaw update, including the draft Bylaw and Advisory Planning Commission input, please contact Jason Smith, Regional Planner at 778-452-2690.

For Bowyer and Passage Islands the Islands Trust provides planning and development control services. A new Land Use Bylaw governing land uses and related regulations has now been approved by the Islands Trust and will be posted on their website by the end of September.

In all parts of the Electoral Area (except UBC and UEL) the provisions of Building Administration Bylaw No. 1043, 2006 apply. Building permits are required for the construction of all buildings in the Electoral Area. A link to this Bylaw can also be found at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/electoralA/Pages/default.aspx> Please contact Jim Martin, the Building Inspector at 604-432-6386 for details regarding building permits.

Draft Regional Parks Plan

Metro Vancouver is consulting the public on their draft 2011 Regional Parks Plan which builds on the 2005 Regional Parks Plan. The plan is organised around four goals

Goal 1: Promote Ecological Health

Goal 2: Promote Outdoor Recreation for Human Health and Wellness

Goal 3: Support Community Stewardship, Education and Partnerships

Goal 4: Promote Philanthropy and Economic Opportunities

A number of Metro Vancouver's regional parks and greenways are situated within or near Electoral Area A. For more information on the consultation and draft plan please visit:

http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks_lscr/ParksManagementPlan/Pages/default.aspx.

4. A Reminder on the Electoral Area Emergency Notification System (Note: This system covers all areas except UBC and UEL. UBC and the UEL are covered under a separate system).

In an earlier newsletter information regarding the Emergency Notification System was provided. It is worth repeating:

Metro Vancouver is introducing a computer based system to assist in notifying Electoral Area residents of emergencies. It is private, secure and hosted locally at Metro Vancouver. The system is designed to send a voice, text and email message to residents in the event of an emergency that may affect them. Only those who request participation will be notified. The target residents are people who reside in all parts of the electoral area, other than UEL and UBC, as these areas are generally covered by a system that is operated by UBC. Residents wishing to sign up can do so easily. The system will only be used for emergencies or other urgent communications, no "spam" type messages will be sent.

If you would like to be added to the emergency notification system please send an email to **semsupport@metrovancouver.org** with the following information:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Physical Address (Street Address or Lot #)
- Community Name (Strachan Point, Passage Island, Barnston Island, etc)
- Home Contact Phone Number
- Office Contact Phone Number (if desired)
- Cellular/Pager number (if desired)
- Up to 2 Email addresses (if desired)
- Text message address (if desired)

5. Other Items of Interest

Election

Coming up in November, general local elections will be held all over the province. This includes an election for the Director of Electoral Area A in the Greater Vancouver Regional District and School District Trustees. General voting day is Saturday,

November 19, 2011. For more information visit
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/Pages/elections.aspx>

In the UEL, this will be the same day as elections are held for the local Community Advisory Council and Advisory Design Panel.

Barnston Island Dike Update

In June the Metro Vancouver Board endorsed a recommendation to request the province not to repeal the *Drainage, Ditch and Dike Act* due to the valuable and cost effective service that Diking Districts are able to provide to residents. Electoral Area Director, Maria Harris, has recently met with the Provincial MLA for Surrey-Tynehead, David Hayer, to discuss the proposed Barnston Island dike transfer from the Province to Metro Vancouver in more detail. A meeting with the Minister responsible for the dike has also been requested.

Experience the Fraser

The *Experience the Fraser Project* will celebrate the Fraser River's natural and cultural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, showcase the regions' riverfront communities and promote the Lower Fraser River Corridor as one of the world's great tourist destinations. This project will connect residents and visitors with communities, nature and the river by creating an opportunity for over 300 kilometres of multi-use trail and related amenities along the Fraser River from Hope to the Strait of Georgia.

In 2009, the Province of British Columbia announced \$2 million in funding to be split between the Fraser Valley Regional District and Metro Vancouver for the development of an interregional trail and facilities Concept Plan. An additional \$500,000 was provided to help build two demonstration projects that will form the first segments of the interregional trail network. Metro Vancouver has partnered with the Township of Langley to develop a demonstration project consisting of a trail connecting the Golden Ears Bridge, through Derby Reach Regional Park and via the Fort to Fort trail, to Historic Fort Langley. The Fraser Valley Regional District has partnered with the District of Mission to develop its demonstration project, which features a trail segment and a gathering place (Spirit Square) along the Mission waterfront.

For further information please visit this website:
http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks_lscr/ExperiencetheFraser/Pages/default.aspx

iParks Navigator: *Metro Vancouver Regional Parks – “Yours to Explore”*

This new app is available now for iPhone and iPad and will be available for Android and Blackberry later this Fall. One of the many features is a dynamic mapping and location service to show your location relative to park trails and facilities. For details go to: http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks_lscr/Pages/iParks.aspx.

Closing

If you or your neighbours wish to receive these free bulletins in the future, I encourage you to advise Manjit Sunner, Metro Vancouver at Manjit.Sunner@metrovancouver.org or 604-432-6369.

As before, I hope that you will find these bulletins useful and I welcome your comments and feedback.

With best wishes,

Maria Harris
Director, Electoral Area A, Metro Vancouver
mariaharris@telus.net
604-225-2254