

Minutes of the Plan Advisory Committee Meeting # 5 held on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan BC at 12:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Kim Barnard - Public
Nathan Harben – Waste Management (Non-profit sector)
Sandy McPherson - Public
Clay Reitsma – District of North Cowichan
Ronnie Gill – Town of Lake Cowichan
Dan Lazaro – Business Community (via webinar)
Melissa Kriegerfox – Island Health
Tauseef Waraich – CVRD
Harmony Huffman – CVRD

ALSO PRESENT: Lynda Lee – CVRD Secretary IV
Tamara Shulman – Tetra Tech (via webinar)

ABSENT: Geoff Goodall – Town of Ladysmith
Luc Lachance – Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
Melissa Tokarek – Cowichan Tribes
Monroe Grobe – Organizations & Institutions
Len Thew – City of Duncan
Denis Martel - Public

ITEMS:

Meeting goals were presented and Tetra Tech gave the PowerPoint Presentation CVRD Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Meeting 5 via webinar.

1

Public Consultation Report Distribution to PAC and Review

Tauseef Waraich provided an update of the project schedule; the project is on track after nine PAC meetings. The final Plan will be presented to the CVRD Board later this month.

The consultation process included outreach to interested parties, website and PlaceSpeak updates, surveys, open houses and stakeholder meetings. The objective was to inform and obtain input from interested parties. Ministry process was followed. Participation was extensive with 21 in-person participation events and more than 20,000 reached online. Promotion of consultation reached more than 80,000 residents.

Harmony Huffman reported that all 10 First Nations with lands within the CVRD were contacted; impacts will differ as not all communities have housing or infrastructure (or generate waste) within the plan area; one-on-one engagement was held with those who invited it and who have infrastructure in the region.

Discussion was held around total engagement and extent of outreach vs. 13,000 households in region. Committee was satisfied that industry and community feedback is relatively robust for a process of this nature.

Online survey to gauge public support for thirteen proposed strategies returned 142 responses; strong support shown for all strategies. Discussion was held on survey results. Committee was also informed that costs of strategies were available in the draft Plan (strategies and costs discussed in detail in previous two PAC meetings).

Public feedback on strategy options reviewed by strategy. Majority of items reviewed with no changes or discussion. Discussion held on the following:

3.B.i Adopt universal collection - discussion held on wording of mandatory or universal service. Committee recognized that consistency of service is key and services should match those already available in municipalities. Program supports Plan targets and reducing illegal dumping and burning. Little difference between rural and urban waste. No changes made. Recognition that service provision is outside scope of Plan but recognition that choice in service and costs is important to public in south end. All public feedback included in report. Business case regarding service provision to be prepared during implementation phase.

4.0 - Improve organics received high support. The Committee recognizes the importance of effective organics processing capacity in the regional solid waste system.

Kim Barnard left at 2:14 P.M.

5.0 – Investigate processing and transfer capacity for recyclables. Discussion held on shift in strategy wording from material recycling facility (MRF) in region to transfer capacity. Staff explained that shift occurred as a result of feedback from industry stakeholder meeting and staff recognition that the region does not generate enough tonnage to justify private investment in a MRF. PAC expressed interest in potential for reducing GHG emissions and increasing regional resiliency through development of in-region capacity where possible.

6.0 – Improve management of construction and demolition. Strong public support echoed by Committee. Importance of accessible disposal options recognized. No major concerns raised.

7.0 – Explore options for local disposal. 82% support for local disposal. Discussion held on long-term costs for in-region vs. out-of-region solutions. Tipping fee is expected to increase short term as result of new export contract, not long term.

7.B – Explore and amend tipping fee added by staff for transparency and supported by PAC. Recognition that change in disposal options will necessitate tipping fee review.

11.0 – Create an asset management plan. Discussion on impact to tipping fees from asset management. Staff explained that two of three CVRD recycling facilities are new (Meade Creek and Peerless Road), meaning impacts are limited over next ten years. Cost increases from asset management will be

included in solid waste budgets; may not have direct impact on tipping fees; revenues will be considered as part of system.

Dotmocracy results and data challenges discussed. Report appendices reviewed including community satisfaction survey results and general comments received. All surveys and comments to be included in report.

2. Changes to Draft Solid Waste Management Plan

A review of the solid waste management plan targets, schedule, budget, disposal projections and changes made as result of consultation process was provided by Tetra Tech.

Section 1 update new table reflects local comparison to other island regional districts. Section 2 new table shows forecast disposal projections.

Strategy 4.B – Ensure capacity for local organics processing updated. Wording added to allow consideration of non-MSW material such as biosolids. No additional costs or staff impact.

Strategy 7.A – Explore options for local disposal, updated with addition of table showing options for long-term disposal (vs. short term) with more discussion of potential options. Discussion held regarding feasibility of various short-term disposal options and waste-to-energy. Potential opportunities to partner with new hospital on waste-to-energy. Addition of Strategy 7.B.i explore and amend tipping fee recapped. No additional costs or staff impact.

Discussion held on next steps for Plan update. With PAC's support as provided in this meeting, Plan and consultation report expected to be presented to Regional Services Committee and Board on October 24, 2018. Plan will then be submitted to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for final approval, which is estimated to take place in six or more months. Plan Monitoring Committee will be established when approval received. Plan will be for next ten years with review after five years, as per Ministry Guidelines.

The Chair thanked the Committee and Tetra Tech for service and input to the Plan.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting ended at 3:30 P.M.