

## My Upcoming Meetings

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, July 29, 2016

### Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

### Intergovernment and Finance - Electoral Area Sub-Committee

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, September 23, 2016



[Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes](http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/)

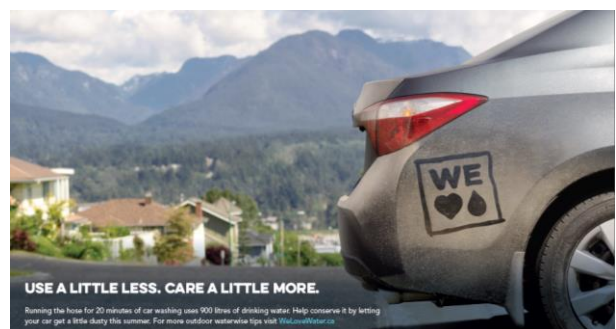
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/>

## Special Announcements

Please note there will not be a Director's Update issued for the month of August.

Have a wonderful summer!

## Water Conservation Campaign Launched on Summer Solstice



Launched June 21st, Metro Vancouver's *We Love Water* campaign enhances water conservation year round throughout the region by connecting to the deep appreciation people have for their water supply.

Along with improved transmission and increased supply, water conservation is a major component of Metro Vancouver's plan for ensuring there's sufficient world-class treated drinking water for generations to come.

When it comes to water conservation, small actions really do add up, and it's easy to underestimate how much water is wasted when taking long showers, leaving the taps running or hosing down our cars and driveways.

- A running hose uses 900 litres in 20 minutes
- Shortening your shower by 2 minutes can save nearly 600 litres in one month
- An hour of lawn sprinkling uses over 900 litres of water

Despite the population growing by over 35,000 people each year, overall water demand has remained steady over the past decade because per capita water use has gone down. Also, climate change is expected to result in warmer temperatures, wetter winters, drier summers and more frequent extreme weather events, along with

rising sea levels. In addition to conservation initiatives, Metro Vancouver is investing about \$1.5 billion of its long-range water capital plan into growth-driven projects.

*We Love Water* evokes pride for the region's pristine and vital water resource, while encouraging everyone to use it wisely- *to use a little less, care a little more.*

On [welovewater.ca](http://welovewater.ca), you can find shareable *waterwise* tips for conservation inside and outside. Users can contribute to an online gallery showcasing their love for water conservation via the Twitter or Instagram hashtags #welovewaterMV and #waterwise.

<http://www.welovewater.ca>

## 2016 Regional Food System Action Plan

Recently, the GVRD Board endorsed the 2016 Regional Food System Action Plan. The Action Plan is a collaborative approach through which local governments can jointly advance a sustainable, resilient and healthy regional food system. It is focused on the actions that local governments plan to undertake in the next 3-5 years to concretely advance the region towards a sustainable food system.

The Action Plan:

- Enables knowledge transfer among local governments;
- Provides an opportunity to expand best practices across the region; and
- Identifies opportunities to collaboratively address persistent and cross-jurisdictional regional food system issues.

The 2016 Regional Food System Action Plan stems from the 2011 Regional Food System Strategy. The Strategy's vision is to create, "a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system that will contribute to the well-being of all residents and the economic prosperity of the region while conserving our ecological legacy."

The Regional Food System Strategy has five goals:

- Increase capacity to produce food closer to home
- Improve the financial viability of the food sector
- Help people to make healthy and sustainable food choices
- Ensure that everyone has access to healthy, culturally diverse and affordable food
- Foster a food system consistent with ecological health

2016 Regional Food System Action Plan

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/PlanningPublications/RegionalFoodSystemActionPlan.pdf>

2011 Regional Food System Strategy

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/PlanningPublications/RegionalFoodSystemStrategy.pdf>

## Pacific Spirit Regional Park Needs a New Service Yard

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks has initiated a planning process for replacement of the Pacific Spirit Regional Park service yard. The existing service yard is located adjacent to the University Endowment Lands administration and operations buildings. It is in poor condition and at the end of its operational life. Metro Vancouver has no tenure on the current site and the province will not grant the tenure required to rebuild in this location.

Regional Park staff are reviewing a number of potential locations within the park for suitability. Based on analysis to date, three sites have been identified for further study: two sites along Imperial Road and one in the open green space adjacent to Little Australia.

An open house was held on June 22 at which project information, criteria for site selection, environmental information and the locations being studied were presented. The presentation panels are available on the project [website](#) until July 13. Those who were unable to attend the session may complete a questionnaire that is also available on the project website until July 13. After that date, comments can be sent to [regionalparksinfo@metrovancouver.org](mailto:regionalparksinfo@metrovancouver.org).

Over the summer and fall, Regional Park staff will undertake further study of potential service yard locations, looking at impacts to park ecology, visitor experience, adjacent communities, site suitability (soils, hydrology, and road access), cost as well as the input received from the first public information session. In the fall, staff will host a second public engagement event to share information on the site selection analysis and to seek additional public input.

As part of the planning process Regional Park staff will seek input from UEL staff and, upon request, provide a presentation to the UEL Community Advisory Council (CAC). Regional Park staff will provide updates to the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Committee throughout the process. The first meeting at which an update may be given is the September 14th meeting. I will let UEL residents know (through the CAC) when an update is on the committee's agenda.

On June 30, I sent an email to the President of the CAC on this matter, with a request that it be distributed to UEL residents. In that email, I assured residents that I will advocate on their behalf for the service yard to be located somewhere other than on the green space in Little Australia. A copy of my email (with a correction and addition) is attached to this Update.

Anyone who has questions or would like more information about this project may contact Metro Vancouver's Regional Parks West Area office at 604.224.5739 or visit the project [website](#).

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/learn/projects-and-initiatives/pacific-spirit-service-yard-replacement/Pages/default.aspx>

## Transportation and Transit

On June 16th, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Christy Clark announced at a photo-op that an agreement has been reached on federal and provincial funding for investment in transit in Metro Vancouver. The \$616 million of funding is for Phase 1 (short-term) projects. The Prime Minister's news release is available [here](#).

The announcement merely confirmed funding that had previously been announced by the federal government in its March budget and by the BC government on May 26th. See my [June Update](#) for details.

Immediately following the announcement, the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation issued a [statement](#) welcoming the federal and provincial transit funding. The Mayors' Council also released a [Backgrounder](#) containing details of the Phase 1 projects and information on other "Early Roll-Out" projects.

The Phase 1 projects include initial work in connection with the Broadway subway. An amount of \$23 million is earmarked for planning, design, and related activities in preparation for procurement. As well, \$76 million is available for upgrades to SkyTrain power systems and the automatic train control system and also certain other improvements to accommodate the expansion of the SkyTrain fleet.

The funding for the Phase 1 projects is a small portion of the funding required for full implementation of the Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision. Discussions are ongoing to secure funding for the other projects in the Vision. The discussions with the federal government are to determine our region's share of the many billions of dollars promised in the March federal budget for Phase 2 transit improvements. One objective of the discussions with the provincial government is to obtain confirmation of the provincial contribution towards the rapid transit projects—the province said some time ago that it will pay one-third of the capital costs, but did not confirm this in its May 26th announcement. Another objective is to get the province to agree to enable new regional funding sources for transit, including a regional development cost charge, and to participate in a study of mobility pricing with a view to its introduction by 2021.

Even though funding has been lined up for the Phase 1 projects, TransLink is not yet in a position to commence implementation. Legislation requires that TransLink's operations and investments be in accordance with a 10-year investment plan adopted by the TransLink Board and approved by the Mayors' Council. The legislation imposes requirements that must be met by the plan, including that it be fully funded, and requires TransLink to consult with the public and various entities in developing the plan. (Despite its name, the plan is not limited to investments; it must also identify the level of various services to be provided in each plan year.) Because of these legislative requirements, TransLink cannot simply adopt the Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision as TransLink's 10-year investment plan. Thus, TransLink must work rapidly to develop a 10-year investment plan that incorporates the Phase 1 projects and any other projects for which funding is available.

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/06/16/prime-minister-announces-new-infrastructure-agreement-british-columbia>  
<http://www.mariaharris.ca/assets/Reports/2016/EAA-Directors-Update-Jun-2016.pdf#zoom=100>

[http://www.translink.ca/-/media/Documents/about\\_translink/governance\\_and\\_board/council\\_minutes\\_and\\_reports/2016/june/2016\\_06\\_16\\_news\\_release\\_mayors\\_council\\_phase\\_1\\_funding%20june\\_2016.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.translink.ca/-/media/Documents/about_translink/governance_and_board/council_minutes_and_reports/2016/june/2016_06_16_news_release_mayors_council_phase_1_funding%20june_2016.pdf#zoom=100)  
[http://www.translink.ca/-/media/Documents/about\\_translink/governance\\_and\\_board/council\\_minutes\\_and\\_reports/2016/june/2016\\_06\\_16\\_backgrounder%20phase\\_1\\_project\\_list%20june\\_2016.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.translink.ca/-/media/Documents/about_translink/governance_and_board/council_minutes_and_reports/2016/june/2016_06_16_backgrounder%20phase_1_project_list%20june_2016.pdf#zoom=100)

## George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project

Metro Vancouver issued a [media release](#) on June 29th calling on all stakeholders, including the province and TransLink, to collaborate in finding a mutually acceptable solution to reducing congestion at the George Massey Tunnel and along the rest of the Highway 99 corridor. Based on its evaluation of potential impacts, Metro Vancouver is unable to support the proposed 10-lane bridge.

The media release lists these key areas of concern:

- Insufficient consideration of alternatives to a ten-lane bridge
- Lack of integration into the regional growth strategy and transportation network
- Ecological disruption to the Fraser River estuary, an important habitat for salmon and birds
- Impacts on Metro Vancouver infrastructure, including water mains and sewer lines
- Recreational and ecological disruption on Deas Island Regional Park
- Downloading of major expenditures onto local governments for road improvements
- Negative effects on transit ridership and affordability
- Insufficient consideration to climate change and air quality
- Lack of transparency and consultation with respect to design and business case

These concerns are described in detail in a [Metro Vancouver report](#) made public at the same time as the media release. The report contains several documents as attachments, including a Richmond briefing paper identifying that city's concerns with the George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project, a report prepared for the Delta Council, previous Metro Vancouver and TransLink reports, and a Summary Assessment Table of Issues and Impacts.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/media-releases/regional-planning/445/metro-vancouver-releases-impact-assessment-of-george-massey-tunnel-replacement-project>  
[http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/GVRD/RD\\_2016-Jun-24\\_RCL.pdf](http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/GVRD/RD_2016-Jun-24_RCL.pdf)

## Community Works Fund Update

As part of the New Building Canada Plan, the Government of Canada transfers funds to local governments through the Federal Gas Tax Fund. In British Columbia, the Federal Gas Tax Fund is delivered through three program streams: Community Works Fund; Strategic Priorities Fund; and Greater Vancouver Regional Fund.

Federal Gas Tax Fund money is allocated to local governments on the basis of population. Ninety-five percent of the money allocated to Metro Vancouver and its member municipalities is directed to the Greater Vancouver

Regional Fund and used for regional transit. The remaining 5% of each local government's share is allocated to that government's Community Works Fund. Since the Point Grey peninsula of Electoral Area A (i.e., UBC/UEL) accounts for 98% of the Electoral Area's population, it will be the main beneficiary of the Community Works Fund money for the Electoral Area (see table below).

ELECTORAL AREA COMMUNITIES	POPULATION		COMMUNITY WORKS FUND \$					
	2011	% of Total	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	5 Year Total
University of British Columbia	9,636	73.9%	\$82,029	\$82,029	\$85,724	\$85,724	\$89,419	\$424,925
University Endowment Lands	3,141	24.1%	\$26,751	\$26,751	\$27,956	\$27,956	\$29,161	\$138,575
<b>Sub-TOTAL</b>	<b>12,777</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>\$108,780</b>	<b>\$108,780</b>	<b>\$113,680</b>	<b>\$113,680</b>	<b>\$118,580</b>	<b>\$563,500</b>
Barnston Island	137	1.1%	\$1,221	\$1,221	\$1,276	\$1,276	\$1,331	\$6,325
Howe Sound mainland and Passage and Bowyer Islands	66	0.5%	\$555	\$555	\$580	\$580	\$605	\$2,875
Indian Arm and Pitt Lake	55	0.4%	\$444	\$444	\$464	\$464	\$484	\$2,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,035</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$111K</b>	<b>\$111K</b>	<b>\$116K*</b>	<b>\$116K*</b>	<b>\$121K*</b>	<b>\$575K</b>

\*anticipated amounts based on Renewed Gas Tax Agreement projections

In recognition of the various bodies that exist in the Point Grey peninsula of Electoral Area A (i.e., University Neighbourhoods Association, the University Endowment Lands Community Advisory Council and Administration, and the University of British Columbia), Metro Vancouver staff and I met with representatives from each of these bodies on April 14, 2016. Discussions at this meeting focused on which projects would be eligible, what general principles would guide decisions, what project ideas already exist, and how each representative will discuss potential projects with their respective body.

Since the April 2016 meeting, staff have met with the representatives from UBC and the UEL Community Advisory Council on separate occasions to obtain more detailed information on certain projects. Staff also hope to meet with UNA representatives before meeting with the group as a whole again to discuss and begin to shortlist projects. This next meeting is expected to take place in mid-July 2016. We hope to have a decision on which project(s) to recommend to the GVRD Board by fall/winter 2016.

## Public Safety Facility Planning

Metro Vancouver staff recently participated in a staff-level discussion with staff from various provincial ministries, UBC, RCMP, Vancouver Fire and Rescue, BC Emergency Health Services, and other organizations to address public safety facility needs for the UBC and UEL communities (including Pacific Spirit Regional Park). As our communities continue to grow, so does the need to have adequate public safety facilities to serve them. The Real Property

# ELECTORAL AREA A Director's Update

JULY  
2016

From Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director

Division of the B.C. Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services is leading a discussion on potential options to meet long-term fire, ambulance and policing needs in the communities. I will keep the communities informed as I learn more about the process and options.

## Events & Media Updates

I would like to ask you to draw the following to the attention of residents, students, and others:

### The Sustainable Region



In the current episode of The Sustainable Region, Metro Vancouver looks at the design and development of the new Surrey Bend Regional Park, impacts of illegal dumping in our green spaces, and the annual Snow Geese migration to the Fraser River Delta.

<http://goo.gl/QC60SN>

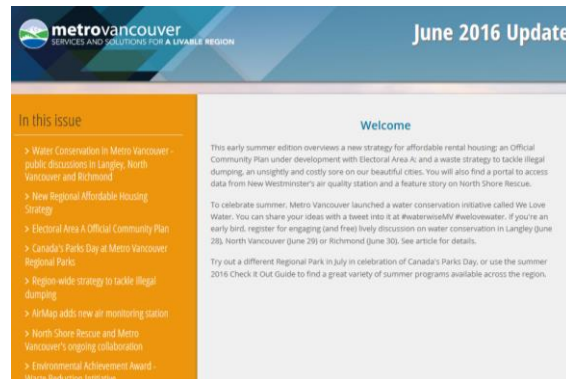
### Metro Vancouver Close Up



*Metro Vancouver Close Up* shows how municipalities and community groups are promoting sustainability and shared regional goals. New videos are posted each month. To see more sustainability stories about Metro Vancouver, residents can search "Metro Vancouver Close Up" at [metrovancover.org](http://metrovancover.org) or follow [metrovancoverblog.org](http://metrovancoverblog.org).

## For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

<http://www.metrovancover.org/metroudate/>



## Links & Connections

### [Metro Vancouver](#)

[www.metrovancouver.org](http://www.metrovancouver.org)

### [Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director](#)

[www.mariaharris.ca](http://www.mariaharris.ca)

### [@EADirector Twitter](#)

[www.twitter.com/EADirector](http://www.twitter.com/EADirector)

### [Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation](#)

[www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx](http://www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx)

[www.mayorscouncil.ca](http://www.mayorscouncil.ca)

### [Union of BC Municipalities](#)

[www.ubcm.ca](http://www.ubcm.ca)

### [University Neighbourhoods Association](#)

[www.myuna.ca](http://www.myuna.ca)

### [University Endowment Lands](#)

[www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca](http://www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca)

### [UEL Community Advisory Council](#)

[www.uelcommunity.com](http://www.uelcommunity.com)

### [Metro Vancouver Media Releases](#)

[www.metrovancouver.org/media-room](http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room)

### [Metro Vancouver Videos](#)

[www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery](http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery)

### [@MetroVancouver Twitter](#)

[www.twitter.com/metrovancouver](http://www.twitter.com/metrovancouver)

### [Metro Vancouver Facebook](#)

[www.facebook.com/metrovancouver](http://www.facebook.com/metrovancouver)



**From:** [council@uelcommunity.com](mailto:council@uelcommunity.com) [<mailto:council@uelcommunity.com>]

**Sent:** Saturday, July 02, 2016 3:23 PM

**Subject:** A Message from our Metro Vancouver Area A Director - Pacific Spirit Park New Service Yard

Dear Neighbours,

I am writing regarding the inclusion of the green space by Little Australia as one of three preferred sites for the new Pacific Spirit Park service yard. I would be grateful if the CAC would forward this email to residents on its distribution list.

I am sympathetic to the concerns that have been forcefully expressed by residents of Little Australia. The open green space is a valued and rare open space that needs to be preserved. I also agree that it is inappropriate and unnecessary for access to the site to be through a residential neighbourhood.

I can assure residents that I will advocate on their behalf for the service yard to be located somewhere other than on the green space. Furthermore, I will keep the community informed of any developments.

It should be emphasized that the planning process for the selection of a site for the service yard is at an early stage. The first information session was held on June 22. Unfortunately, it was not well promoted. Residents who did not attend can complete a questionnaire available [here](#) until July 13. After July 13, comments can be sent to [regionalparksinfo@metrovancouver.org](mailto:regionalparksinfo@metrovancouver.org).

Regional park staff will undertake further study of potential service yard locations over the summer and fall. They intend to hold a second public engagement event in the fall at which they will seek additional public input. I will ensure that the community is informed of the date and location of this event.

Regional park staff have informed me that, as part of the planning process, they will provide a presentation to the UEL Community Advisory Council if invited to do so.

Residents may wish to consider making a presentation at a meeting of Metro Vancouver's Regional Parks Committee when the service yard matter is on the agenda. The next three meetings of the committee are scheduled for 9 am on July 13, September 14, and October 12 (Wednesdays). It may not be known until a week before each date whether the agenda includes the matter, but I have received confirmation that it will not be on the July agenda. A delegation is permitted to speak for 5 minutes ~~and a written request to speak must be made at least 48 hours in advance of a meeting. Contact information for doing so is here.~~ **[Correction and addition:** You may speak at a meeting of the committee even if this matter is not on the agenda. You should apply at least 7 *working days* in advance of the meeting. Late applications will be considered if the matter is on the agenda and there are circumstances that prevented a timely application. Information on how to apply to speak to the committee is available [here](#).]

The need to find a new service yard has arisen because the provincial government will not grant the tenure required in order to continue using the existing service yard, which is adjacent to the University Endowment Lands administration and operations buildings. I

intend to make inquiries to determine whether all options for continuing to use the current site have been explored.

Further information on the selection of a new service yard is available on the [project web page](#) and in the documents that are referenced at the top of that page.

Happy Canada Day!

Best regards,

Maria

Maria Harris

Director Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A  
Member, TransLink Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation  
[604-225-2254](tel:604-225-2254)  
[mariaharris@telus.net](mailto:mariaharris@telus.net)  
[www.mariaharris.ca](http://www.mariaharris.ca)