

My Upcoming Meetings

Metro Vancouver Voting Allocation Task Force

Friday, March 16, 2018

Mayors' Council Planning Committee

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Friday, March 23, 2018

Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, March 23, 2018

Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Regional Planning Committee

Friday, April 6, 2018



Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes

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

Community Works Fund – Recommended Projects

At its March 7 meeting, Metro Vancouver's Electoral Area Committee recommended endorsement of two projects in the UBC/UNA and UEL communities for funding through the Electoral Area A Community Works Fund. The Community Works Fund derives from the Federal Gas Tax Fund and is provided to local governments on the basis of population. The total amount of Community Works Fund money for Metro Vancouver's Electoral Area A for the five-year period 2014-2018 is approximately \$575,000. The MVRD Board passed a resolution to distribute the funds to Electoral Area communities based on population, which means that the UBC/UNA community has been allocated \$424,925 and the UEL community has been allocated \$138,575 for eligible projects. The remaining \$11,500 will be apportioned to Electoral Area A communities outside of UBC/UNA and the UEL through a separate consultation process.

To determine potential projects that would most benefit the UEL, UNA and UBC communities, Metro Vancouver staff and I met with representatives of the UEL Community Advisory Council, UNA and UBC five times. During our meetings, representatives brought forward ideas for projects which were discussed at the meetings and taken back to their respective groups for further discussion. The group initially identified approximately 20 projects that were deliberated and short-listed. Through this consultation process, we reached consensus on supporting the following two projects:

Pedestrian and Cycling Improvements to the Wesbrook Mall and University Boulevard Intersection

UBC Project (including University Neighbourhoods)

The Community Works Fund will be used for specific pedestrian and cycling improvements at the Wesbrook Mall and University Boulevard intersection, which is part of a larger phased project to redesign and upgrade Wesbrook Mall. Potential improvements include enhanced lighting, more durable pedestrian crossings and bike lane markings, pedestrian countdown timers, and additional landscaping to help with stormwater management. These improvements would benefit both the UNA and UBC given the widespread usage of this intersection.

Green Infrastructure to Mitigate Stormwater Impacts from Climate Change

University Endowment Lands Project

The Community Works Fund for the UEL community will focus on climate mitigation projects. A recently completed Stormwater Management Plan for the community has identified the need to address the impacts of run-off on local streams and riparian habitat. Rain gardens in public spaces were specifically identified as potential projects to improve drainage in the community.

Now that the Electoral Area Committee has recommended endorsing the projects, the MVRD Board will consider approving the funding for the projects at their March 23 meeting.

Styrofoam Disposal Ban Coming July 1

Metro Vancouver will start levying a surcharge against customers who dump expanded polystyrene (EPS) packaging, commonly known as Styrofoam, at regional disposal facilities, effective July 1.

The surcharge is aimed at encouraging more EPS recycling by creating a financial deterrent to throwing the material in the garbage. A surcharge amounting to 100 percent of the tipping fee will be applied to garbage loads containing more than 20 percent EPS packaging at Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver transfer stations, the waste-to-energy facility or the Vancouver Landfill.

The ban will apply to white EPS that is used as packaging but excludes food and beverage containers, packing peanuts and EPS that is painted, soiled or treated. A common usage of EPS is as packaging for consumer electronic goods. EPS packaging that is recycled can be used in local manufacturing processes, or it can be transformed into products such as picture frames, crown moulding and fencing.

UNA residents can recycle clean EPS packing blocks at the UNA's Green Depot. Information on the Green Depot is available from [this page](#). For specific information on EPS products that can be recycled, see [here](#).

UEL and UNA residents can recycle a wide range of EPS products at Lord Byng Secondary School on the third Saturday of every month, from 9 am to noon. This is a mobile recycling depot run by [Pacific Mobile Depots](#). The next recycling opportunity is on March 17. This "extreme recycling" depot accepts many other products as well, for a small fee. For a listing of products that are accepted, see [this page](#).

www.myuna.ca/services/green-depot/

www.myuna.ca/services/green-depot/styrofoam-recycling/

pmdrecycling.com/

pmdrecycling.com/fee-recycling/



Salmon Creek Restoration in Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Pacific Spirit Regional Park is home to one of the few remaining creeks capable of supporting fish on the Burrard Peninsula. The creek, located in the northern part of the park near Acadia Beach, was the focus of a recent habitat restoration project to support native salmon and trout by improving overwintering habitat for juveniles and spawning opportunities for adults.

The project was led by Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, with funding and expertise provided by the University of British Columbia, and carried out in partnership with Musqueam First Nation and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Project funding was provided by UBC donors Colin De La Court and Barbara Watson in memory of their son, Kevin. Active engagement and support of community partner groups including the Wreck Beach Preservation Society, Pacific Spirit Park Society and local Streamkeepers groups was also ongoing throughout the project.



In 2017, the stream restoration plan was finalized and work commenced during a time when there was the least risk to any fish in the stream.

Wooden baffles were installed in the culvert running beneath NW Marine Drive to allow fish migration. Pools and riffles were created between the culvert and the high tide line using rocks, boulders and gravel; large woody debris was added to create more complex stream habitat and to reduce bank erosion – all of it making the site more suitable for salmonids. As well, invasive English ivy was removed from the slopes, and the area was planted with bank-stabilizing native plants such as salmonberry.

This creek fish habitat enhancement project is part of the Metro Vancouver Ecological Health Action Plan. The creek will be monitored on a long-term basis to see when fish return to use their new improved habitat.

Transportation and Public Transit

As part of the *It's Time* project, the Mobility Pricing Independent Commission has launched the second phase of its public engagement program. You are invited to share your thoughts with the Commission. The online engagement is open until March 14.

The [online engagement platform](#) presents short videos, maps, and potential strengths and weaknesses of a series of examples, including:

- Charging based on distance driven
- Charging at specific congestion points (areas or crossings)
- Maintaining, reducing, or eliminating the 17 cents per litre TransLink fuel tax

The platform also asks for general feedback such as whether people would prefer a scenario where “everyone pays a little bit every time they drive” versus “only those people who drive in congested areas and at busy times are charged”. Residents are also being asked to comment on the choices that are available to them if decongestion charging were introduced.

The engagement platform is available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, and Punjabi. I encourage you to participate in this engagement.

www.itstimemv.ca/have-your-say.html

Upcoming Events

Night Quest

March 24, 2018, Pacific Spirit Regional Park, Vancouver

Nature at night is a magical experience. Wander 2 km of lantern-lit trails and explore like owls, frogs, coyotes and other nocturnal critters. Bring a flashlight or lantern, and a mug for the cash-only concession. Trails are stroller-accessible. Allow 1.5 hours to complete. Please leave pets at home.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/events/calendar/vancouver/926/night-quest>

Sustainability Community Breakfast - Electrifying our Region

March 14, 2018, BCIT downtown campus, Vancouver

There are an estimated 8,000 electric vehicles in BC. This number may seem small compared with the over 3.6 million vehicles registered in the province, but growth is tracking in the double-digits on a year-over-year basis. With significantly fewer emissions and lower operating costs, electric vehicles have the potential to benefit climate change and affordability – two important goals in our region.

Hear about exciting and innovative initiatives that support the uptake of electric vehicles in B.C.

www.metrovancouver.org/events/community-breakfasts/

Winter Watershed Snowshoe Tours - Mt. Seymour

March 11 (Sunday) and March 17 and 24 (Saturdays)

Explore the connection between snow and your drinking water at Mt. Seymour. Learn about your water supply in a fun and active way while discovering alpine plants and animals. After a moderately strenuous snowshoe, warm up with a cup of hot cocoa. Ages 16+. Must be physically capable of hiking up and down steep sections with snowshoes.

Cost: \$18 with own snowshoes; \$25 includes snowshoes rental

www.metrovancouver.org/events/watershed-tours/

Media

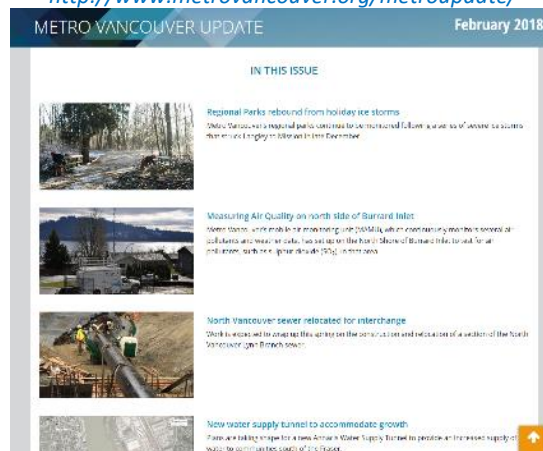
Metro Vancouver Close Up



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 sustainability stories about Metro Vancouver, you can search “Metro Vancouver Close Up” at metrovancover.org or follow metrovancoverblog.org.

For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

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



Links & Connections

Metro Vancouver

www.metrovancover.org

Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director

www.mariaharris.ca

@EADirector_Twitter

www.twitter.com/EADirector

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx

Union of BC Municipalities

www.ubcm.ca

University Neighbourhoods Association

www.myuna.ca

University Endowment Lands Administration

www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca

UEL Community Advisory Council

www.uelcommunity.com

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