

## My Upcoming Meetings

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, March 29, 2019

### Mayors' Council on Transportation

Thursday, April 25, 2019



Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes

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

## Message from Electoral Area A Director Mike Feeley

On February 13, 2019, Justin LeBlanc resigned from his position as the Director for Electoral Area A on the Metro Vancouver Regional District Board. Mr. LeBlanc had been acclaimed to this position during the October 2018 B.C. local government elections and appointed me, Mike Feeley, as his Alternate Director.

After Mr. LeBlanc resigned, I agreed to step in as Director for Electoral Area A until the by-election, which is expected to take place by summer 2019.

While this role comes unexpectedly, I am thrilled with the chance to serve as Director for the next few months. I have lived and worked on the UBC campus for 22 years and served for a time as chair of the University Neighbourhood's Association. And so, I feel that I understand my neighbourhood fairly well. But, I certainly have a lot to learn about other parts of the area and about Metro Vancouver and TransLink, the regional organizations on whose Boards I now represent the Electoral Area A community. There are many regional issues that impact us including transportation, recycling and waste management, and the operation of Pacific Spirit Park, including Wreck Beach, to name a few.

I look forward to hearing your views and I pledge to do my best to represent our interests with Metro Vancouver and the TransLink Mayors' Council. And, I will, of course, continue the tradition of providing this monthly report, with the help of Metro Vancouver staff, to keep you informed of regional developments as well as the upcoming by-election.

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## MVRD 2019 Budget and Five-Year Financial Plan

Metro Vancouver helps keep the region one of the most livable in the world by providing utility services including drinking water, sewage treatment, and solid waste management, along with related services like regional parks, land use planning, housing, and air quality monitoring.

The Metro Vancouver Board manages a combined annual capital and operating budget of more than \$1.75 billion. As the regional government, Metro Vancouver operates within a highly-regulated environment that is responsive to legislative change, as it maintains and enhances infrastructure and services to meet the needs of a growing population.

The operating budget is funded by five main sources: water sales, sewer levy, solid waste tipping fees, regional district tax requisitions and housing rents.

On October 26, 2018, the Metro Vancouver Board approved the 2019 budget and endorsed the 2019-2023 Financial Plan, which covers the capital, operating and maintenance costs for the region's four legal entities: Metro Vancouver Regional District, Greater Vancouver Water District, Greater Vancouver Sewage & Drainage District and Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation.

The annual budget and five-year financial plan provides the public and stakeholders with detailed projections of the operating and capital budgets for all of Metro Vancouver services while providing a sound fiscal program that prioritizes affordability and meets the changing needs of our region.

The 2019-2023 Financial Plan is guided by the Board Strategic Plan and regional management plans, which set the direction of future annual budgets, and provides key information to members on future capital projects, anticipated expenditures and funding projections. Metro Vancouver's budgets are prepared by each internal business group, and reviewed by the senior management team, standing committees, key advisory committees comprised of staff representatives from member municipalities, and finally, the Board.

The 2019-2023 Financial Plan is built upon four themes which guide the development of Metro Vancouver long term plans and budgets. The drivers are:

- **Addressing Regional Growth:** The region's population grows by about 35,000 people, or about 1.5% per year, increasing demand for water, sewage, solid waste and other regional services.
- **Regulatory and Legislative Environment:** Core utility services operate within strictly regulated environments subject to legislative changes. For example, federal liquid waste regulations were recently updated to require enhanced treatment throughout Canada, necessitating major upgrades at several Metro Vancouver wastewater treatment plants.
- **System Stewardship:** Critical water and liquid waste infrastructure must be sufficiently maintained to meet current service needs and be resilient to impacts from natural disasters.
- **Environmental Protection and Climate Change:** Climate change is already affecting our region, and Metro Vancouver is ensuring the effective delivery of services even in the face of extreme weather events, droughts and rising sea levels.

In 2019, the average household will pay \$534 for all regional services, up \$28 from the previous year. The five-year financial plan anticipates a cumulative average household increase of \$216 over the five-year period, with the cost to the typical household rising by about \$43 per year.

These increases are driven by necessary upgrades to the region's utilities or major capital projects that are vital to make our infrastructure more resilient to climate change and natural hazards, to accommodate future population growth, and to meet federal requirements for mandatory secondary wastewater treatment.

Specific details pertaining to the Electoral Area A budget can be found in the November issues of the Director's Update. <http://mariaharris.ca/assets/Reports/2018/EAA-Directors-Update-Nov-2018.pdf>

### Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel

To meet the growing demand for drinking water in the region, Metro Vancouver is planning to construct a major water infrastructure project, called the Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel, in Stanley Park.

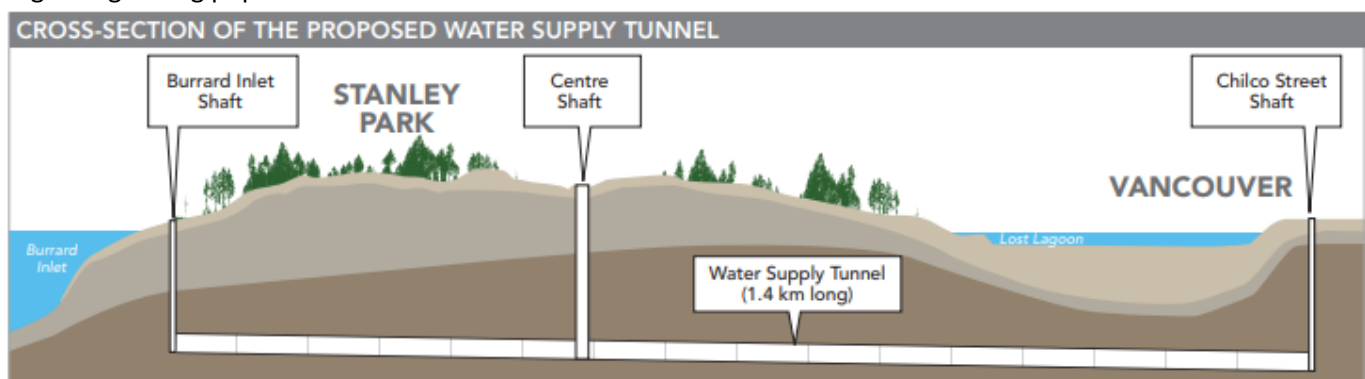
The Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel is being constructed to serve the western portions of the region, including the Cities of Vancouver, Richmond and Delta, as well as Tsawwassen First Nation, UBC and the UEL. The new water supply tunnel will replace an existing water main built in the 1930s that's nearing the end of its service life.

Metro Vancouver is planning to tunnel deep underground to build a new water main and will also be constructing two valve chambers. The valve chambers will house underground pipes and valves to control the flow of water through the mains in the area and will connect the new infrastructure to the regional water distribution system.

To excavate the proposed tunnel, install the water main and build the valve chambers, three shafts will be constructed in Stanley Park. At all three shaft sites, the construction areas will be restored to equal or better condition.

Metro Vancouver staff have worked closely with the Vancouver Park Board and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. Consultation with stakeholders and the general public on the project began in September 2017.

The project is now in the planning and design stage, with construction expected to begin in 2021 and lasting through 2025. When complete, the new tunnel will meet current seismic standards, help ensure the continued reliable delivery of clean, safe drinking water to the region, and increase the capacity of the existing system for the region's growing population.



## Iona Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant provides liquid waste treatment for communities in the Vancouver Sewerage Area, including Vancouver, Burnaby, Richmond, UBC, UEL, Squamish Nation & Musqueam Indian Band.

Driven largely by recently-updated federal requirements for secondary liquid waste treatment, a new plant will be built to replace the existing primary level treatment plant in Richmond, BC. It will be located on the site of the existing wastewater treatment plant on Iona Island.

Metro Vancouver wants to ensure the new wastewater treatment plant makes a positive contribution to the health and well-being of people and the environment. The new plant will be designed to:

- improve the level of treatment to protect water quality and the marine environment
- withstand an earthquake and sea level rise
- integrate with Iona Beach Regional Park and the surrounding environment
- minimize odours
- recover sustainable energy from wastewater

Metro Vancouver will work closely with stakeholders and First Nations to ensure the project considers their interests and fits with the community. Metro Vancouver will:

- meet with stakeholders and First Nations to listen to their interests and priorities
- collaborate with interested stakeholders and First Nations on how the plant is integrated with Iona Beach Regional Park and the surrounding environment
- collaborate with interested stakeholders and First Nations on resource recovery opportunities
- provide information in a timely manner
- take feedback to the project team and report back on how it has been addressed
- establish a single point of contact the community can reach to discuss the project

The project is in the planning phase until December 31, 2019. The new plant will be designed and constructed between 2020 and 2030, and will be in operation by December 31, 2030.

## Think Thrice before throwing out your clothes

Metro Vancouver has launched a new waste reduction campaign, Think Thrice About Your Clothes, in an effort to curb the staggering amount of clothing thrown out across the region.

Last year, Metro Vancouver residents threw out more than 44 million pounds of textiles, equivalent to the weight of 44 t-shirts per person. As consumers, we buy three times more clothing than we did in the 1980s yet we keep them for less time. According to a recent study from the UK, the majority of clothing purchases were worn just seven times.

While a large portion of unwanted clothing is donated, much of it still ends up in the garbage. In Metro Vancouver, textiles is one of the fastest-growing waste categories, accounting for five percent of total garbage produced in the region annually.

The campaign offers three ways to help residents avoid clothing waste: reduce, repair, and re-use:

- Reduce: Tips for identifying quality clothes when making a new or second-hand purchase.
- Repair: Care tips to prolong the lifespan of clothes, and DIY repairs & alterations that residents can do at home.
- Re-use: Clear up confusion around where and how to donate unwanted items.

A new Metro Vancouver website offers nine DIY repair and alteration 'How To' videos, a stain removal guide, and a handy infographic explaining what happens to donated clothes.

<http://clothesarentgarbage.ca>

<https://vimeo.com/289567631>



## Mayor's Council on Transportation

At its February 15, 2019 meeting, the Mayors' Council on Transportation endorsed a SkyTrain Millennium Line extension from Arbutus Street to UBC as the technology basis to advance to the next stage of project development for Rail to UBC, including development of alternative concept designs and preliminary business case inputs.

The 99 B-Line route on the Broadway Corridor is the busiest bus route in Canada and the United States, moving 60,000 transit customers every day on articulated buses that run every three minutes in peak times. Even with buses running this frequently, it is also the region's most overcrowded bus route.

In 2014, after 6 years of study, the Mayors' Council 10-year Vision recommended moving forward with the Broadway Subway Project from VCC-Clark to Arbutus.

The preferred concept design will carry forward into the business case and procurement readiness program, which will need to be funded through a future investment plan. Phase Two of the 10-Year Vision includes \$3 million in funding for pre-business case development for rapid transit to UBC, which is critical to designing the optimal project that can be the basis for the region to secure funding commitments and move to procurement readiness.

Next steps in this project development process include:

- Assessing vertical and horizontal alignment options
- Preparing detailed concept designs
- Public and stakeholder engagement
- Coordination with land use planning at Jericho Lands and UBC
- Beginning discussions related to financial and/or in-kind contributions and agreements from senior governments, UBC, developers along the proposed corridor and the City of Vancouver. Ongoing coordination with partners – including City of Vancouver, First Nations (including the MST Development Corporation), UBC, UEL, and others – related to land use policy and supportive policy agreements
- Considering potential land value capture opportunities and contributions along the corridor as potential funding sources

Engagement with regional decision makers, First Nations (including the MST Development Corporation), other stakeholders, and the public is anticipated to begin in early-mid 2019.

## Events

### **Night Quest**

Saturday March 23, 2019, 7:00 PM PDT - 9:30 PM PDT

Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Nature at night is a magical experience. Wander 2 km of lantern-lit trails and meet squirrels, skunks and salamanders who will delight you with stories of nature at night. Allow 1.5 hours to complete. All ages. FREE

Bring a flashlight or lantern, and a mug for the cash-only concession. Trails are stroller accessible. Please leave pets at home. Meet at the park centre on 16th Ave., 400 m west of Blanca St. Presented with Pacific Spirit Park Society.

### **Winter Watershed Snowshoe Tours**

Tuesday March 16 & Tuesday March 23

Mount Seymour

Explore the connection between snow and your drinking water. 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.

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



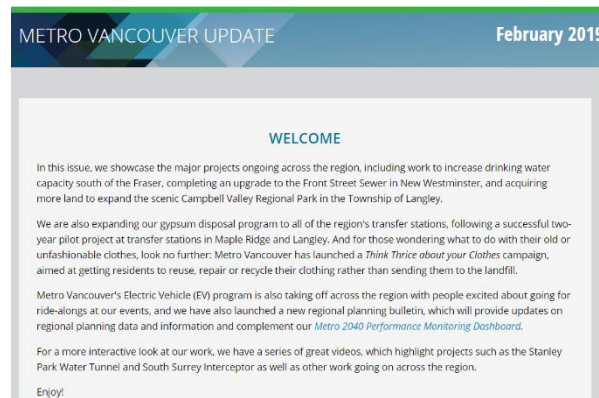
## Media



*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](http://metrovancover.org) or follow [metrovancoverblog.org](http://metrovancoverblog.org).

## For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

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



## Links &amp; Connections

[Metro Vancouver](http://www.metrovancover.org)

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

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

[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)

[Union of BC Municipalities](http://www.ubcm.ca)

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

[University Neighbourhoods Association](http://www.myuna.ca)

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

[University Endowment Lands Administration](http://www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca)

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

[UEL Community Advisory Council](http://www.uelcommunity.com)

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

[Metro Vancouver Media Releases](http://www.metrovancover.org/media-room)

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

[Metro Vancouver Videos](http://www.metrovancover.org/media-room/video-gallery)

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