

Subject: FW: sustainable infrastructure

On Nov 5, 2014, at 12:18 AM, "Wendy Hinestrosa" <wjhinestrosa@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Ms Kang,

It was a pleasure to meet you.

Thank you listening to my concerns about sustainability, specifically concerning storm water. Monday's rain and flooding in North Vancouver have highlighted the need to be proactive on this topic.

The Problem: We are covering Burnaby in hard impermeable surfaces. This means that in a heavy rain storm water is instantly running off roofs, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, streets, paved lanes and their shoulders and dividers into our drains and creeks. Construction in Metro Vancouver is booming and Burnaby is no exception. Increasingly we are losing trees, shrubs and open areas to buildings, blacktop, and cement.

The banks of John Mathews creek were becoming dangerously eroded in the past few years, putting in danger neighbouring properties. Burnaby was forced to spend millions fixing this problem.

I also notice that a couple of houses on Mac Gregor st. bordering Froggers Creek are no longer there.

Solution

Seattle has done much more work on this problem and I suggest that you

investigate www.seattle.gov particularly green storm water, & drainage projects

Other ideas include *hedges along roadways, instead of pavement or even grass. (this would also stop J-walking)

- *planting trees along all streets (beautifying and also bird habitat)

- *building of more swales as has been constructed on Watling street between Jubilee and Waverly streets.

- *roundabouts with plantings instead of stop signs at intersections.

- *removing of blacktop shoulders on streets, lanes and around drains and replacing with vegetation and rain gardens (safer for fish)

- *all new construction to make use of rain water for use on site eg. flushing toilets or watering plants in Summer dry periods.

- *retrofitting incentives

- *permeable blacktop to be used

Thanks for your interest

Wendy Hinestrosa