



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, January 21, 2021, 5:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, City Hall
4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC

PRESENT: Councillor Joe Keithley, Chair
Councillor James Wang, Member (*participated electronically*)
Trustee Peter Cech, Burnaby School Board (*participated electronically*)
Ms. Tara van Shushtarian, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)
Ms. Tessa Vanderkop, Burnaby Board of Trade (*participated electronically*)
Ms. Cynthia Van Ginkel, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)
Mr. Andrei Zawadzki, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)

ABSENT: Councillor Colleen Jordan, Vice Chair
Ms. Mary Lumby, Resident Representative

ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS: Ms. Deborah Harford, Simon Fraser University
Mr. Jerry Muir, BC Hydro
Mr. Darin Wong, Fortis BC

STAFF: Mr. Dipak Dattani, Director Corporate Services
Ms. Lee-Ann Garnett, Assistant Director Long Range Planning
Ms. Erica Lay, Manager, Climate Action and Energy
Ms. Simone Rousseau, Manager Environmental Services
Ms. Heather Edwards, Manager Parks Planning, Design & Development
Mr. Erik Schmidt, Manager, Solid Waste & Recycling
Mr. Mark Sloat, Environmental Planner
Ms. Kathryn Matts, Administrative Officer

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the Open Committee meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and conducted the roll call. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following members participated electronically: Councillor Wang, Trustee Cech, Ms. Vanderkop, Ms. Van Ginkel, Ms. Shushtarian, and Mr. Zawadzki.

For the benefit of those participating electronically, the Chair read out the names of members and staff present at the meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Joe Keithley, recognized the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓ñəm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and extended appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

The Chair welcomed Erica Lay, Manager Climate Action and Energy for the City.

2. **MINUTES**

2.1 **Minutes of the Environment Committee Open meeting held on 2020 October 06**

MOVED BY MS. VANDERKOP

SECONDED BY MS. VAN GINKEL

THAT the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 2020 October 06 be now adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

3.1 **Memorandum from the Administrative Officer - Re: New Boulevard Tree Planting - #Tree4Free**

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 November 23, Council received a report on the above noted subject and adopted the recommendations contained therein.

The report sought Council's authority to approve a new boulevard tree planting program which is a quick action to support Burnaby's Climate Action Strategy. The 'Tree 4 Free' program would allow property owners to request free boulevard trees be planted by the City adjacent to the home owners property.

3.2 David Pereira - Re: Compostable Plastic Bags Sold in Burnaby Stores

Correspondence was received from David Pereira regarding the sale of compostable plastic bags in Burnaby retail stores.

The Committee was advised that Environmental Engineering staff would follow up directly with Mr. Pereira.

3.3 Memorandum from Administrative Officer RE: Keeping of Backyard Chickens

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 November 23, adopted the above noted report authorizing staff to re-examine the feasibility and advisability of permitting the keeping of backyard chickens.

3.4 Memorandum from Director Planning and Building Re: 2021 Environmental Awards Program

A memorandum was received from the Director Planning and Building, providing information regarding the City's Environmental Awards program.

Staff advised that this year, the Environmental Awards program process is tentative and may be modified to align with public health regulations and city policies in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic with implications potentially delaying or cancelling the awards ceremony.

Staff encouraged Committee members to raise awareness of the program through their networks and also encouraged nominations of worthy candidates. The call for nominations opened in early January and will close on February 22, 2021.

3.5 City of North Vancouver - Re: Province-Wide Ban on Anticoagulant Rodenticides

Correspondence was received from the City of North Vancouver regarding the use of anticoagulant rodenticides.

The correspondence was referred to staff for review and response.

3.6 Cassandra Munro - Re: Keep Animals and Wildlife Safe from Poison - Rodenticides

Correspondence was received from Cassandra Munro regarding the widespread use of rodenticides.

The correspondence was referred to staff for review and response.

3.7 Linda Do - Re: Join Other Municipalities in Banning Rodenticide Use

Correspondence was received from Linda Do regarding the widespread use of poisons in rodent control.

The correspondence was referred to staff for review and response.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Report from Director Engineering – Re: Update on Feasibility Study for City Hall Campus Photovoltaic Solar Installation

A report was received from the Director Engineering providing the results of the City Hall Campus photovoltaic (PV) solar system installation feasibility study.

Staff provided a summary of the report and advised that as a result of the feasibility study conducted, staff are recommending a ground mounted PV solar system for this pilot project. Ground mounted systems offer additional benefits such as shading and cover that make spaces more comfortable for use; in addition they are typically more straightforward to install than rooftop systems because they do not require a roof with enough load-bearing capacity.

Staff advised that the West Building fleet parking lot and staff parking lot on the northeast corner of Canada Way and Norland, both have ideal conditions for a ground mounted solar parking canopy. Staff recommend the pilot project proceed with detailed design of a small scale system (approximately 100 panels) at first, to gain more experience with PV solar technologies, learn about the various BC Hydro net-metering programs and assess the performance of PV solar before making the decision to invest in a large system. Staff advised that the location, specifications and cost estimates will be verified during detailed design.

The Director Engineering recommended:

1. THAT the Committee and Council authorize staff to proceed with detailed design of the recommended pilot PV solar system as described in the report.

MOVED BY TRUSTEE CECH

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the recommendations of the Director Engineering be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 Report from Director Planning and Building – Re: 2021 Environment Week Program

A report was provided from the Director of Planning and Building, seeking approval for the proposed approach for 2021 Environment Week.

Staff summarized the report and advised that the following events and programs have been confirmed and are scheduled to take place as part of Environment Week.

- Bike to Work Week (May 24 to May 30) and the Commuter Challenge (May 30 to June 5);
- 2021 Environmental Awards Program (Recipients to be announced at the Regular Council Meeting on May 31);
- Burnaby Parks Recreation and Cultural Services, Eco-sculpture Planting Activity;
- Ecosystem restoration event lead by Lower Mainland Green Team; and,
- Environmental Awareness, Sustainability and Stewardship Digital Content (promoted on City social media channels from Monday to Friday during Environment Week).

Staff further advised that a finalized program, including detailed descriptions of the programs, will be presented in a report to the Environment Committee in March.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT Council declare Sunday, May 30, 2021 to Saturday, June 5, 2021, as Burnaby Environment Week.
2. THAT Council approve the proposed approach for 2021 Environment Week.
3. THAT Council approve an expenditure of \$5,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions' operating budget for promoting and advertising Environment Week.

MOVED BY MS. VAN GINKEL

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CECH

THAT the recommendations of the Director of Planning and Building be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.3 Report from Director Planning and Building – Re: Building Benchmark BC Pilot Program (2021.01.21)

A report was received from the Director Planning and Building seeking Council authorization for the public disclosure of energy use and emissions data for Burnaby's portfolio of buildings.

Staff provided a summary of the report and advised that to date, participation in the Building Benchmark BC pilot program has provided staff with valuable experience and knowledge in regards to energy benchmarking and building energy performance. Staff advised that participation in the program demonstrates leadership and accountability for climate action and will help achieve admission reductions.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT Council authorize public disclosure of energy use and emissions data for Burnaby's portfolio of buildings submitted to the Building Benchmark BC pilot program, with a target date of February 2021.
2. THAT Council endorse the City of Burnaby's continued participation in the BC Benchmarking pilot program.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CECH

THAT the recommendations of the Director of Planning and Building be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms.Harford advised that SFU was also involved in some climate risk assessment streamlining and felt that there was some data that could be shared. Staff undertook to connect with Ms.Harford.

4.4 Report from Director Planning and Building and Director Corporate Services – Re: Green Building Policy Update

A report was received from the Director Planning and Building and the Director Corporate Services providing information on the status of Burnaby's Green Building Policy as it relates to advancing the Climate Action Framework.

Staff provided a summary of the report and advised that the report is an update on the Green Building Policy within the context of the Climate Action Framework.

The Director Planning and Building and Director Corporate Services recommended:

1. THAT Council receive the update on the status of Burnaby's Green Building Policy for information.

MOVED BY MS. VAN GINKEL

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the recommendations of the Director Planning and Building and the Director Corporate Services be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business brought before the Committee at this time.

6. **INQUIRIES**

Ms. Tara Shustarian - Re Trans Mountain Pipeline Project and Tree Removal

Ms. Shustarian inquired as to the recent news regarding TMX and a request to cut down 1,300 trees.

Staff advised that the City of Burnaby are participants in the hearing process.

The City has opposed the project on the basis that it creates undue risk to the residents from a public safety and environment perspective.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, the Environment Committee Open meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

CHAIR

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER