



Corporation of the City of  
**NEW WESTMINSTER**

**ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC)**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Committee Room 2**

**City Hall**

**MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	- Chair
Todd Beernink	- Community Member
Patrick Parkes	- Community Member
Ingrid Tymm	- Community Member
Amanda Semenoff	- Community Member
Raunaq Singh	- Student Representative

**MEMBER/STAFF REGRETS:**

Nadine Nakagawa	- Community Member
Wilmer Lau	- Local Business Representative
Laura Cornish	- Community Member
Karla Olson	- Community Member
Mark Allison	- Manager Strategic Initiatives & Sustainability Office of the CAO

**STAFF:**

Jennifer Lukianchuk	- Environmental Coordinator Engineering Services
Eugene Wat	- Manager, Infrastructure Planning Engineering Services
Kristina Fiedrich (left at 6:40 pm)	- Arts Programmer, Office of the CAO
Claude Ledoux (left at 7:00 pm)	- Parks Horticulture Manager Parks & Recreation
George Otieno (left at 8:40 pm)	- Infrastructure Engineer Engineering Services
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Secretary, Engineering Services

**GUESTS:**

Dave Ramslie (left at 7:00 pm)	- Principal, Integral Group
Lisa Westerhoff (left at 7:00 pm)	- Project Manager, Integral Group

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm.

## **1.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

### **1.1 Additions to the Agenda of April 19, 2017**

There were no additions to the Agenda; however, it was determined that Unfinished Business, Item 4.1, Bee City Initiative, would be addressed first to accommodate staff members who had to leave by 7:00 p.m.

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of February 22, 2017**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee meeting held on February 22, 2017 be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

### **3.1 Environmental Strategy Update –Integral Group (IG)**

Jennifer Lukianchuk, Environmental Coordinator, introduced Dave Ramslic (Principal) and Lisa Westerhoff (Project Manager) of Integral Group, who have been retained by the City to develop an Environmental Strategy. IG will use this initial meeting to introduce their team, acknowledge the work completed thus far, and outline the process moving forward. They will attend the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to hold a workshop with the Committee.

The Committee has created visions and goals, and IG will help create the strategies and actions to see those visions and goals to fruition. Their draft plan will be presented to Council towards the end of the year.

The following discussion ensued:

- For the June 21<sup>st</sup> workshop, IG will get a better understanding of where the City is currently with its goals and proceed from there;
- Jennifer Lukianchuk and Lisa Westerhoff will be the primary contacts for this project;

- There will be two public open houses as well as two committee workshops;
- Suggestions for public engagement included an online survey and/or a collaborative online forum for those that are unable to make the open houses but would still like to share their ideas and comments.

### **3.2 Integrated Storm Water Management Plan (ISMP) – George Otieno**

Eugene Wat, Manager of Infrastructure Planning, introduced George Otieno, Infrastructure Engineer. George provided a presentation of the draft ISMP. He informed members that the ISMP is a City commitment of the Metro Vancouver Liquid Waste Management Plan to help manage the amount of rainfall (or stormwater) we receive while protecting both our natural and built environments. Every municipality must create and commit to an ISMP.

The following discussion ensued:

- The minimum requirement of 30% pervious landscape on a property is enough to manage stormwater;
- Guidelines advise the amount of pervious space that must be on a property. Once a site is developed, it falls under the zoning bylaw to protect the pervious space;
- A number of tools can be instituted to provide enforcement other than bylaw officers; for instance, use of a stormwater utility could calculate how much residents should pay for utilities which, in turn, could help them save money. Funding for enforcement will be addressed during the implementation stage of the ISMP;
- Rain garden infiltration bulges could be maintained by a “Spring Force” consisting of a group of volunteers. Alternately, they could be maintained by charging nearby businesses, etc., to help fund extra staffing to operate and maintain the bulges;
- Residents are welcome to call the City with suggestions for where rain garden infiltration bulges could be installed;
- The first two years of the demonstration projects will be critical as they will show us how well these installations work in the City, provide education, and help build awareness of the ISMP;
- The ACTBiPed should be consulted prior to the installation of rain garden infiltration bulges as they may be an issue for cyclists;
- Maintaining 30% perviousness on a property is factored into the design guidelines with respect to laneway houses;
- A measuring matrix will be created to measure perviousness over time;

- Under Metro Vancouver's Liquid Waste Management Plan for New Westminster, and taking into consideration the life span of houses, the City has been given until 2075 to complete the sewer separation program. The city is committed to separating 1.5% of the sewer system per year;
- Along with Council, the Committee will be updated on a bi-annual basis on the progress of the ISMP.

Staff requested the endorsement of the principles of the Plan by the Committee.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee endorse the principles of the Integrated Storm Management Plan as presented on April 19, 2017.*

Todd Beernink and Patrick Parkes voted in opposition to the motion.

Continuing discussion ensued, as follows:

- Some members were not prepared to endorse the Plan as they had not been given sufficient opportunity to read the full, detailed report;
- Questions were raised as to how the Plan will align with the City's environmental strategy, how enforcement will be carried out, timelines for implementation, and how laneway houses will be compatible with maintaining perviousness on a property;
- Other members expressed concern over further delay in implementing the ISMP by not endorsing the Plan, although the majority of the Plan is something all members want to see be implemented;
- The ISMP is scheduled to go to Council for endorsement in late May at which point they will have to consider funding and resources;
- A member expressed concern with traffic bulges as the bulges force cyclists onto main travel lanes. Staff responded that the ISMP only proposes installing rain gardens into cub bulges, likely with new construction;
- The Plan does not specifically address how many bulges or where they will be implemented. The transportation staff will determine where the bulges will be installed as part of the traffic and transportation planning process;
- Council *can* endorse the Plan without receiving endorsement from the Environment Advisory Committee.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee requests the following information be brought forward from staff via email with respect to the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan:*

- *Breakdown of pervious vs. impervious;*
- *Consult with ACTBiPed re infrastructure (rain water infiltration bulges);*
- *Plan for enforcement*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

At this time, Councillor McEvoy advised members that the Committee could either reconvene at another time to further discuss and possibly endorse the Plan, or revisit the motion for endorsement this evening. Members opted to revisit the motion this evening.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee reconsider the motion to endorse the principles of the Integrated Storm Management Plan.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee endorse the principles of the Integrated Storm Management Plan as presented on April 19, 2017.*

**CARRIED.**

Todd Beernink voted in opposition to the motion.

**4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**4.1 Bee City Initiative – Kristina Fiedrich**

Jennifer provided a brief recap of the Bee City initiative that was presented at the February 22, 2017 EAC meeting. Kristina Fiedrich, Arts Programmer, explained to members that approval is required in order to

move forward with the initiative and presentation to Council for their final approval.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee supports staff in pursuing an application for the City of New Westminster to become a Bee City.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

Kristina will provide ongoing updates at each stage of the Bee City initiative process. The resolution will be brought to the Committee for their final approval before it goes to Council.

**5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 2017 Environment Initiatives – Jennifer Lukianchuk**

Jennifer provided a brief overview of the 2017 Environmental Initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Norm Connolly, Community Energy Manager, can provide updates to the group about Energy Save New West and/or District Energy;
- A June 21<sup>st</sup> workshop with Integral Group;
- The Environmental Poster Contest.

Members were invited to help judge this year's environmental poster contest, which will take place in early May. Carilyn Cook, Committee Secretary, will email Committee members with a date, venue, and time for the judging.

Members provided the following suggestions for additional topics they'd like to see addressed throughout the year:

- Smoking and clean air;
- A tour of the Coquitlam watershed;
- Lost streams relating to the Douglas College student mapping project;
- Beekeeping;
- Joint meeting with ACTBiPed.

**6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

**6.1 Environmental Coordinator's Update – Jennifer Lukianchuk**

As discussed in New Business Item 5.1, 2017 Environment Initiatives.

**6.2 Rain Garden Blog**

Received for information.

**7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

No items.

**8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2017**  
**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**  
**Wednesday, November 15, 2017**

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Certified correct,

Original Signed

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**JAIMIE MCEVOY**  
**CHAIR**

Original Signed

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**CARILYN COOK**  
**COMMITTEE SECRETARY**