

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, September 27, 2022

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: **Council Committee Room via Zoom (RSVP Required)**

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 1. Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022**

NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Introduction of new Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager**
Caresse Selk, Manager Environment/Committee; 7:05 – 7:10 p.m. (5 minutes)
- 3. Solid Waste Operations Update**
Danielle Dontchev, Solid Waste Programs Specialist; 7:10 – 7:25 p.m. (15 minutes)
- 4. Single Use Item Regulations Update**
Karin Johnson, Sustainability Programs Specialist; 7:25–7:45 p.m. (20 minutes)
- 5. 2022 Environmental Volunteer Celebration Event – Review and Feedback**
Caresse Selk, Manager Environment/Committee; 7:45–7:55 p.m. (10 minutes)
- 6. 2022 Year-end Review / Identify Potential Items for the Draft 2023 Work Plan**
Caresse Selk, Manager Environment/Committee; 7:55 –8:10 p.m. (15 minutes)
- 7. SEAC Emerging Issues/Updates (Standing Agenda Item)**
Opportunity for Committee members to share emerging issues/updates from their sustainability and environmental communities.
Committee; 8:10 –8:20 p.m. (10 minutes)

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – TBA (2023)

ADJOURNMENT



SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 21, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 7:01 p.m. in Council Chambers, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Teri Towner, Chair
Councillor Brent Asmundson, Vice Chair
Mark Ashton
Grayson Barke
Reza Berry
Linton Chokie
Christine Coles
Edward Lau
Bonnie Razzaghi

REGRETS: Tracy Adole
Rich Kenny

ABSENT: Mohammad Darabi

STAFF: Caresse Selk, Manager Environment
Canisius Chan, Transportation Planning Manager
Eric Kalnins, Tourism Manager
Shannon Wagner, Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager
Glen Chua, Major Project Planner
Ryan Voon, Sustainability Programs Specialist
Jeri Hohn, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair acknowledged that the City operates on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem First Nation) and June 21st was National Indigenous Peoples Day.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022

The Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Strategic Transportation Plan Presentation**

The Transportation Planning Manager introduced himself and the Major Project Planner and gave introductory remarks. The Major Project Planner provided a presentation, utilizing on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Strategic Transportation Plan Update
- Agenda
- What is the Strategic Transportation Plan?
- What is the Strategic Transportation Plan (STP)?
- Why are we updating this Plan?
- Changing Landscapes
- Changing Industry Standards
- Emerging Transportation Trends
- E-Mobility Strategy
- Alignment with City Priorities
- Integration with Regional Transportation Plans
- Project Timeline
- 5 Phases for STP Update
- Community Engagement
- Engagement Opportunities
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Thank You

The Committee considered the following focus questions:

- What do you consider are the main barriers and opportunities in Coquitlam for people to walk more? Cycle and roll more? Use Transit more? Switch to zero emission vehicles where driving is necessary?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The cultural aspects of transportation and whether the STP could address how communities and new immigrants could be given access to non-carbon transportation services (i.e. bikes and scooters)
- The belief that to remove barriers the City could partner with local immigrant services societies to provide training for newcomers who could be unfamiliar with using bikes and scooters
- That staff were following up with the Immigrant Services Society of BC and SUCCESS BC to engage newcomers as part of the Plan's process and phases
- The observation that it was challenging for delivery drivers to find temporary parking spaces in parts of Coquitlam and whether the STP could address their needs
- That a strategy to allocate curbside parking spaces was under review by the City and the results would help to inform the STP
- Whether the STP would include a layout of streets and the planned development of communities
- The suggestion that the City's main routes and streets should be interconnected so

- that the city could be circumnavigated and crossed on foot or by bicycle
- An anecdote regarding some of the negative outcomes of e-scooter use in other parts of the world
 - The belief that e-scooters have a tendency to be used for purposes other than originally intended and, for that reason, the desire that the city be considerate in its approach in allowing short-term use of e-scooters
 - The benefits of popular public bike share programs, such as Vancouver Bike Share in partnership with Mobi by Shaw Go, that offer storage, parking, and free WiFi service
 - Whether the City could allocate an increased number of parking spaces to electric cars to encourage take-up and usage of electric cars
 - The belief that SkyTrain stations, such as Lafarge Lake-Douglas and Coquitlam Center, could be optimal locations to accommodate e-mobility and help people to integrate them with public transit trips
 - Whether adjacent Tri-Cities municipalities collaborate with one another so that the transportation impacts of one another are considered
 - The desire that safety, including fire concerns, be taken into consideration when designing e-mobility hubs
 - The challenge of finding public places to charge electric vehicles (EVs) and the convenience of charging EVs at work or home
 - The understanding that some residential stratas reject the idea of adding more EV charging stations due to costs
 - Whether the City could require new residential and commercial developments to install a certain number of EV charging stations on their properties and offer them incentives to do so
 - The requirements of the City's current development planning guide regarding the amount of conduit that must be installed for EV charging stations by developers
 - The City's suggestion that the Province broaden the EV rebates that it offers to stratas
 - A study by TransLink that predicted that increased EV ownership would lead to a greater number of vehicles and congestion on roads
 - How the City planned to implement the STP and an explanation of the STP's phases
 - Other barriers to more people walking and biking in Coquitlam included the steep grades of some roads and the lack of biking connections to adjacent municipalities
 - The observation that e-bikes assist riders to travel up steep grades

The Chair encouraged the members to provide any further input regarding the Plan by email to staff.

3. Economic Development Strategy Presentation

The Tourism Manager introduced himself and provided an on-screen presentation, utilizing slides titled as follows:

- Economic Development Strategy
- Agenda
- Background
- What is Economic Development?

- Planning Principles
- Components
- Coquitlam in Context
- Emerging Vision Based on Values
- Emerging Themes / Areas of Focus
- Potential Goals / Strategies to Explore
- Questions to Discuss
- Next Steps

The Committee considered the following focus questions:

- What does a responsible future look like? How can we share the prosperity?
- How do we make our local economy more inclusive to improve economic opportunities for all?
- Thinking back to the emerging values and themes, is anything missing?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The enhanced quality of life that people can experience when they are able to live and work within the same community
- The belief that, through implementation of the Economic Development Strategy (EDS), there was potential for the City to emulate the positive cultural integration and diverse neighbourhoods occurring in other jurisdictions nationally
- The belief that Coquitlam has the ability to position itself as one of the truly integrated communities in the Metro Vancouver Region
- Whether marketing or branding research had been done to determine how people perceive the City and, if so, how they viewed it
- The belief that, in terms of diversity, it is important to expand beyond a racialized and ethnic diversity lens and consider other types of diversity such as gender, sexual orientation, and neuro-diversity abilities/disabilities
- The vibrancy of downtown Montreal and the belief that Montreal and Toronto are “doing it right” in terms of their active and diverse spaces and neighbourhoods
- The City’s past branding research and public engagement conducted as part of developing the Tourism Strategy, and that Coquitlam was identified as a green community through that process
- The suggestion that the City could have different types of cultural or pop-up parks or an avenue of nations and foods to attract people of all cultural backgrounds to Coquitlam
- The belief that Coquitlam City Centre, including Town Centre Park, is a regional attraction and the observation that it is going through quite a lot of change
- The suggestion that the City ensure that what Coquitlam City Centre “becomes is what we need it to be”, including the future needs of residents relative to climate change and extraordinary weather events such as heat domes
- The belief that, in terms of placemaking, it is important to ensure that the design of the new City Centre area and the structures and parks being built within it will work for residents and visitors, regardless of future weather patterns
- The suggestion that the EDS could be simplified so that gaps and crossover points could be more readily identified

- Whether “entrepreneurship” was a part of the Strategy, i.e. what could the City do to provide opportunities for local entrepreneurs to succeed?
- The belief that establishing economic hubs, where inclusivity and prosperity merge, could be key to the Strategy
- The observation that many new entrepreneurs are not wealthy and the suggestion that the City could offer incentives to attract new entrepreneurs
- The belief that well-priced, shared work spaces close to transit hubs, like those of (the former) CMPY, are needed in the city
- The belief that office and educational space is needed in the city and how best to encourage developers to build those kinds of spaces locally
- The belief that it is important for the City to consider how best to make Coquitlam a destination
- The suggestion that nature be brought into the City Centre by constructing a river, and that food courts, entertainment venues, and attractive promenades accessible by transit be provided along it
- The belief that the City must create activities and attraction points for businesses and people so that they will want to invest, work, and live in Coquitlam
- The environmental benefits of people working closer to home, including greenhouse gas reductions

The Tourism Manager noted that additional feedback was welcome and shared his email address with the Committee.

4. Project Greenlight and Sustainable Coquitlam

The Sustainability Programs Specialist introduced himself and provided a presentation, utilizing on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Project Greenlight – Sustainable Coquitlam Pilot
- Outline
- Project Greenlight
- Introduction to Project Greenlight
- Two Types of Innovation Calls
- Project Greenlight Benefits
- Environmental Sustainability Plan Implementation
- Sustainable Coquitlam Open Call
- Climate Action Solutions
- Built Environment and Green Infrastructure Solutions
- Water Management Solutions
- Sustainable Coquitlam Timeline
- Applying to Sustainable Coquitlam
- Discussion
- Questions?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The number of promising applications submitted to the City to date
- Expressions of support for the Project

- Local entrepreneurs' networks and the suggestion that an open invitation from the City be issued to those communities
- The economic benefit to innovators participating in the Project, including the opportunity to showcase their innovations and technology solutions
- The City's intent to select one or more innovators and to pilot their innovations, projects or ideas in the city, and potentially to assist innovators with implementation and funding going forward
- The suggestion that the staff messaging to innovators be direct
- The observation that Schneider Electric has many green energy opportunities and could be interested in participating in the Project
- Clarification that applicants needed to be established companies with working prototypes or products ready to be deployed on a city-scale
- The suggestion that staff reach out to Engineers and Geoscientists of BC as a potential source of innovative companies
- Whether staff had engaged the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce, BC Universities, and/or through environmental/entrepreneur-focused events
- Where the application opportunity was being advertised and promoted by the City
- Whether the City had "issue logs" that could be shared with interested innovators
- The suggestion that staff consider the human social component (systemic barriers) of the opportunity and ways to encourage people with limited experience to participate in the project

5. 2022 Environmental Volunteer Celebration Event Planning Sub-Committee Update

The Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager provided a verbal update regarding the Event. She noted the following:

- Invitations had been emailed to all Committee members
- The date, time, and location of the event
- The timing of planned activities, picnic lunch, and awards component of the event
- That the Sub-Committee had reviewed and adjudicated twenty-six nominations – the highest number of nominations received in the history of the event
- The excellent work, dialogue, advice, and feedback of the Sub-Committee

The Chair thanked the Sub-Committee for their hard work and noted that she would be unable to attend the event due to a previous commitment.

6. SEAC Emerging Issues/Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited the Committee members to share emerging issues/updates from their sustainability and environmental communities. The following was shared:

- Whether an update further to the heat pump discussion held during the last meeting could be provided by a Committee member
- That the Coroner's Report on the summer 2021 heat dome event had been released and one of its recommendations was that all new buildings to be constructed should have heat pumps and active cooling and filtration systems installed
- That the City would hold a second Heat Pump Webinar on Thursday night, June 23rd

- Why there was no lighting along the stretch of Lougheed Highway proximal to the Riverview Lands and the explanation that it was the purview of the Province
- That the meeting would mark the final meeting of the Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager as she was leaving the employ of the City
- Expressions of appreciation from the Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee members for the work and support provided by the Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager during her time as staff support to the Committee
- That the City's Volunteer Recognition Event would be held on Thursday, September 8th, members were encouraged to "hold the date", and an official invitation to the event would be circulated by email in the future

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, September 27, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

_____ CHAIR



Jeri Hohn
Committee Clerk