

**Present:**

A. Schulze - Chair  
B. Burnside  
B. Campbell  
C. Dragomir  
M. Harcourt  
K. Keshvani  
G. Sahota  
G. Sangha  
B. Stewart  
Councillor Bose

**Regrets:****Agricultural Advisory Committee  
Representative:**

S. VanKeulen

**Staff Present:**

C. Baron, Drainage and Environmental  
Manager  
R. Costanzo, Deputy Operations  
Manager  
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was Moved by G. Sahota  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the minutes of the Environmental  
Advisory Committee meeting held on March 23, 2011, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Rob Costanzo, Deputy Operations Manager**

Rob Costanzo, Deputy Operations Manager, provided a periodic update. In particular, the progress on the Metro Vancouver organic biofuel processing facility and waste drop-off facility proposed for Surrey was discussed. Comments were as follows:

- The organics biofuel facility progressed to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) stage, which was initiated in the summer of 2010, and yielded 13 submissions.
- It was anticipated that the RFQs would be shortlisted and that the proponents would be invited back in late October/early November 2010 to start the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage.
- In mid-October the process was delayed by Metro Vancouver as they feel that a review of organics processing facilities is required from a regional perspective to establish where facilities should be established as well as the number of facilities required region-wide.
- Estimated cost of the Surrey biofuel facility is \$20-30 million (not including the value of the land).

- Long-term objective would be to establish the biofuel facility along with a CNG fuelling station for waste trucks (adjacent to the biofuel facility).
- We hope to get this project on track by this summer. The intent would be to initiate an RFP process and rezoning of the lands, with construction commencing in 2012 and completion by sometime in 2013.
- The City will be having discussions with Metro Vancouver in the first couple of weeks in May.
- On the residential drop-off facility it was explained that it appears that the Metro Vancouver Waste Committee has raised some concerns in the past and recently. The City will also be discussing this issue with Metro Vancouver in early May.
- Discussion on biofuel processing technology ensued and the pros and cons of both wet and dry digestate processes were noted. At this point we don't have a preference (on technologies). We want to go through a competitive process to determine, on the basis of what is submitted, which technologies are operating viably elsewhere and ultimately which technology is the best fit for the City.
- The question of greenhouse gas credits, how that works and what our position is was raised. It was suggested that, as we have had a study on our greenhouse gas contributions, it would be really helpful to have somebody that really is the "go to" person when it comes to understanding provincial legislation in dealing with greenhouse gas credits.
- In response, it was noted that this is an issue that all jurisdictions are grappling with. To clarify, in 2010 we did a comprehensive analysis, how much greenhouse gas we generate via city operations with an objective to reduce our carbon footprint by 2020. We are just about to move forward and look at the community impact and include solid waste, organic waste, etc. This is being managed through the City's Sustainability office.
- Discussions on illegal dumping ensued noting that the City is contemplating a change to strengthen our By-laws, increase public education and potentially undergo surveillance of problem areas.
- The Chair, at the written request of Committee member B. Campbell, noted continued concern with single stream recycling, and questioned whether single stream recycling was in fact is more efficient or does it create less garbage, as he still feels that after touring the facility, there is garbage on the side that doesn't go anywhere.
- In response, it was reported that the City has not had much opposition to single stream from its customers and has spent considerable effort to determine the level of contamination in the blue box. The consistent result is that contamination is less than 3%. The reason for the low contamination is that proper preparation of recyclables was entrenched with Surrey residents well before switching to single stream. The City's recycling revenue streams in 2011 appear to be healthy as well (this wouldn't be the case if it had heavy contamination). In addition, the City's operational costs and carbon emissions are much lower as far fewer trucks are required to collect single streamed recyclables.
- A further question raised by Mr. Campbell was whether or not any information can be provided regarding where the City is with potential RFP for waste collection. It was reported that at this point, it can only be reported that the City is looking at introducing organic waste collection in 2012, modeled after the pilot program, which is operating effectively

- The pilot study has resulted in a very high level of satisfaction and waste diversion reduction of 31% of the garbage stream with that group (pilot study).

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

It was  
recommnd that Council seek Metro Vancouver's confirmation of its commitment to proceed with the organic biogas processing facility.

Moved by G. Sahota

Seconded by S. Van Keulen

That the Environmental Advisory Committee

Carried

The Committee thanked the delegation for the presentation and it was noted that on-going updates will be provided.

#### **C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

##### **1. Clayton Neighbourhood ISMP**

There was nothing to report from the stakeholder consultation for the Clayton Neighbourhood ISMP on January 28, 2011.

#### **D. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

##### **1. Corporate Report Ro61 City of Surrey Ecosystem Management Study File: 6440-20 (EMS)**

The subject Corporate Report (Ro61) was reviewed by the Committee and comments were as follows:

- Not sure that all of the concerns were completely addressed in the final document, but there was considerable effort made to bring the maps into alignment.
- Correspondence from Deb Jack, President, Surrey Environmental Partners, was noted as supporting the recommendations of Ro61 and urging immediate implementation. She also made mention of the environmental development permit areas, which have not been addressed yet.
- The development permit areas is another stage that will be a part of the OCP update which is currently underway.

A brief discussion on wildlife corridors and hubs and the types of links and biodiversity achievable for Surrey ensued. It was noted that a review is underway and that an update will be brought to the Committee in due course.

It was

Moved by C. Dragomir

Seconded by B. Stewart

That the Environmental Advisory Committee congratulate Council on the adoption of the Surrey Ecosystem Management Study and look forward to working on the next phases of the study.

Carried

## F. CORRESPONDENCE

## G. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 1. Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Update

An update from the AAC meeting of April 7, 2011, was provided as follows:

- The AAC considered a proposed rezoning and commercial subdivision on the western edge of Campbell Heights, adjacent to the ALR on two sides.
- The property is bordered on the south by 24 Avenue, on the east by 188 Street, and has a red-listed creek in the southwest corner.
- While there are extensive buffer requirements for residential developments bordering on the ALR, buffer requirements for commercial/industrial land abutting the ALR may be less onerous.
- The AAC expressed concern that the proposed 15 metre buffer along the west boundary of the property would be insufficient as a wildlife corridor.
- A motion was passed requesting the closer conformation to the Campbell Heights Local Area Plan with respect to the wildlife corridor.

### 2. Development Advisory Committee (DAC) Update

It was reported that there were no items pertaining to the EAC at the DAC meeting of March 24, 2011.

## H. OTHER BUSINESS

### 1. Earth Day Celebrations – April 15/16, 2011

A follow-up to the “Party for the Planet – Surrey Celebrates Earth Day” was provided as follows:

- More than 10,000 people attended.

- The zip line, bike powered stage and hay maze were all a big hit.
- The plant sale went very well. 80% of the trees available for sale were purchased by the public on Friday night.
- There was a good response by the public on the Greenways Questionnaire.
- The interactive educational information available from the Nature Centre was well received, the area was busy on both days.
- The Tree By-law Section was very busy, and a great deal of information on “Right Tree, Right Place” was provided to the public.
- Having these sorts of events are always well received because they are free and you can bring the kids!

**2. Grandview Heights NCP Area #4 – Public Open House**  
**Tuesday, May 3, 2011, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Jessie Lee Elementary School**  
**2064 154 Street**

The Committee was advised of above noted Public Open House.

**3. Light Rail**

It was noted that at to the Mayor’s State of the City Address on April 12, 2011, it was reported that the City is advocating for the creation of light rail rapid transit to connect Surrey’s town centres. Further information regarding light rail was requested and comments were as follows:

- Presently, TransLink is undertaking a review of light rail in Surrey and the many options/routes that are available, which will ultimately be narrowed down in priority.
- Council travelled to Portland, Oregon, to acknowledge the benefits of streetcars and light rail.
- Ultimately light rail is more affordable and will service Surrey better.
- A delegation from the Manager, Transportation, will be received by the Committee at the May meeting, for which further information on the light rail as well as the walking and cycling plans will be reviewed.

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on May 25, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by S. Van Keulen

Seconded by K. Keshvani

That the Environmental Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Environmental Committee adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Surrey Environmental Advisory Committee  
Al Schulze, Chair