



COUNCIL DATE: April 30, 2007

### **COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE**

TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	April 27, 2007
FROM:	General Manager, Engineering Acting General Manager, Planning and Development	FILE:	3900-20
SUBJECT:	New Soil Conservation and Protection By-law		

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Engineering Department recommends that Council:

- 1. Authorize the City Clerk to introduce the proposed Soil Conservation and Protection By-law (the "By-law"), as contained in Appendix I;
- 2. Adopt the proposed City Policy titled Soil Deposition and Removal in the City of Surrey as contained in Appendix IV;
- 3. Authorize the City Clerk to forward the By-law along with a copy of this report to the Ministry of Community Services, Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources for approval, after the By-law has been given three readings;
- 4. Authorize the City Clerk to introduce a by-law to amend the Municipal Ticket Information Utilization By-law, 1994, No. 12508 as contained in Appendix II; and
- 5. Authorize the City Clerk to introduce a By-law to amend the Surrey Fee Setting Bylaw, No. 14577, as contained in Appendix III, to establish a new fee for a Soil Deposition and Removal Permit.

#### INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for a new Soil Conservation and Protection By-law. The new By-law will replace Surrey Soil Removal and Depositing Regulation By-law, 1979, No. 5880, which was adopted by City Council in 1979. The new By-law includes enhanced soil management measures and enforcement capabilities

to better protect lands and the environment within the City of Surrey while allowing for reasonable opportunities for soil deposition and removal.

#### DISCUSSION

A summary of key changes and improvements included in the new By-law is provided in Appendix VI.

#### Need for New By-law

A new by-law is needed, and authority for it is provided, based on the following factors:

- 1. Soil is an important resource in the City of Surrey;
- 2. The Surrey Official Community Plan contains policy objectives related to building a sustainable local economy, enhancing the image and character of the City, protecting agriculture and agricultural and natural areas, and improving the quality of community;
- 3. Sustained growth and development in the City continues to generate the need for removal of soil from and deposition of fills onto sites within the City;
- 4. Soil removal and deposition must be accommodated to allow the continuing development of the City but should be undertaken in such a manner so that the objectives and policies of the Official Community Plan with respect to environmental protection, community character and image, and protection of agriculture and agricultural areas are not compromised;
- 5. Under the Community Charter, municipalities have the authority to adopt a by-law to provide for and regulate soil removal and fill deposit activities.

#### **Security Deposit**

A significant change in the proposed by-law is the calculation of the security deposit that must be posted with the City prior to issuance of the permit. The existing By-law requires that a permit applicant post \$10,000 for each hectare of land included in the application. This would typically result in a \$10,000 security deposit regardless of the amount of soil proposed to be removed or deposited. This security deposit was established in 1979, and no longer reflects today's market conditions; it is inadequate should soil removal or remediation be required.

The proposed By-law will instead require an applicant to post \$5 for every cubic metre of soil proposed to be removed or deposited. Tying the security amount to the volume of material allows the deposit to scale appropriately with the magnitude of the operation and ensure that the City would have a significant amount of funds to remediate a site if required. Considering that it would likely be too financially onerous to expect an applicant to post enough security to remove or remediate the entire quantity of soil they are applying for removal or deposition, security to cover overages of roughly 10-20% seemed practical and reasonable, resulting in the \$5 per cubic metre requirement. A simple way to reduce the burden of deposit requirements would be for larger operations to phase their work and permit accordingly.

The City also considered royalties for the deposition of soil, (a fee collected on a per cubic metre basis) as other Lower Mainland municipalities do. Given the proposed changes to the security deposit, and that our focus for the By-law revision was compliance and process transparency, it is not recommended that we collect royalties at this time as it may discourage compliance with our permitting process and could potentially impact the number of legal fill sites available at reasonable rates within the City. This will be revisited in the future to seek to better recover our administration costs. A summary of fee changes is shown in Appendix V.

#### **Consultation Process**

Due to the inter-departmental nature of the by-law's objectives, the consultation process began internally with the various sections of the Utilities and Transportation Division (Engineering), Building Division (Planning) and Legal Services Division (City Manager's Office). Staff carefully reviewed existing procedures and current industry practices as well as successes and failures in enforcing the current by-law. The proposed changes arising from this review will help streamline the application process and will also give the City more powers to curtail illegal activities.

Since the Agricultural Advisory Committee had raised their concerns with the existing Soil Deposition By-law, we requested comments from them on what they would like to see in the new by-law since much of the soil deposition is currently occurring on farmland in the City. The Committee's key requests were to continue with the increased level of enforcement and to provide sufficient powers to staff to be more proactive on non-conforming sites. The Committee also wanted to ensure the application process for bonafide farmers was not too onerous and that standard farming practices did not get negatively impacted through enforcement of the by-law. The proposed revisions were presented to the Agricultual Advisory Committee. The Committee stressed that the City's commitment to the by-law's enforcement would continue to be a key ingredient to its implementation.

The City's Development Advisory Committee was also consulted since much of the soil movement within the City (either removal or deposition) is associated with the development industry. The Committee understood the scope of the issue and although they felt the increase in security requirements was significant, they were pleased royalties for deposition were not being considered. The Committee also wanted to ensure that any changes in process did not unduly delay project processing.

#### **Approval Process**

The existing By-law exempts permit requirement for operations where the total volume of material deposited is under 1000 cubic metres (roughly 150 truck loads). This has been problematic as it makes tracking soil movement difficult and complicates enforcement as the existing By-law is not clear as to how frequently one can deposit 1,000 cubic metres.

This exemption does not apply to deposition on agriculturally zoned property and therefore agricultural land owners are required to obtain a permit for any amount of deposition for any purpose. This can be an onerous requirement as it would require, for example, a farmer who wishes to fix pot holes on an on-site road to post \$10,000 as security with the City and provide an engineered plan.

To address these issues, the proposed By-law categorizes applications by volume with approval processes appropriate to each category.

No permit is required for small volumes (less than 15 cubic metres or about 2 trucks loads). Typically this volume of material might be required for landscaping a single family residential property, making minor on-site improvements, etc. avoiding excessive bureaucracy.

Notification to the City (a short notification form with a prompt approval process) is required for more significant work (15-100 cubic metres) that might include resurfacing an internal farm road, minor lot leveling, addition of composts or sawdust to a farm operation, etc. This notification process allows the City to assess the impact of soil movement in order to evaluate future applications, and also identifies legal soil movement for our enforcement group.

Finally, a regular permit is required for larger operations (over 100 cubic metres) where engineered designs, strict quantity control and environmental protection are important considerations.

#### **Permit Requirements**

Approval	Volume* (cubic metres)	Insurance Requirement	Security Requirement	
No Permit Required	0 - 15	No Insurance Requirement	No Security Requirement	
Notification Requirement	15 - 100	\$1,000,000	No Security Requirement	
Permit Required	100+	\$5,000,000	\$5/cubic metre	

\*in any consecutive 12-month period

#### Amendment to the Building Permit Practices & Procedures & Other By-laws:

As is currently done with commercial and industrial applications, in order to ensure that residential builders are responsible for managing the disposal of excess soil from building sites, the Building Division will require applicants, prior to the issuance of any building permit, to fill out and sign a soil removal declaration form that documents the amount of excess soil that will be generated by the proposed building project and the location at which the excess soil from the building project will be deposited. The site at which the excess soil is to be deposited must be an approved deposition site as updated in the City website if the proposed site is in Surrey.

Two other City by-laws also need amending to coordinate with the new by-law for Soil Conservation and Protection; these are Municipal Ticket Information Utilization By-law (No. 12508) to establish fines, and the Surrey Fee Setting By-law (No. 14577) to establish a fee for soil deposition and removal permits.

#### CONCLUSION

The current Soil Removal and Depositing Regulation By-law, 1979, No. 5880, adopted 27 years ago, has become outdated and no longer adequate to deal with the needs of the City in managing growth and development with respect to fill. The proposed new Soil Conservation and Protection By-law is designed to provide clear guidance to the development industry and to the community at large in a manner that conserves and protects soil as an important resource in the City.

Should Council approve the recommendations of this report, staff will bring forward the necessary by-law and by-law amendments plus seek Provincial approval necessary for final adoption. The new by-law will provide for improvements in the quality of information provided by permit applicants, security requirements to mitigate sites as required, and enhanced enforcements provisions for non-conforming sites. The proposed By-law will enable the City to better manage soil deposition and transport issues.

Paul Ham, P.Eng. General Manager, Engineering How Yin Leung Acting General Manager Planning and Development

#### VL/EM:kd2/brb:rdd

Appendix I	-	By-law
Appendix II	-	Tickets
Appendix III	-	Fees
Appendix IV	-	Soil Deposition and Removal Policy
Appendix V	-	Summary of Fee Changes
Appendix VI	-	Changes and Improvements
Appendix VII	-	Supporting Info

# **APPENDIX I**

Soil Conservation and Protection By-law

#### **CITY OF SURREY**

### BY-LAW NO.

#### SURREY SOIL CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION BY-LAW, 2007

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#### WHEREAS

- (a) Soil is an important resource in the City of Surrey; and
- (b) The City of Surrey official community plan contains policy objectives related to building a sustainable local economy, enhancing image and character, protecting agriculture and agricultural and natural areas, and improving the quality of community; and
- (c) Sustained growth and development in the City of Surrey continues to generate the needs for removal and deposit of soils from and onto sites within the City; and
- (d) Soil removal and deposition must be accommodated to allow the continuing development of the City but should be undertaken in such a manner so that the objectives and policies of the City of Surrey official community plan with respect to environmental protection, community character and image, and protection of agriculture and agricultural areas are not compromised; and
- (e) Section 8(3)(m) of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, provides that the City of Surrey Council may, by by-law, regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements in relation to the removal or deposit of soil on any land or area in the City of Surrey; and
- (f) Section 12(1) of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, provides that the City of Surrey Council is authorized to establish, by by-law, variations, terms and conditions related to the removal or deposit of soil on any land or area in the City of Surrey; and
- (g) Section 15(1) of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, provides that the City of Surrey Council may provide for a permitting system to prohibit, grant, refuse, suspend, and establish terms and conditions to regulate the removal or deposit of soil on any land or area in the City of Surrey; and
- (h) Section 195 of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, provides that the City of Surrey Council may, by by-law, impose rates or levels of fees for a permit for the removal or deposit of soil from or on any land or area in the City of Surrey.

#### THEREFORE

Under statutory powers provided by the *Local Government Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 323, as amended, and the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, the Council of the City of Surrey enacts the following provisions:

#### Title

1. This By-law may be cited as "Surrey Soil Conservation and Protection By-law, 2007, No. \_\_\_\_\_\_".

#### Definitions

- 2. In this By-law:
- Aggregate extraction operation means the *removal* of *soil* where the total volume of materials removed from a *lot* exceeds 1,000 cubic metres, except where the *removal* is being carried out as part of the construction of a building or structure for which a building permit has been issued by the *City* or works and services pursuant to a servicing agreement entered into with the *City*.
- *Agriculturally-zoned* means a *lot* which is zoned A-1 (General Agriculture) or A-2 (Intensive Agriculture) pursuant to Surrey Zoning By-law, 1993, No. 12000, as amended, or a *lot* listed in Schedule E of Surrey Zoning By-law, 1993, No. 12000, as amended, whose existing zoning is either A-1 (Agricultural Zone One) or A-3 (Agricultural Zone Three) under Surrey Zoning By-law, 1979, No. 5942, as amended, and includes all *lots* which lie within the agricultural land reserve.
- *By-law Enforcement Officer* means a person appointed as such by the *City* from time to time to enforce *City* by-laws.
- City means the City of Surrey.
- *Deposit* or *deposition* means the placement of material upon a *lot* which is transported from another location within or outside the *City*.
- *Engineer* means a person registered or licensed as a professional engineer under the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.116, as amended.
- *General Manager* means the General Manager of the Engineering Department, as duly appointed by City of Surrey Council, including the General Manager's designated or appointed representatives.
- *Highway* means every highway within the meaning of the *Transportation Act*, S.B.C. 2004, c. 44, as amended, as well as every road, street, lane or right-of-way designed or intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles, every private place or passage way to which the public, for the purpose of parking or serving of

vehicles, has access or is invited and shall include disabled zones, the roadway, shoulder, boulevard, ditch and sidewalk and whatever lands lie between the boundaries of the *highway*.

- Lot means a real property registered as a parcel in the records of the land title office.
- Organic Soil means any soil which contains 20 percent or more organic material by weight, including but not limited to, peat, muck and compost.
- *Owner* means a *person* registered in the records of the land title office as the fee simple owner of a *lot*, including the strata corporation in the case of a *lot* under strata ownership.
- *Permit* means the written authority for *soil removal* or *deposit* granted by the *General Manager* pursuant to this By-law.
- *Permit holder* means the *person* to whom the authority to carry out the activities or to supervise the carrying out of the activities for *soil removal* or *deposit* is granted pursuant to a valid *permit*. The *permit holder* may or may not be the *owner*.
- *Person* means an individual, association, corporation, firm, body politic, co-partnership, or similar organization, and their heirs, executors, successors and assigns or other legal representatives, whether acting alone or by a servant, agent or employee.
- *Person responsible* means any *person, permit* applicant or *permit holder*, contractor, or occupant, leaseholder, or *owner* of a *lot* who causes, transports, allows, permits, supervises or directs *soil* to be *removed* or *deposited* from or upon a private or public *lot* or *highway*.
- *Removal* or *remove* means the extraction of material from a *lot* and movement of it to another location within or outside the *City*.
- *Soil* means the entire mantle of natural material above bedrock, including, but not limited to, sand, gravel, rock, silt, clay, peat, or topsoil.
- Surveyor means a person registered or licensed as a land surveyor under the Land Surveyors Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.248, as amended.

#### **Permit Requirements**

By-law & Permit Compliance

- 3. Soil removal or deposit in the City may be permitted and shall only occur after a *permit* has been issued by the General Manager, unless the requirement for a valid *permit* is specifically exempted under Sections 8 or 9 of this By-law.
- 4. All *soil removal* or *deposit* activities or operations, whether or not a valid *permit* is required under this By-law, shall conform to the standards and requirements prescribed in Schedule A of this By-law, and shall conform with the terms and conditions of the applicable *permit*, if a *permit* is required.

Soil Deposit	5.	The <i>deposit</i> of material consisting of:			
Exclusions		(a) household waste;			
		(b) waste or garbage from commercial or industrial operations;			
		(c) construction waste such as shavings, edgings, masonry or concrete rubble, and other construction or demolition waste of any kind;			
		(d) waste which is the result of any manufacturing process involved in the production of wood products except <i>soil</i> , hog fuel, wood chips, and sawdust;			
		(e) any product, substance or organism included in the classes listed in the Schedule to the <i>Transport of Dangerous Goods Act</i> , S.B.C 1996, c.458 and regulations, as amended; and			
		(f) any substance defined or classified as waste or hazardous waste under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i> , S.B.C. 2003, c.53 and regulations, as amended,			
		shall be prohibited, unless specifically permitted under Section 8(e) of this By-law, from being deposited onto any <i>lot</i> or any land within the <i>City</i> under any circumstance.			
Additional Approval in ALR	6.	Where an application for <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> is proposed within the agricultural land reserve and the application requires approval from the Agricultural Land Commission, pursuant to the <i>Agricultural Land Commission Act</i> , S.B.C. 2002, c. 36, as amended, no <i>permit</i> exemption shall apply under Section 8 and neither an approval under Section 11 nor a <i>permit</i> shall be issued until:			
		(a) the Agricultural Land Commission has granted approval after receiving and considering a resolution regarding the application from the <i>City</i> Council; or			
		(b) if an agreement between the <i>City</i> and the Agricultural Land Commission has been entered into pursuant to Section 26 of the <i>Agricultural Land Commission Act,</i> S.B.C. 2002, c.36, as amended, the <i>General Manager</i> has granted approval in accordance with the agreement.			
Designation of Soil Removal Areas	7.	The <i>City</i> Council may, in consideration of an application, or through its initiative, designate by by-law <i>lots</i> within the <i>City</i> as <i>soil removal</i> areas for <i>aggregate extraction operations</i> from which <i>soil</i> may be <i>removed</i> ; provided however that a by-law shall not be adopted until:			
		(a) the <i>City</i> Council has held a public hearing thereon, and the provisions of Division 4 of Part 26 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> , R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 323, as amended, have been applied to the public hearing; and			

(b) the designating by-law has included restrictions specifying areas within which *soil removal* may be prohibited, the depth and grade of the permitted *removal*, the provisions of drainage, erosion control and other necessary works, and other restrictions and regulations as warranted.

After the *lots* have been designated as *soil removal* areas, a *permit* for the *removal* of *soil* shall be required and shall incorporate all restrictions and regulations included in the applicable designating by-law. The amount of *soil* proposed to be *removed* shall not exceed the limits established by the designation by-law. For greater certainty of this Section, *soil removal* other than from an *aggregate extraction operation* does not require a *soil removal* area designation.

#### **Permit Exemptions**

- 8. A *permit* pursuant to the provisions of this By-law will not be required in the following circumstances, provided that the *soil removal* or *deposit* activities shall be carried out in accordance with the performance standards and requirements prescribed in Schedule A of this By-law:
  - (a) the *soil removal* or *deposit* is necessary for the construction, maintenance or installation of *City* infrastructure, the work is initiated by the *City* and the *soil removal* or *deposit* occurs at the *City* project site;
  - (b) for a given *lot*, the total quantity of *soil removal* or *deposit* does not exceed 15 cubic metres or 0.5 metres in depth. This exemption does not apply to *deposit* or *removal*:
    - (i) on slopes steeper than one metre vertical to five metres horizontal (20 percent);
    - (ii) within 30 metres of the crest or toe of slopes steeper than one metre vertical to five horizontal (20 percent);
    - (iii) within 30 metres of any watercourse, ravine, or shoreline; and
    - (iv) within an area rated "high" or "medium" pursuant to the "Environmentally Sensitive Areas Map" of the Official Community Plan By-law, 1996, No. 12900, as amended;
  - (c) the *soil removal* or *deposit* is conducted in conjunction with the subdivision of a *lot* or is necessary for the construction of a building or structure; provided that:
    - (i) a grading plan and material handling plan satisfactory to the *General Manager* has been submitted with the subdivision application or with the building permit application;

Building Construction and Subdivision

City Works

Quantity Control for

Private lots

(ii)	the proposed subdivision plan has obtained final approval from the
	Approving Officer of the <i>City</i> or a valid building permit has been
	issued by the <i>City</i> for the proposed building construction; and

(iii) sufficient security has been deposited with the *City* in an amount and in a form acceptable to the *General Manager* by way of a servicing agreement or building permit.

Notwithstanding Section 8 (c)(ii) above, an *owner* may apply for a *permit* for *soil removal* or *deposit* prior to final approval of the subdivision plan or issuance of the building permit, if sufficient security has been deposited with the *City* in an amount and in a form acceptable to the *General Manager* to ensure that restoration work will be undertaken if final subdivision approval is not given or building permit is not issued. Where *soil* has been *deposited* for preload, security will not be released by the *City* until the construction of the foundations of the structure is completed and the security will be used for restoration of the site if construction of the structure does not commence within a reasonable timeframe as determined by the *General Manager*;

(d) notwithstanding the restrictions imposed under Section 5 of this By-law, the *deposition* of material is upon a landfill site for which valid and subsisting provincial approvals are held.

#### **Notification Requirement**

- 9. The *removal* or *deposit* of *soil* in the following circumstances is exempt from the *permit* requirements of this By-law if the requirements in Section 11 are met:
  - (a) for a given *lot*, the total quantity of *soil removal* or *deposit* is greater than 15 cubic metres and does not exceed 100 cubic metres or 0.5 metres in depth, whichever is less, in any consecutive 12 month period.

Exemption

10.

Landfill

(a) on slopes steeper than one metre vertical to five metres horizontal (20 percent);

The exemption in Section 9 does not apply to *soil deposit* or *removal*:

- (b) within 30 metres of the crest or toe of slopes steeper than one metre vertical to five horizontal (20 percent);
- (c) within 30 metres of any watercourse, ravine, shoreline, or other body of water; and
- (d) within an area rated "high" or "medium" pursuant to the "Environmentally Sensitive Areas Map" of the Official Community Plan By-law, 1996, No. 12900, as may be amended from time to time,

and in such cases, a *permit* is required for the *soil deposit* or *removal*.

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Requirements	11.	he following requirements must be met in order for Section 9 to apply:	
		a) an <i>owner</i> must notify the <i>General Manager</i> in writing of the proposed <i>soit removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> on the form provided from time to time by the <i>General Manager</i> for that purpose before engaging in the <i>soil deposit</i> or <i>removal</i> ;	
		b) the <i>General Manager</i> has granted approval in writing;	
		c) the <i>owner</i> must comply with the terms and conditions, if any, specified in the written approval of the <i>General Manager</i> ; and	
		d) the <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> activities shall be carried out in accordance wi the performance standards and requirements prescribed in Schedule A of this By-law.	
Terms and Conditions	12.	The written approval of the <i>General Manager</i> in Section 11 may also contain such additional and specific terms and conditions as the <i>General Manager</i> considers necessary to address the concerns or issues of any governmental authority having jurisdiction over the <i>lot</i> , or the concerns or issues identified by the <i>General Manager</i> contained in the notification delivered to the <i>General Manager</i> .	
	Pern	Application	
Information Requirements	13.	Applications for <i>permits</i> shall be made in writing to the <i>General Manager</i> on the form provided from time to time by the <i>General Manager</i> for that purpose. Each	

hall be made in writing to the *General Manager* on the o time by the General Manager for that purpose. Each application shall be accompanied by sufficient information, as deemed necessary by the General Manager, to adequately review and assess the proposed soil removal or deposit with respect to land ownership, land use, purpose for removal or deposit, site conditions, soil characteristics, and proposed removal or deposit methodology. Furthermore, details regarding the impacts to any and all private and public property will be required including, but not limited to, the proposed drainage, environmental, geotechnical, and visual impacts of the proposed removal or *deposit*. Each application shall be accompanied with:

- written consent from any mortgagee and unpaid vendor; (a)
- (b) if the application for a *permit* is submitted by a *person* other than the *owner* of the lot from or upon which removal or deposit is applied written consent from the *owner* of the lot:
- (c) a current state of title certificate, dated immediately prior to the date of application, attesting to the ownership of the said lot; and
- (d) written consent from the authority having jurisdiction for *soil removal* or deposit from or on a lot within 5 metres of any dedicated right-of-way or utility easement.

Fees	14.	-	y application for a <i>permit</i> shall be assessed with the following fees and security n shall be payable as set out in this Section:
		(a)	The applicant shall pay a fee as specified in Surrey Fee-Setting By-law, 2001, No. 14577, as amended.
		(b)	In addition to the fee specified in Section 14 (a) above, the applicant shall also pay a fee of \$0.57 per cubic metre of <i>soil</i> proposed to be <i>removed</i> in a proposed <i>aggregate extraction operation</i> .
		(c)	Fees may be waived by the <i>General Manager</i> when the <i>City</i> is the applicant.
Application Fee		(d)	At the time of submitting an application for <i>permit</i> , a non-refundable application fee consisting of the fee prescribed in Section 14 (a) above plus a pro-rated amount of one-twelfth of the fee prescribed in Section 14 (b) above, if applicable, shall accompany each <i>permit</i> application; provided however that if the term of the <i>permit</i> is less than twelve months, the pro-rated portion of the application fee shall be based on the number of months specified in the term of the <i>permit</i> , and if the term of the <i>permit</i> is longer than twelve months, the pro-rated portion of the application fee shall be based on twelve months.
Pro-rated Fee for Aggregate Extraction Operation		(e)	In the case of an <i>aggregate extraction operation</i> , after the issuance of the <i>permit</i> , the remaining amount of the pro-rated fee as calculated in Sections 14(b) and (d) above shall be paid on a monthly basis throughout the entire term of the <i>permit</i> on or before the 15th day of each month for all <i>soil removal</i> that occurred during the preceding month, as determined by the <i>permit holder</i> 's <i>surveyor</i> or <i>engineer</i> in accordance with the requirements of Section 14(f). In the event a monthly payment is not made in full by the 15th day of any calendar month for the preceding month, a penalty in the amount of 10% of the amount payable shall become due and payable, over and above any outstanding fee. Further, any or all <i>permits</i> held by the <i>permit holder</i> may be revoked and become void. Upon such revocation, the security deposit posted pursuant to Section 14 (g) of this By-law may be used by the <i>City</i> to complete any outstanding works or applied against any outstanding fees.
		(f)	In the case of an <i>aggregate extraction operation</i> , actual quantities of soil <i>removed</i> or <i>deposited</i> pursuant to a <i>permit</i> shall be determined monthly by a volumetric survey prepared by a <i>surveyor</i> or <i>engineer</i> and submitted by the <i>permit holder</i> for review and approval by the <i>General Manager</i> .
Security		(g)	As security for the full and proper compliance with the provisions of this By-law and the performance of all terms and conditions imposed in a <i>permit</i> , a cash deposit or irrevocable letter of credit in a form acceptable to the <i>City</i> and in the amount of \$5 per cubic metre of <i>soil</i> proposed to be <i>removed</i> or <i>deposited</i> , or other amount to the satisfaction of the <i>General Manager</i> , shall be provided prior to permit issuance and maintained in full

force and effect throughout the *permit* term plus a period of 120 days after *permit* expiry.

- *Insurance* 15. Applicants for *soil removal* or *deposit* where the volume proposed to be *removed* or *deposited* is greater than 15 cubic metres are required to carry comprehensive general liability coverage in the amount of \$5,000,000 including liability for bodily injury or death and property damage for the duration of the work. The amount of insurance may be reduced to \$1,000,000 if the volume of *soil* to be *removed* or *deposited* is not more than 100 cubic metres. Insurance may be waived by the *General Manager* when the *City* is the applicant.
- Permit<br/>Expiration16.Every permit shall expire 6 months following the date on which it was issued,<br/>unless an expiry date for a different term is specified in the permit, after which time<br/>all removal or deposit of soil shall cease. Every permit shall cease to authorize soil<br/>removal or deposit upon the expiry date or upon the sale or transfer of the subject<br/>lot without the necessary permit renewal in accordance with Section 20 of this By-<br/>law. Upon expiry of the permit or completion of the works, whichever occurs<br/>sooner, the permit holder shall within a period of 15 days conduct a survey to<br/>determine the actual total quantity of soil removed or deposited. The volumetric<br/>computation shall be certified by an engineer or surveyor, and shall be submitted to<br/>the City prior to the release of the security or the issuance of a new permit.
- Permit17.Upon inspection of the *lot*, and based on the non-compliance of the *permit holder* or<br/>a *person responsible* with the *permit* and by-law requirements, the *General*<br/>*Manager* may revoke the *permit* until compliance is obtained. If the *permit* is<br/>revoked by the *General Manager*, the *City* will retain the security until compliance<br/>is obtained. No further *permit* for *soil removal* or *deposit* within the *City* shall be<br/>issued to any *person* who has had a *permit* revoked, unless and until the *person*, in<br/>addition to any other security required pursuant to this By-law, has posted an<br/>additional security in accordance with the requirements of Section 14 (g).
- *Indemnification* 18. As a condition specified in a *permit* issued, the *person responsible* shall agree to indemnify and hold harmless the *City*, its agents, employees and officers from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, costs, damages, actions, suits or proceedings resulting from works allowed by the *permit*.
- Permit Renewal19.Application for renewal or amendment of a *permit* shall be made in the same<br/>manner and upon payment of the same fees as imposed in Section 14 for a new<br/>*permit*. There shall be no obligation upon the *City* to renew any *permit* upon expiry<br/>of the *permit*.
- Permit Transfer20.In the event of a change in *lot* ownership, the *permit* may be transferred to the new<br/>owner provided an application to amend the existing *permit* has been submitted and<br/>approved in writing by the *City* and evidence reflecting the new ownership and the<br/>security and insurance requirements is acceptable to the *City*. A non-refundable<br/>*permit* transfer fee, as specified in Surrey Fee-Setting By-law, 2001, No. 14577, as<br/>amended, shall be payable with the transfer application.

- 21. If the *General Manager* is satisfied that the provisions, conditions, and Permit requirements of this By-law have been met, the General Manager may issue the Issuance and Contents of *permit* in duplicate to the *owner*. The *permit* shall identify and include the *owner* Permit and the *permit holder* if different from the *owner*, the term of the *permit*, and the amount of *soil* proposed to be *removed* or *deposited*. The *permit* may also contain such additional and specific terms and conditions as the General Manager considers necessary to address the concerns or issues of any governmental authority having jurisdiction over the *lot*, or the concerns or issues identified by the *General* Manager contained in any information or reports delivered to the General Manager as part of the application. In addition, the General Manager may require registration of the *permit* in the land title office as a covenant against the *lot* upon which *soil removal* or *deposit* is proposed to occur.
- Permit Display22.During the permit term, the permit shall be clearly and visibly displayed at the main<br/>access point to the lot, and a copy of the permit shall be made available to the<br/>General Manager or a By-law Enforcement Officer upon request.
- *Permit Refusal* 23. A *permit* or approval under Section 9 will not be issued if in the opinion of the *General Manager* the proposed *soil removal* or *deposit* may:
  - (a) foul, pollute, obstruct, divert, impede, damage or destroy any watercourse, ditch, drain, sewer or other utility whether privately or publicly owned;
  - (b) damage the amenities on the *lot* or adjacent *lots* including, without limitation, utilities, works or services located within right-of-ways, or other structures, buildings or improvements;
  - (c) contravene any *City* by-law, or provincial or federal law;
  - (d) threaten the health, safety or welfare of the public or be otherwise contrary to the public interest;
  - (e) result in the use of the *lot* in a manner inconsistent with the applicable zoning;
  - (f) adversely affect the future development of another *lot*;
  - (g) result in excessive costs for any government to provide public utilities, works or services to the *lot* or adjacent *lots*;
  - (h) result in the *lot* or another *lot* becoming susceptible to erosion, slippage, landslides, slumping or settling;
  - (i) create dust, dirt, or noise which may constitute a nuisance to any other public or private *lot* or the community at large;
  - (j) create a visual impact which may unreasonable interfere with the use or enjoyment of any other public or private *lot* or the community at large; or

- (k) adversely affect the productivity of an agriculturally zoned *lot*.
- Permit<br/>Compliance<br/>Reports24.Every permit holder, except for the application for which the amount of soil<br/>proposed to be removed or deposited is not more than 500 cubic metres or for<br/>which the proposed operation will be completed within one month from the date the<br/>permit is issued, shall maintain monthly reports, certified and sealed by an<br/>engineer, regarding the progress of the soil removal or deposit. The monthly report<br/>shall include all of the following information:
  - (a) the quantity of *soil removal* or *deposit* for the previous month and the total cumulative quantity for the duration of the permit up to the month in question; and
  - (b) the actual location of the *soil removal* or *deposit*.

Monthly reports shall be submitted to the *City* at the request of the *General Manager* except in the case of an *aggregate extraction operation* where reports shall be submitted to the *General Manager* with the monthly fee payment required pursuant to Section 14(d) of this By-law.

#### Enforcement

Inspections	25.	The <i>General Manager</i> and <i>By-law Enforcement Officers</i> are authorized at all reasonable times to enter upon and inspect any <i>lot</i> to determine if:			
		(a)	a <i>permit</i> is required to be obtained;		
		(b)	<i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> has occurred contrary to the provisions and conditions of a <i>permit</i> , this By-law or both; or		
		(c)	works occurring are in compliance with provisions and conditions of a <i>permit</i> and this By-law.		
Identification	26.	When	n requested by a By-law Enforcement Officer:		
		(a)	the driver or operator of a vehicle or any equipment being used to <i>deposit</i> or <i>remove soil</i> , or the person in charge of the vehicle or equipment, shall correctly state his or her name and address, the name and address of the owner of the vehicle or equipment, the name and address of the person at whose direction the <i>soil</i> is being <i>deposited</i> or <i>removed</i> and the addresses of the <i>lots</i> to and from which the <i>soil</i> is being transported; and		
		(b)	any <i>person</i> , including an <i>owner</i> , who has apparently committed an offence under this By-law, shall correctly state his or her name and address.		
By-law Contraventions	27.	the p	<i>l removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> has occurred contrary to the provisions of this By-law or rovisions and conditions of a <i>permit</i> , the <i>General Manager</i> or a <i>By-law rcement Officer</i> may take any, all or any combination of the following actions:		

- (b) Place notices on a *lot* where the contravention has occurred, or a *lot* to or from which *soil* is being transported, stating that the *soil removal* or *deposit* at that location is contrary to this By-law or the *permit*;
- (c) Order the *person responsible* to immediately stop the contravention and to immediately cease and desist from further *soil removal* or *deposit* until the contravention is remedied within the timeframe specified by and to the satisfaction of the *General Manager*;
- (d) Order the *person responsible* to either apply for a *permit* to replace the removed *soil* or remove the *soil* deposited, or to undertake remedial or rehabilitative works necessary to return a *lot* to its original condition to the satisfaction of and within the timeframe specified by the *General Manager*;
- (e) Suspend in whole or in part the authority of the *permit holder* under a *permit;*
- (f) Revoke the *permit;*
- (g) Enter upon a *lot* where the contravention has occurred and carry out any works required to remedy the contravention at the expense of the *person responsible*;
- (h) Deduct the cost of required remedial works carried out by the *City* from the security deposit, where a security deposit has been posted in accordance with a *permit*, or recover the cost of required remedial works as municipal taxes against a *lot* where the contravention has occurred and where no security has been deposited or where the security is insufficient to cover the cost of remedial works.
- Obedience to<br/>Orders28.Every person shall at all times comply with any lawful order, direction, signal or<br/>command made or given by the By-law Enforcement Officer in the performance of<br/>his or her duties enforcing the provisions of this By-law.
- Failure to29.In the event that any person, having received a notice of By-law or permit violation,<br/>fails within the timeframe set forth by the General Manager to remedy the violation<br/>or otherwise continues to violate any provision of this By-law or any provision and<br/>conditions of a permit, the permit issued in the first instance shall become void and<br/>all monies collected by the City under the permit shall be forfeited to the City.
- *Offences* 30. Any *person* who violates any of the provisions of this By-law or who allows any act or thing to be done in contravention of this By-law, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing any act or thing which prevents a violation of any of the provisions of this By-law, shall commit an offence and be liable to the penalties and

		fines hereby imposed, and each day that the violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offence.
Penalties	31.	Any <i>person</i> who violates the provisions of this By-law shall, upon summary conviction, be liable to a penalty of not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$10,000.00 plus the cost of the prosecution, or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the penalty imposed may vary according to the quantity of <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> that has taken place in violation of the provisions of this By-law.
False Information	32.	No <i>person</i> shall make a false statement in relation to an application for a <i>permit</i> or monthly compliance report submitted pursuant to this By-law. Any <i>permit</i> issued or work conducted on the basis of false or misleading information shall be subject to immediate revocation of the <i>permit</i> by the <i>General Manager</i> .
Liability	33.	Neither the issuance of a <i>permit</i> nor compliance with the provisions of this By-law shall relieve <i>persons responsible</i> from responsibility for damage to any <i>person</i> , <i>highway</i> or <i>lot</i> or impose any liability upon the <i>City</i> for damage to any <i>person</i> , <i>highway</i> or <i>lot</i> .
Commencement	34.	This By-law shall come into force on the date of final adoption.

Surrey Soil Removal and Deposition Regulation By-law, 1979, No. 5880, and all amendments thereto, are hereby repealed except in the case of applications for permits which have been submitted to the City and the applicable fees have been paid as of the date of adoption of this By-law, in which case Surrey Soil Removal and Soil Depositing Regulation By-law, 1979, No. 5880, as amended, shall apply to such applications for a period of twelve (12) months after the date of adoption of this Bylaw. After the expiration of twelve (12) months, this Bylaw shall apply to all soil permits in the City of Surrey and Surrey Soil Removal and Soil Depositing Regulation By-law, 1979, No. 5880 and all amendments thereto, shall be wholly repealed.

READ A FIRST TIME on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

READ A SECOND TIME on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

READ A THIRD TIME on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF ENERGY, MINES and PETROLEUM

RESOURCES on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

RECONSIDERED AND ADOPTED on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

Mayor

City Clerk

#### SCHEDULE A: PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

# A Schedule forming part of the Surrey Soil Conservation and Protection By-law, 2007, No. \_\_\_\_\_

The standards set out in this Schedule A shall apply to all *soil removal and deposit* within the *City* whether or not a *permit* is required or issued.

- Best Management1.Soil removal or deposit shall be conducted by persons responsible to ensure that no<br/>hazard to human or animal life shall exist within the lot and to or from the lot upon<br/>which the removal or deposit is occurring.
- Other By-laws2.Persons responsible and all activity associated with soil removal or deposit shall<br/>comply with applicable federal, provincial and City laws, by-laws, regulations and<br/>policies in effect during the removal or deposit including, but not limited to, Surrey<br/>Highway and Traffic By-law, 1997, No. 13007, as amended, Surrey Building By-<br/>law, 1987, No. 9011, as amended, Surrey Tree Preservation By-law, 2006, No.<br/>16100, as amended, Surrey Noise Control By-law, 1982, No. 7044, as amended and<br/>Erosion and Sediment Control By-law, 2007, No. 16138.
- Damage Control3.Soil removal or deposit shall not encroach upon, undermine, damage or endanger<br/>any drainage facility, natural watercourse, aquifer, highway or other public or<br/>private lot, or where a permit has been issued, encroach into any non-encroachment<br/>area so prescribed in the permit. Persons responsible who, in the course of soil<br/>removal or deposit, cause, or allow to be caused, any such damage shall promptly<br/>repair the damage to the satisfaction of the General Manager.
- *Debris Control* 4. *Persons responsible* shall take all necessary measures to contain dust, dirt, mud or other debris generated by the *soil removal* or *deposit* on the *lot*.
- Road<br/>Maintenance5.Dirt, mud, or debris deposited on public roads or in roadside ditches from the<br/>transfer of *soil* to or from a *lot* shall be removed on a daily basis or as deemed<br/>necessary by the *General Manager* or a *By-law Enforcement Officer*.
- *Waterways* 6. All drainage facilities, natural watercourses, or ground water aquifers shall be kept free of silt, clay, sand, rubble, debris, gravel, and all other matter or thing originating from any *soil removal* or *deposit* which might cause fouling or obstruction to the facilities, watercourses or aquifers.
- *Operating Times* 7. *Soil removal* or *deposit* shall be undertaken in accordance with the "Construction Hours" provision of the Surrey Noise Control By-law, 1982, No. 7044, as amended.
- Washing<br/>Crushing8.No person shall use washing, crushing or screening equipment as part of soil<br/>removal or deposit unless the person has obtained applicable regional and/or<br/>provincial environmental approvals and the lot upon which the washing, crushing or<br/>screening equipment is to be located is zoned to permit washing, crushing or<br/>screening uses.

Fencing	9.	All hazards or potential hazards arising from <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> shall be adequately fenced or otherwise made inaccessible to the public or other unauthorized persons or animals, and suitable weather-proof signs shall be mounter and maintained at intervals of not greater than 75 metres around the perimeter of th <i>removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> site with clear, legible wording to indicate any hazard, the nature of the operation, the presence of the excavation and prohibiting the presence of the public or other unauthorized persons.			
Easements Rights-of-ways	10.	No <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> shall be undertaken within 5 metres of any <i>highway</i> , right-of-way or utility easement without first obtaining written consent from the <i>City</i> or the authority having jurisdiction over the right-of-way or easement. The <i>General Manager</i> may, at any time, require evidence of such consent.			
Organic Soil	11.		ss prior written approval to do otherwise has been granted by the <i>General</i> ager, organic soil shall:		
		(a)	not be <i>removed</i> , <i>deposited</i> or stockpiled when the organic <i>soil</i> is saturated or powdery dry;		
		(b)	be stockpiled at heights not greater than 4.0 metres and bermed with slopes no steeper than 2:1 (Horiz : Vert);		
		(c)	be stockpiled so that vegetation cover is established on the stockpile as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after handling and be fertilized and irrigated as required to maintain the vegetation cover;		
		(d)	be stockpiled in such way that allows weed control at all times, which control can be by mechanical or chemical means;		
		(e)	be stockpiled in such way that prohibits travel upon by any vehicles or heavy machinery;		
		(f)	be stockpiled without any mixing of foreign matters, such as hog fuel, gravel or other organic matters;		
		(g)	for highly organic <i>soils</i> such as peat, be monitored during dry periods to correct accelerated decomposition and excessive heat build-up; and		
		(h)	be stockpiled to allow runoff from the stockpile to be diverted into catchment ponds or silt traps prior to discharge into natural watercourses or ditches or alternatively, a three metre wide buffer zone may be provided, if approved by the <i>General Manager</i> , along the perimeter of the downslope sides of the stockpile.		
Remediation and Restoration	12.	comp	ss otherwise specified in a permit or approval under Section 9, upon eletion of <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> , every <i>person responsible</i> shall at a minimum all <i>removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> surfaces with at least 0.20 meters of topsoil and sod		

and/or plant a suitable rooted ground cover.

Adjacent Structures	13.	<i>Deposit</i> shall not occur adjacent to a building or structure unless the building or structure is capable of withstanding the additional loads caused by the <i>deposit</i> , as determined by an <i>engineer</i> . Footings or other improvements which may be affected by any <i>removal</i> shall be underpinned or otherwise protected against settlement and shall be protected against <i>soil</i> movement in accordance with a plan prepared and supervised by an <i>engineer</i> .
Slope	14.	The slope of any part of an exposed face, during <i>soil removal</i> or after the <i>soil removal</i> is completed, shall not be greater than the angle of repose necessary for maintaining stability of the <i>soil</i> in question and the slope shall be retained in accordance with good engineering practice.
Water Table	15.	The <i>removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> shall not result in lowering the effective water table at wells on any other <i>lot</i> without the written consent of the <i>owner</i> of that <i>lot</i> . The <i>General</i> <i>Manager</i> may, at any time, require evidence of consent. Furthermore, <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> shall not cause the groundwater table to rise on an adjoining <i>lot</i> or other public or private property so as to cause flooding or malfunctioning of a septic disposal system or contamination of a well.
Drainage	16.	The <i>removal</i> or <i>deposit</i> shall not interfere with, or impact the established above or below ground drainage pattern of any adjoining <i>lot</i> or any other public or private property. Where necessary, measures consistent with good engineering practice will be implemented to ensure that any interference or impact is prevented. The <i>General Manager</i> must approve <i>soil removal</i> or <i>deposition</i> that has the potential to create standing water.
Settlement	17.	Where the natural subsoil is compressible, there shall be no <i>deposit</i> in the immediate vicinity of any utility or service which might be damaged by any settlement resulting from the <i>deposit</i> without first obtaining written consent from the authority having jurisdiction over the utility or service. The <i>General Manager</i> may, at any time, require evidence of consent.

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# **APPENDIX II**

Proposed Amendments to Surrey Municipal Ticket Information Utilization By-law, 1994, No. 12508, as amended

### **APPENDIX II**

Proposed Amendments to Surrey Municipal Ticket Information Utilization By-law, 1994, No. 12508, as amended (the "By-law")

That the By-law be further amended as follows:

- 1. Amend Schedule 1 by replacing Section 8 with:
  - 8. Soil Conservation and Protection - Manager, Administration & By-law By-law, 2007, No. \_\_\_\_\_ Enforcement - By-law Enforcement Officer
    - Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
    - General Manager, Engineering
    - Designated Engineering Staff

2. Replace Schedule 9 with:

#### **SCHEDULE 9 TO BY-LAW NO. 12508**

#### SOIL CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION BY-LAV

W, 2007, NO	SECTION	FINE
No soil permit	3	\$1000.00
Fail to comply with standards	4	\$300.00
Deposit unauthorized material	5	\$1000.00
Fail to submit survey	16	\$300.00
No permit displayed	22	\$200.00
Fail to submit records	24	\$300.00
Prevent inspection	25	\$500.00
Fail to identify	26	\$200.00
Fail to obey	28	\$1000.00
Fail to remedy	29	\$1000.00

# **APPENDIX III**

Proposed Amendments to Surrey Fee Setting By-law, 2001, No. 14577, as amended

### **APPENDIX III**

Proposed Amendments to Schedule "D" Surrey Fee-Setting By-law, 2001, No. 14577

## 1. Add new heading 9. <u>Soil Deposition and Removal Permit</u>. as follows:

### 9. Soil Deposition and Removal Permit

Soil Deposition and Removal Permit application fee \$500.00/application

Permit Transfer

\$200.00/transfer

# **APPENDIX IV**

Proposed City Policy "Soil Deposition and Removal in the City of Surrey"



# **CITY POLICY**

No.

<b>REFERENCE:</b>	APPROVED BY:	CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES	DATE:	
	HISTORY:	NEW

### TITLE: Soil Deposition and Removal in the City of Surrey

- 1. Soil is an important resource in the City of Surrey and should be managed accordingly.
- 2. Soil removal and deposition must be accommodated to allow the continuing development of the City but should be undertaken in such a manner so that the objectives and policies of the City of Surrey's official community plan with respect to environmental protection, community character and image, and protection of agriculture and agricultural areas are not compromised.
- 3. Given that soil deposition, including the cumulative effect of small deposits, in the Serpentine-Nicomekl lowlands is known to reduce the effectiveness of the City's lowland flood control strategy, deposition in this floodplain should be restricted to minimal levels.

# **APPENDIX V**

Summary of Fee Changes

Service	Proposed Fee	Former Fee (By-lawNo. 5880)
Surrey Fee Setting By-law:		
Permit Application	\$500 flat fee	\$55/ha for deposit \$115/ha for removal
Permit Transfer	\$200 flat fee	n/a
Fees Within Soil By-law: Removal Royalty	\$0.57/cubic metre	\$0.57/cubic metre
Security Deposit	\$5/cubic metre	\$10,000/ha

# **APPENDIX VI**

Soil Conservation and Protection By-law Changes and Improvements

### APPENDIX VI

Issue	Change or Improvement
The new by-law should be more user-friendly and less difficult to read, interpret and	The name of the new by-law reflects the overall community objectives
administer	A new format clearly identifies the main elements of the By-law, which involve six categories including: Title, Definitions, Applicability, Exemptions, Applications, and Enforcement
	The By-law sets out the considerations and circumstances under which a permit will not be issued. These considerations mainly relate to public interest, health and safety
Performance standards for the deposition, removal and transfer of soil need to be better articulated	The by-law identifies exemptions to permit requirement, where a notification process must be followed and where a permit is required
	Specific performance standards have been established that apply to the handling of all soil, whether a permit is required or not (Schedule A of the By-law)
	The By-law prohibits the deposition of fill material containing garbage, construction and demolition wastes, and hazardous wastes, unless specifically permitted in the By-law
Enforcement powers and tools should be clearly defined and greater penalties for by-law infractions should be established	The new By-law makes clear the authority of certain City staff to enter and inspect any lot in relation to the administration of the By-law
	The new By-law outlines the actions that staff may take when contraventions of the By-law are observed; these actions include notice of By-law violation, stop work order, and permit revocation
	The By-law will require the posting of security with the City to ensure that the applicant properly carries out and completes the soil removal or deposit and to address any damages that occur. The security will be calculated as \$5 per cubic metre of material proposed to be removed or deposited
	Under the proposed By-law a soil permit will expire 6 months from the date of its issuance unless other expiry date is specified

## Soil Conservation and Protection By-law – Changes and Improvements

Issue	Change or Improvement
	Penalties for By-law contraventions have been increased to not less than \$100 and not more than \$10,000 and/or imprisonment of not more than 6 months (from currently not more than \$2,000 and/or 3 months imprisonment)
Fees should be adjusted to more closely approximate the cost of processing	The permit fee will be adjusted from \$55/hectare for deposition and \$115/hectare for removal (plus \$0.57 per cubic metre haulage) to a flat fee of \$500 per application and a haulage fee of \$0.57 per cubic meter for aggregate extraction operations only

# **APPENDIX VII**

Soil Conservation and Protection By-law Supporting Information

#### **APPENDIX VII**

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The current by-law (No. 5880) was written over twenty-five years ago (1979). It no longer reflects the environmental objectives of, or the development conditions in, the City and does not reflect new legislative provisions that have been more recently introduced in the new Community Charter. Recent amendments to the Agricultural Land Commission Act set out authority and approval requirements more clearly, which should be reflected in the City's by-law.

The sustained rate of development in Surrey has focused attention on the disposal of excavated soils, particularly on illegal soil disposal. Despite the large number of fill deposit permits and related sites in the City, the illegal dumping of excavation materials from properties undergoing development continues to be an on-going issue within the City. Furthermore, there is concern that the illegal dumping of construction wastes and other non-soil based materials on land in the City will have significant negative impacts not only to the environment but also to the productivity of farmlands.

The City has invested, and continues to invest, significant funds to plan, design and implement the Serpentine-Nicomekl Flood Control Strategy. This strategy's effectiveness is reduced as more uncontrolled fill is deposited within the City's lowland floodplain. Considering that the Serpentine-Nicomekl lowlands receive the bulk of both the permitted and illegal soil deposits, effective means of regulating deposits is required to ensure the lowland residents receive the expected level of service from our infrastructure and that fill on one property does not adversely affect the flooding situation on neighboring properties.

The current by-law is, in some areas, difficult to understand and interpret. The information requirements related to soil permit applications are neither adequate nor clear in the current by-law. Similarly, there are relatively weak inspection and enforcement provisions that make it difficult to address illegal dumping incidents in the City. The proposed By-law addresses these limitations.

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