



Public Consultation Summary Report

Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project

February 24, 2016





Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project **Public Consultation** Summary Report

This report serves as a summary of the activities for Phase 2 of the Core Area consultation process and will provide an overview of the methodology used to promote and collect feedback from Core Area residents.

About the Wastewater Treatment Project

The Core Area wastewater project is a highly visible, debated and discussed project in the region as it is one of the largest infrastructure projects this region has ever seen.

In 2006, an environmental report commissioned by the Ministry of Environment noted the contamination of seabed sites near the outfalls. As a result, in 2006 the CRD was mandated by the B.C. Ministry of Environment to plan for and initiate secondary treatment for the region. In 2012, the federal government passed a law requiring all high-risk Canadian cities to provide secondary sewage treatment by 2020 at the latest. The CRD's core area was deemed to be in the high risk category.

Following the previous unsuccessful attempts to advance treatment and resource recovery, the member municipalities of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee, in collaboration with the CRD, committed to deepening public involvement and engaging citizens in the identification of sites, design and technology that would be used to treat wastewater.

In June 2014, the municipalities of Langford, Colwood, View Royal, Esquimalt and the Songhees Nation formed the Westside Select Committee to begin planning for a new project to treat sewage and recover resources in those municipalities and the nation. In January 2015, a similar body, the East Side Select Committee - comprised of Saanich, Oak Bay, and Victoria - was formed to develop a similar plan for the Eastside municipalities. The two select committees branded their consultation processes as Westside Solutions and Eastside Community Dialogues.

Core Area Timelines

The scope of Phase 2 includes completing the Options Development Phase by submitting an amendment to the Liquid Waste Management Plan and receiving conditional approval from the Minister of Environment. An approved plan amendment is required to be submitted to PPP Canada by March 31, 2016 as a condition to securing the PPP Canada portion of the federal funding grants.

The Proposed Work Plan Overlay (pg. 20) , which was adopted and submitted to 3P Canada in March 2014, provides the overarching timelines and milestones through the completion of the project.

The next phase of the project is the Planning Phase, which includes detailed site assessments such as environmental and social reviews, submission of detailed business cases (as may be required by funding agencies), indicative design, finalized cost sharing agreements and the procurement of infrastructure.

Core Area Funding

The CRD secured funding from federal and provincial governments to support this capital project based on the total cost of the 2010 wastewater treatment project (estimated at \$788 million).

We are working towards a new project for the Core Area. When a new project has been chosen, the grants will be re-examined by the funders to see how they fit with the new project and reapportioned based on the system components of the new project.

Secured Grants

The grants are maximum amounts and are subject to change depending on which project is chosen.

Federal contribution: \$253 million

- Building Canada Fund (\$120 million)
- Green Infrastructure Fund (\$50 million)
- P3 Canada (\$83.4 million)

Provincial contribution: \$248 million

CRD contribution: To be determined when a new project is chosen

FEDERAL FUNDING



PROVINCIAL FUNDING



GRANTS SECURED FOR PREVIOUS PLAN

FEDERAL	\$253 M
+	
PROVINCIAL	\$248 M
TOTAL GRANTS	501 M



Core Area Commitments

In partnership with the public, the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) will deliver a sewage treatment and resource recovery system that is proven, innovative and maximizes the benefits for people and the planet – economic, social, and environmental – for the long term.

Goals and Commitments

The Core Area Wastewater project will deliver the following goals and meet the following commitments. Each of these goals has a corresponding metric and at project completion the CALWMC can determine whether it achieved its goals.

Goals

- Meet or exceed federal regulations for secondary treatment by December 31, 2020
- Minimize costs to residents and businesses (life cycle cost) and provide value for money
- Produce an innovative project that brings in costs at less than original estimates
- Optimize opportunities for resource recovery to accomplish substantial net environmental benefit and reduce operating costs
- Optimize greenhouse gas reduction through the development, construction and operation phases and ensure best practice for climate change mitigation

Commitments

- Develop and implement the project in a transparent manner and engage the public throughout the process
- Deliver a solution that adds value to the surrounding community and enhances the livability of neighbourhoods
- Deliver solutions that are safe and resilient to earthquakes, tsunamis, sea level rise and storm surges
- Develop innovative solutions that account for and respond to future challenges, demands and opportunities, including being open to investigating integration of other parts of the waste stream if doing so offers the opportunities to optimize other goals and commitments in the future
- Optimize greenhouse gas reduction through the development, construction

Phase 1: Siting Consultation

Through the first phase of consultation, the Eastside and Westside Select Committees completed separate engagement processes as a way to deeply engage with residents of their respective communities. As a

result of the success of this approach, the Select Committees continued with separate engagement processes, but planned various integrated public engagement tactics, while continuing to maintain the focus on responding to specific community processes and values.

During the first phase of consultation this past spring, municipalities put forward sites that were technically feasible to host a wastewater treatment facility. Core Area residents had an opportunity to learn more information about the potential sites through the many Open Houses, Workshops and Innovation Days. Residents were also encouraged to complete a survey, or email their queries to Westside Solutions or Eastside Community Dialogues.

Based on public priorities and emerging technical, social, economic and environmental considerations, the number of potential sites were reduced.

Using only the “publicly acceptable” and “possibly acceptable site with conditions” sites, Option Sets were developed based on a functional approach to the treatment of liquids and residual solids. The option sets were developed with the assistance of the Technical Oversight Panel, Project Charter goals and commitments, feedback and input gathered from the public and the established technical criteria. The Option Set considerations include site size, treatment of liquids and residuals, treatment level, resource recovery opportunities (including future growth areas), cost components and engineering standards.

Phase 2: Option Set Consultation

Over several months of technical analysis, seven wastewater treatment options for the Core Area communities were commissioned. Each of the options provides differences with respect to locations of treatment, levels of service for treated effluent, piping and conveyancing, infrastructure and opportunities for water reuse and heat recovery at select locations. Each option provides a representative approach for developing a more refined plan once the approach is approved.

Through a 4-week period between January 25 and February 20 the Eastside and Westside engagement teams worked to engage the Core Area municipalities of Langford, Colwood, View Royal, Esquimalt, Oak Bay, Saanich and Victoria, and both Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, in a dialogue about the wastewater treatment options.

Through this process we have engaged with residents both face-to-face and online, through several methods and mediums to reach as much of the Core Area as possible. We have gained a strong and demonstrable picture of citizen’ priorities, challenges, technical and project preferences, and valuable information about acceptable siting in the Core Area.

This report will articulate the approach, activities, methodologies, areas of learning and some key outputs that have guided the work, as well as a wealth of material and resources appended to provide the documentary evidence of how we arrived here.



Core Area Community Engagement Phase 2: Shared Activities & Promotion

In all cases of exemplary public participation, integrating public input to key decision making points is a requirement. Therefore, the timelines that were already endorsed by the CALWMC formed the timelines for the public engagement framework. The Eastside and Westside Consultants and CRD staff worked to align the public participation process and used a variety of techniques to build inclusive and meaningful engagement experiences for members of the public.

The Eastside Community Dialogues community engagement plan was presented to the Eastside Select Committee and endorsed on October 21, 2015. The Westside Solutions community engagement plan was presented and endorsed by the Westside Select Committee on October 27, 2015. These documents continue to provide the over arching direction for engagement and decision making. The CALWMC endorsed an intergrated public consultation approach on November 4, 2015 that identified opportunities for shared acitivites, communication and promotion. The shared approaches identified in the plan continue to provide the direction and strategy for joint consultation activities.

The following is an overview of the integrated consultation elements:

Consultation Webpage

The objectives were:

- Provide a central location for Core Area residents to find wastewater information
- Restructure CRD site for ease of access to information
- Shared public education to encourage a common understanding

The objectives were accomplished by:

- Acquiring a unique URL: www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca
- Restructuring the web interface and navigation
- Ongoing website updates with complete posting of reports and notices

As a result of feedback from the first phase of consultation in the spring, the wastewater planning webpage was restructured prior to the consultation to provide residents with easier access to information. A wastewater library was created to house all of the documents associated with the project (by year and document type). In addition to this, a wastewater history page was created to provide a summary of the project by year, with details associated with the respective year for those looking for more specific information.

The re-vamped website was given a unique URL, www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca. This URL was chosen because it is a simple URL for residents to remember when used in print and radio advertising. The URL was used as a redirect link, meaning it redirected users to the existing wastewater planning page. During the launch of consultation, the redirect link was changed from the wastewater planning page to direct users to the public consultation page for users to easily find information on how to participate in the consultation.

Website Analytics: Jan 13-Feb 19, 2016

Overall the CRD wastewater planning pages saw an audience of **3,256 unique views** during the consultation period. The media room had **316 visitors** in direct relation to the wastewater news releases. In addition to this, there were **3,099 unique views** on the numerous wastewater event pages. These numbers were primarily driven through promotion on social media.

Web Location	URL	Unique Page Views
Core Area Wastewater Planning	/project/wastewater-planning/public-consultation	3,256
Media room (wastewater specific news releases)	/about/news	316
Events (wastewater specific events)	/about/events	3,099

Core Area Online Survey

In consultation with Ipsos Reid, the project engineering consultants, and a user experience survey designer, an online survey was developed on Fluid Surveys for Core Area residents to provide their feedback on each of the option sets. The survey offered users the opportunity to learn about each of the option sets through a series of links and resources built into the survey, while providing feedback on the level of acceptability for each of the options. Residents who wanted to provide more detailed feedback were able to provide input on treatment technology and resource recovery. The survey was promoted on the homepage of the CRD website, on the www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca webpage and a link was placed on the sidebar of every wastewater page. In addition to this, the survey was promoted through several paid, earned and social media channels.

Residents were able call the CRD Wastewater Communications Coordinator for a copy of the paper survey to be mailed to them. A total of 72 paper surveys were mailed to Core Area residents in which 17 copies were completed and returned. It was found that some of the residents who received paper copies of the surveys attended an event to find out more information before completing the survey.

Survey Participation

A total of 1,357 surveys were completed online.

Municipality	Total % (n=1,357)	West % (n=361)	East % (n=937)
Saanich	34		50
Victoria	29		42

Municipality	Total % (n=1,357)	West % (n=361)	East % (n=937)
Esquimalt	9	34	
Colwood	7	26	
Langford	6	24	
Oak Bay	6		8
View Royal	4	16	
Songhees Nation	<1	<1	
Esquimalt Nation	0	0	
Other (specify)	2		
Prefer not to answer	2		

Paid Media

A robust paid media plan was developed to promote the activities during the consultations through a number of different channels.

The objectives were:

- Coordinate ad buys to minimize paid advertising costs
- Minimize confusion by advertising one coordinated message
- Promote joint consultation activities

Print Advertising: Times Colonist

There were a total of **12 ads** placed in the Times Colonist between **January 23 – February 18**. These ads focused on promoting community events and the online survey.

- The Times Colonist reaches **69% of Victoria’s adults – 213,000 people** - (in print or online) every week
- Readers spend an average of **40 minutes reading** the weekday edition of the Times Colonist
- The Times Colonist delivers to **98,000 doorsteps** in Greater Victoria (paid daily and Thursday ExtraExtra edition)

Below is an example of two of the Times Colonist ads placed during the consultation period.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Please join us at the following community events.

Westside Open House	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13	1pm-4pm
	Colwood City Hall, 3300 Wishart Rd	
Eastside Workshop	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13	2pm-4pm
	University of Victoria, Cadboro Commons	
Eastside Workshop	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14	9am-12pm
	Burnside Gorge Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Rd	
Westside Open House	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15	5pm-8pm
	View Royal City Hall, 45 View Royal Ave	
Westside Open House	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16	5pm-8pm
	Esquimalt, 1229 Esquimalt Rd	

Can't make it to an event? Take the online survey
www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca

WESTSIDE SOLUTIONS wastewater treatment + resource recovery
EASTSIDE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE
CRD Making a difference...together

WE WANT YOUR INPUT ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Take the Core Area online survey

Give feedback about **options, sites, costs** and **resource recovery**.

Visit, www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca for the survey and more about how you can participate in the consultation.

WESTSIDE SOLUTIONS wastewater treatment + resource recovery
EASTSIDE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE
CRD Making a difference...together

Print Advertising: Black Press

There were a total of **10 ads** placed in 7 Black Press local papers (Saanich, Victoria, Oak Bay and Goldstream) between **January 20 – February 12**. Integrated East and West ads were placed in four of the papers, Eastside event ads were placed in three of the Eastside papers (Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay) and Westside ads were placed in Westside papers (Goldstream and Victoria Black Press local paper).

- Reach of the four Core Papers (SVOG): 79,402 (Saanich News: 31,204, Victoria News: 23,971, Oak Bay News: 6,546, Goldstream News Gazette: 17,681) Readers spend an average of 30 minutes reading the local Black Press papers
- **72%** of Black Press readers are between the **ages of 25-69**

Below is an example of a Westside ad (left) placed in the Goldstream Gazette Black Press local paper and an example of an Eastside ad placed in the Victoria, Oak Bay and Saanich Black Press local paper.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Drop in to a Westside open house near you:

Langford City Hall 877 Goldstream Ave.	Wed, Feb 10	5-8 pm
Songhees Wellness Centre 1100 Admirals Rd.	Thurs, Feb 11	5-8 pm
Colwood City Hall 3300 Wishart Rd.	Sat, Feb 13	1-4 pm
View Royal Town Hall 45 View Royal Ave.	Mon, Feb 15	5-8 pm
Esquimalt Municipal Hall 1229 Esquimalt Rd.	Tues, Feb 16	5-8 pm

Provide your feedback online:

Complete the online survey at www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca
 Email your feedback to wastewater@crd.bc.ca
 Follow the Twitter conversation [#crd_bc](https://twitter.com/crd_bc) [#CoreAreaWastewater](https://twitter.com/CoreAreaWastewater)



For the most up to date information please visit:
www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca



Making a difference...together

EASTSIDE PUBLIC EVENTS ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Please join us at the following community events.

TUES FEBRUARY 9 6:00 – 8:00pm **WORKSHOP**
Burnside Gorge Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Rd

WED FEBRUARY 10 5:00 – 7:00pm **WORKSHOP**
Victoria Conference Centre

SAT FEBRUARY 13 2:00 – 4:00pm **WORKSHOP**
University of Victoria, Cadboro Commons

SUN FEBRUARY 14 9:00am – 12:00pm **OPEN HOUSE/ DROP IN**
Burnside Gorge Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Rd

LEARN MORE: www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca



wastewater treatment + resource recovery



Making a difference...together

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SAY ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT

ONLINE: Take the survey: www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca

BY MAIL: Please call **250.360.3623** to receive a copy of our discussion guide

IN PERSON: Visit our **storefront** in Centennial Square or pick up a print guide at **municipal halls** and **band offices** from January 25 - February 20.

EVENTS: Go to our **website** and watch the **local media** for a schedule of open houses and events.

LEARN MORE: www.CoreAreaWastewater.ca



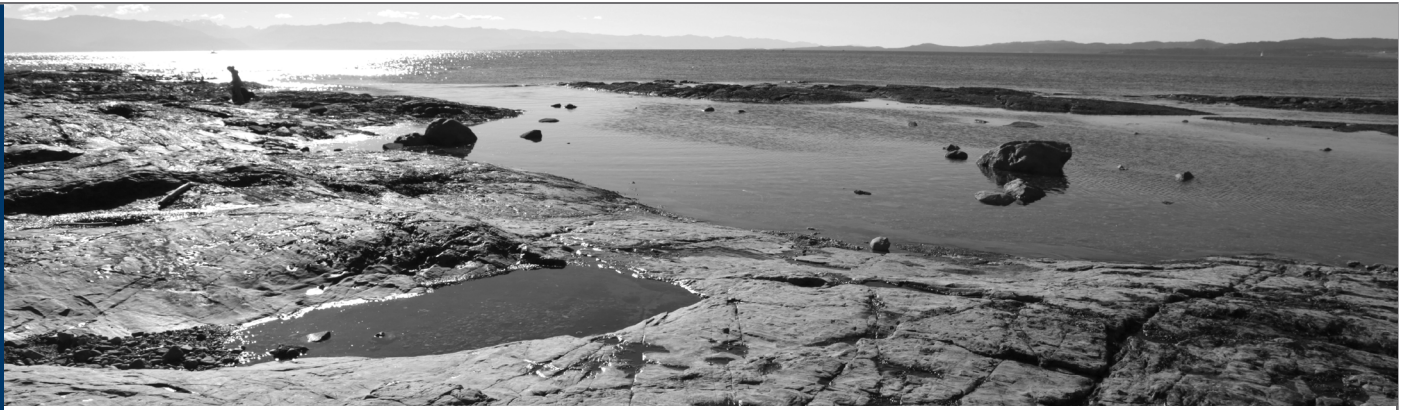
WASTEWATER TREATMENT + RESOURCE RECOVERY



wastewater treatment + resource recovery



Making a difference...together



Online Advertising

An online advertising campaign was launched in coordination with the print advertising campaign as a way to reach the online demographic.

Used Victoria homepage

This ad was placed on the Used Victoria homepage during February to promote the online survey and drive traffic to public consultation page on the CRD website.

UsedEverywhere Stats & Demographics

- 1.75 million unique views per month
- 51 million views per month
- 12.7 page views per visit
- 61% female and 39% male users
- 64% of users are between the ages of 14-49



Facebook Advertising

A set of Facebook ads were placed aiming to increase awareness of the online survey. Below is a sample of the ad on Facebook and Instagram that was placed during the consultation period.

Capital Regional District
Written by Jane Figgard [?] · January 28 at 12:34pm ·

Join the conversation on wastewater treatment for the Core Area & take the survey.

16 likes · 3w

Join the conversation on wastewater treatment for the Core Area & take the survey.

Log in to like or comment.

We Want to Hear From You!

WWW.COREAREAWASTEWATER.CA [Learn More](#)

39,800 people reached [Boost Post](#)

Like Comment Share

Anne Gibson, Heather Love, Jessica Cloutier and 11 others like this. [Top Comments](#)

15 shares 11 comments

These ads reached a total of **39,610 unique individuals** across the region and received **768 ad clicks**. The audience who has the highest engagement rate was **male and females between the ages of 18-24**. A breakdown of the results of the advertising campaign is available below.



Radio Advertising

- Radio advertising on six local stations (103.1 KISS FM, 98.5 The Ocean, 107.3 KOOL FM, CFX 1070 AM, 91.3 The Zone, 100.3 The Q)
- Secured 4 x 30 second slots each day for a total of 116 insertions on each radio station over the campaign period
- February 18-19: purchased an additional three time slots during the Zone News Updates with Jason Lamb, which ran from 6am-9am and on the Q 8am Weather Updates and 4pm Weather Updates (for a last push to the survey)

Example of Radio Script:

"The conversation on sewage treatment has started.

JOIN IN.

If you live in Oak Bay, Saanich or Victoria, come to a workshop or open house with Eastside Community Dialogues.

If you live in a Westside Community, join Westside Solutions at an open house nearby.

You'll learn about all the treatment options—so you can compare costs, sites, and environmental performance.

AND you'll be able to have your say with the right audience.

For event details and the most up-to-date info

on how you can participate in the conversation,

visit [Core Area Wastewater dot CA](http://CoreAreaWastewater.ca)"

Television Advertising

Closed Captioning spot on CFX tv for the last week of promotion (**283,900 impressions, which is 283,900 viewers**). Campaign was designed and built into **prime time shows**.





Earned Media

There were three earned media opportunities to promote this phase of the consultation process.

January 14, 2016: CALWMC Seeking Public Input on Approaches to Wastewater Treatment

link: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/2016/02/05/sewage-train-is-headed-safely-for-the-station-opinion-article>

January 26, 2016: Core Area Wastewater Consultation Launches with Online Survey and Consultation Opportunities

link: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/2016/01/26/core-area-wastewater-consultation-launches-with-online-survey-and-consultation-opportunities>

February 5, 2016: Sewage train is headed safely for the station-Opinion Article by Director Helps

Link: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/2016/02/05/sewage-train-is-headed-safely-for-the-station-opinion-article>

In addition to this, an advisory was sent to the media inviting them to the Storefront on Tuesday January 26, 2016 to kick-off consultation activities.

Core Area Wastewater Related News

There were several other news articles related to the project that were printed during the consultation.

List of Relevant Newspaper Articles

- January 19, 2016: Treatment plant cost-sharing concerns continue at CRD <http://www.goldstreamgazette.com/news/365791961.html>
- January 20, 2016: Jensen reiterates position to re-look at McLoughlin <http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/365972371.html>
- January 20, 2016: Wastewater options open for feedback <http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/365973471.html>
- January 20, 2016: New wastewater bid doesn't trigger an 'option 6' <http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/365972131.html>
- January 20, 2016: Cost-sharing concerns continue at CRD <http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/365972021.html>
- January 21, 2016: Region's waste water options to be opened up for public scrutiny <http://www.goldstreamgazette.com/news/366097151.html>
- January 24, 2016: Seattera plan still the best option <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/letters/seattera-plan-still-the-best-option-1.2157235>
- January 26, 2016: Comment: It's time to look at lower-cost sewage options <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/comment-it-s-time-to-look-at-lower-cost-sewage-options-1.2158277>
- January 26, 2016: Saanich may go it alone on sewage, mayor says <http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/saanich-may-go-it-alone-on-sewage-mayor-says-1.2158411>

- January 26, 2016: Langford Mayor says Trudeau comments from 2012 merit “re-look” at sewage treatment project <http://www.cfax1070.com/News/Top-Stories/Langford-Mayor-says-Trudeau-comments-from-2012-mer>
- January 27, 2016: Guest opinion: Time to give McLoughlin another look <http://www.oakbaynews.com/opinion/letters/366744431.html>
- January 27, 2016: Jensen cools heels on proposal to revisit McLoughlin sewage plant <http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jensen-cools-heels-on-proposal-to-revisit-mcloughlin-sewage-plant-1.2160542#sthash.ZSV6kVrg.dpuf>
- January 28, 2016: Consultation begins for wastewater treatment plant <http://www.vicnews.com/news/366861021.html>
- February 2, 2016: Jensen presses pause on McLoughlin site <http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/367405241.html>
- February 4, 2016: Editorial: Time dwindling for sewage input <http://www.saanichnews.com/news/368887731.html>
- February 4, 2016: Prime Minister is on record opposing sewage expenditure <http://www.goldstreamgazette.com/opinion/letters/367761241.html>
- February 7, 2016: Esquimalt still gets waterfront sewage plant <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/letters/esquimalt-still-gets-waterfront-sewage-plant-1.2166929>
- February 9, 2016: Mike Harcourt: Protect our oceans, and get it done already <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/mike-harcourt-protect-our-oceans-and-get-it-done-already-1.2167730#sthash.QleAP18Q.dpuf>
- February 11, 2016: Saanich mayor calls for more consultation <http://www.saanichnews.com/news/368388741.html>
- February 11, 2016: Saanich homeowners face \$116 tax jump as sewage costs <http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/saanich-homeowners-face-116-tax-jump-as-sewage-costs-grow-1.2170326>
- February 11, 2016: Letters: Sewage talk Feb. 12, 2016 <http://www.goldstreamgazette.com/opinion/letters/368505881.html>
- February 12, 2016: Sewage plan needs to be carefully thought out <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/letters/sewage-plan-needs-to-be-carefully-thought-out-1.2171650>
- February 12, 2016: Comment: Original sewage plan is still the best choice <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/comment-original-sewage-plan-is-still-the-best-choice-1.2171640#sthash.P7QJIS4U.dpuf>
- February 14, 2016: Comment: Rock bay sewage plant site makes no sense <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/comment-rock-bay-sewage-plant-site-makes-no-sense-1.2172053>
- February 14, 2016: Despite lack of detail on options, CRD turns to public on sewage <http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/despite-lack-of-detail-on-options-crd-turns-to-public-on-sewage-1.2150774#sthash.6xvAlSj.dpuf>
- February 16, 2016: Sewage task force seeks alternative plan <http://www.saanichnews.com/news/368887731.html>

In addition to the print and online news, there were numerous radio and television interviews:

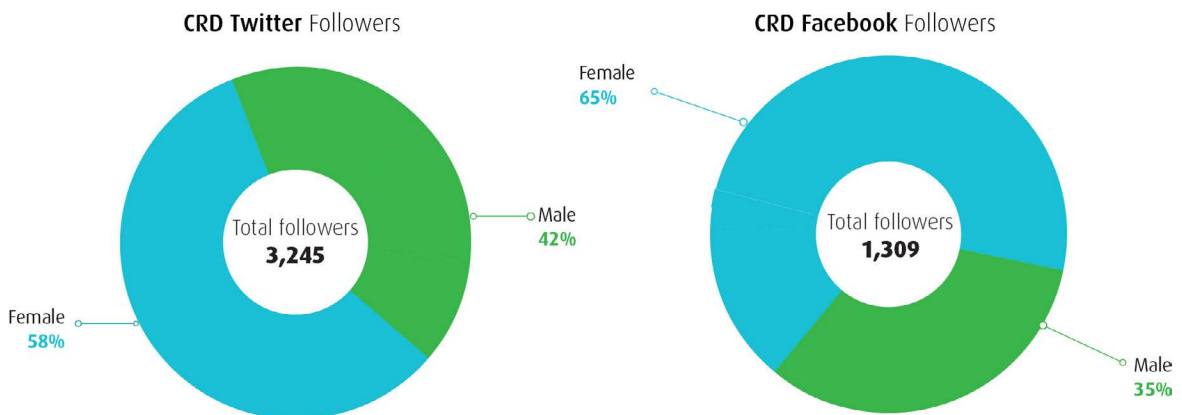
- CFAX (Victoria) CFAX Ian Jessop 16-Feb-2016, 13:07 Grover - sewage treatment
- CFAX (Victoria) CFAX Ian Jessop 11-Feb-2016, 14:34 Atwell - sewage treatment
- CFAX (Victoria) CFAX 10-Feb-2016, 12:05 CRD sewage plan
- CFAX Ian Jessop 04-Feb-2016, 14:07 Gilbert - Victoria sewage treatment
- CFAX Terry Moore 03-Feb-2016, 17:50 Shauffler - CRD sewage
- CFAX Terry Moore 02-Feb-2016, 16:36 Desjardins - CRD sewage
- CFAX Ian Jessop 02-Feb-2016, 14:06 Broadland/Campbell - sewage treatment
- CFAX Ian Jessop 01-Feb-2016, 14:06 Regier - sewage treatment
- CFAX Terry Moore 29-Jan-2016, 15:35 Helps - sewage treatment
- CFAX Ian Jessop 28-Jan-2016, 14:36 Atwell - CRD sewage treatment
- CFAX 28-Jan-2016, 12:00 Screech - CRD sewage treatment
- CFAX Pamela McCall 28-Jan-2016, 10:06 Anderson - sewage treatment
- CFAX Mornings with Al Ferraby 28-Jan-2016, 08:21 Screech - CRD sewage treatment
- CFAX Terry Moore 27-Jan-2016, 15:35 Hamilton - sewage treatment plan
- CFAX Ian Jessop 27-Jan-2016, 13:05 Gilbert - sewage plan alternative
- CFAX 27-Jan-2016, 13:00 Helps - sewage plan

- CFX 27-Jan-2016, 11:30 Helps - sewage treatment
- CFX Pamela McCall 27-Jan-2016, 11:35 Helps - sewage plan
- CFX 27-Jan-2016, 07:03 Young/Atwell - sewage treatment
- CBC On the Island 27-Jan-2016, 07:50 Price - sewage treatment
- CFX Terry Moore 26-Jan-2016, 16:34 Atwell - sewage treatment
- CFX 26-Jan-2016, 12:00 Helps - sewage treatment options
- CBC On the Island 26-Jan-2016, 07:40 Atwell - sewage treatment
- CBC On the Island 26-Jan-2016, 07:50 Young - Burnside-Gorge neighbourhood
- CFX Ian Jessop 15-Jan-2016, 14:21 Atwell - CRD sewage treatment
- CFX Ian Jessop 14-Jan-2016, 14:37 Atwell - CRD sewage treatment
- CFX Frank Stanford 14-Jan-2016, 09:06 Desjardins - CRD priorities
- CFX Mornings with Al Ferraby 14-Jan-2016, 07:21 Desjardins - sewage treatment
- CFX Terry Moore 13-Jan-2016, 17:07 Jensen - CRD sewage
- CFX 13-Jan-2016, 14:01 Helps/Atwell - sewage treatment
- CFX 13-Jan-2016, 13:01 Atwell/Brice - sewage cost sharing
- CBC On the Island 13-Jan-2016, 07:12 Desjardins - sewage treatment
- CHEK 27-Jan-2016, 17:09 Vickers/Atwell/Helps/Jensen - sewage treatment plant
- CHEK 26-Jan-2016, 17:00 Helps- sewage treatment
- CHEK 13-Jan-2016, 17:07 Knappett - sewage treatment plant
- CIVI 27-Jan-2016, 17:01 Anderson/Helps - CRD sewage
- CIVI 26-Jan-2016, 17:00 Helps/Atwell/Jensen - CRD sewage

Social Media

The social media strategy for this phase of consultation focused on supporting and promoting both the Eastside and Westside public engagement processes through CRD social media accounts, while driving traffic to a central location on the CRD website.

CRD Social Media Demographics



Key Messages

- Inform the public of wastewater events
- Inform the public of ways to participate in the consultation (survey, events, Storefront, etc.)
- Promotion of the online survey
- Provide members of the public information about the option sets
- Provide members of the public the opportunity to learn about wastewater treatment

Content was primarily promoted through CRD social media channels: Twitter and Facebook, using Eastside and Westside hashtags to differentiate information where applicable and appropriate.

- #Eastside or #EastsideDialogues
- #Westside or #WestsideSolutions
- #CoreAreaWastewater or #CRDwastewater

Social Media Results

Twitter

The CRD generated a total of 61 Core Area wastewater tweets sent between January 13 and February 20 on their Twitter platform. There were a total of 82 re-tweets and 33 likes on the outgoing messages.

61
tweets

82
retweets

33
likes

Social Media Engagement & Top Tweets

January Top Tweets earned approx. 3000 impressions

Top Tweet earned 3,010 impressions
Join the Eastside Community Dialogue on wastewater treatment & urban design
[#CRDwastewater](#) [ow.ly/Wt0bj](#)
[pic.twitter.com/EavIFrzvU1](#)



View Tweet activity View all Tweet activity

Top media Tweet earned 2,958 impressions
Join Eastside Community Dialogue for discussions on wastewater & urban design
[#CRDwastewater](#) [ow.ly/Wt30x](#)
[pic.twitter.com/Hk44zR311H](#)



View Tweet activity

February 'mentions' earn highest engagement

Top card Tweet earned 1,779 impressions



Why should you care about wastewater treatment in Victoria? [@crd_bc](#) tells you:
[youtu.be/eB7COdSC9z8](#) More info:
[ow.ly/YaiGN](#)

View Tweet

View card analytics

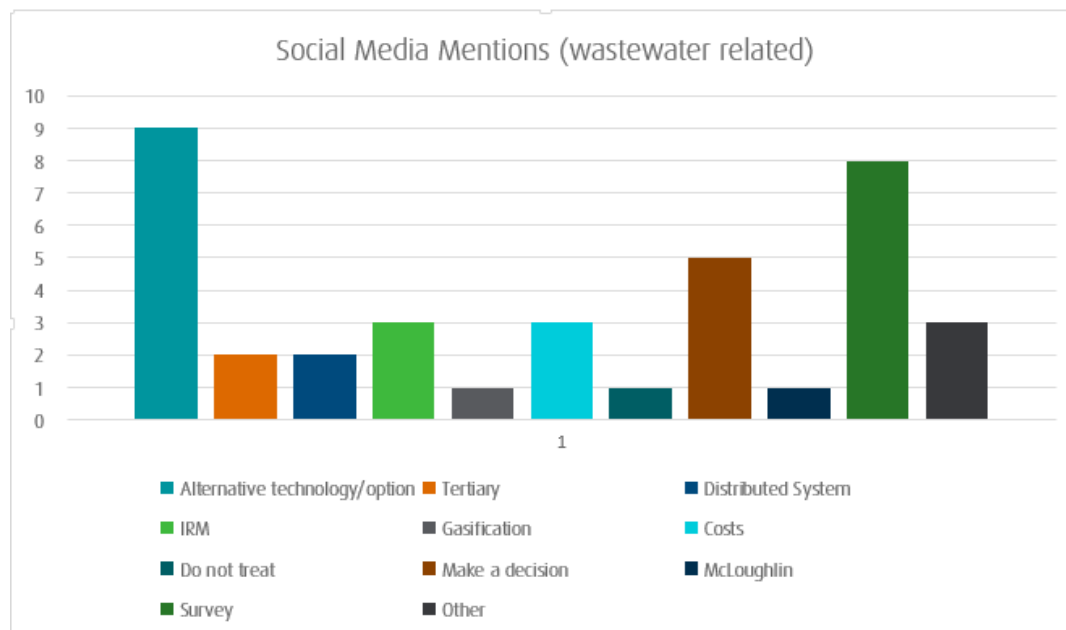
Top mention earned 47 engagements



Do you flush every day? You have a say! Take the sewage survey here:
[ow.ly/XYmRH](#) [@crd_bc](#) Pls RT

View Tweet

During the consultation the CRD received 30 mentions related to Core Area wastewater. These mentions ranged in themes from concerns regarding costs, comments regarding the survey and promotion of other options and technologies. Below is a figure displaying the frequency of these themes.



CRD Storefront

The Capital Regional District storefront property located at 625 Fisgard Street facing Centennial Square was used as one of the many channels for Core Area residents to engage in the Core Area Wastewater consultation process. Open to all citizens, the storefront property held hours of 11am to 7pm on weekdays.

The space was utilized to provide the public the opportunity to:

- Be guided through the options
- Ask questions
- Pick up literature surrounding wastewater and the options
- Pick up printed copies of the questionnaire
- Submit completed questionnaires
- Fill out a feedback form
- Enter to win a stand-up-paddle board

What information was provided?

- Boards showing configuration of each of the options
- Boards showing the sites under consideration for each of the options
- Discussion Guides
- Booklet with site profiles from the survey
- Westside: Fact Sheet 1, Fact Sheet 2, Fact Sheet 3, Brochure and details on each of the Westside Sites
- CRD Source Control information and outreach set-up
- Ipad/Laptop to complete survey
- Paper copy of the survey
- Wastewater Communication Coordinator's business card
- Feedback form for residents
- Light refreshments
- Projector – looping Bruce Haden and Cascadia presentation



Store Front Weekly Reporting

Week One: January 24, 2016 to January 30, 2016

Overall Traffic: 60 People

During this week many citizens stopped by to pick up information and voice concerns.



Tuesday, January 26, 2016: Press Conference

This press conference was attended by many media outlets including the Times Colonist, CHEK, CTV, and CBC. Speaking at the conference was the Mayor of Victoria, Lisa Helps, who is also the chair of the Eastside Wastewater committee and the Core Area Wastewater committee, and the Mayor of Colwood, Carol Hamilton who is also the chair of the Westside Wastewater committee. Also in attendance were members of Surfrider Vancouver Island, who donated a Stand Up Paddle board to the project, and many CRD staff.

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

The storefront opened to the public.

Week Two: January 31, 2016 to February 6, 2016

Overall Traffic: 45 People

Traffic slowed during this week, but residents continued to visit the Storefront to voice their concerns.

Week Three: February 7, 2016 to February 13, 2016

Overall Traffic: 30 People

Traffic slowed again during this week due to modified hours to accommodate the public events.

Week Four: February 14, 2016 to February 20, 2016

Overall Traffic: 50 People

Traffic slowed for the first half of the week then increased from Wednesday to Friday with people returning their hand written surveys. Two workshops hosted within the storefront during this time.

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

A lunch meeting with CUPE was held in the back of the storefront with 4 attendees.

A workshop to host environmental activists was held hosting 25 people.

General Observations

- The majority of visitors were from Eastside communities, but the Westside communities were also represented
- Many visitors wanted to collect more information prior to completing the survey
- The majority of visitors came during work hours (between 11am and 5pm)



Other Channels of Promotion

Postcard Mailer

As a tactic to extend the reach of Core Area wastewater promotions, the CRD mailed a postcard to all residents and businesses in the Core Area through unaddressed mail. The postcard identified the different ways that residents and businesses could provide feedback on the options, including the option of being mailed a paper copy of the survey.

approx. **97,000 postcards** were delivered to Core Area residents

62,442 Houses

28,518 Apartments

6,123 Businesses



There was an immediate uptake after the postcards were delivered to Core Area mailboxes. Over 70 paper copies of surveys were mailed out to Core Area residents and many residents visited the CRD Storefront.

Why should you care about treatment video

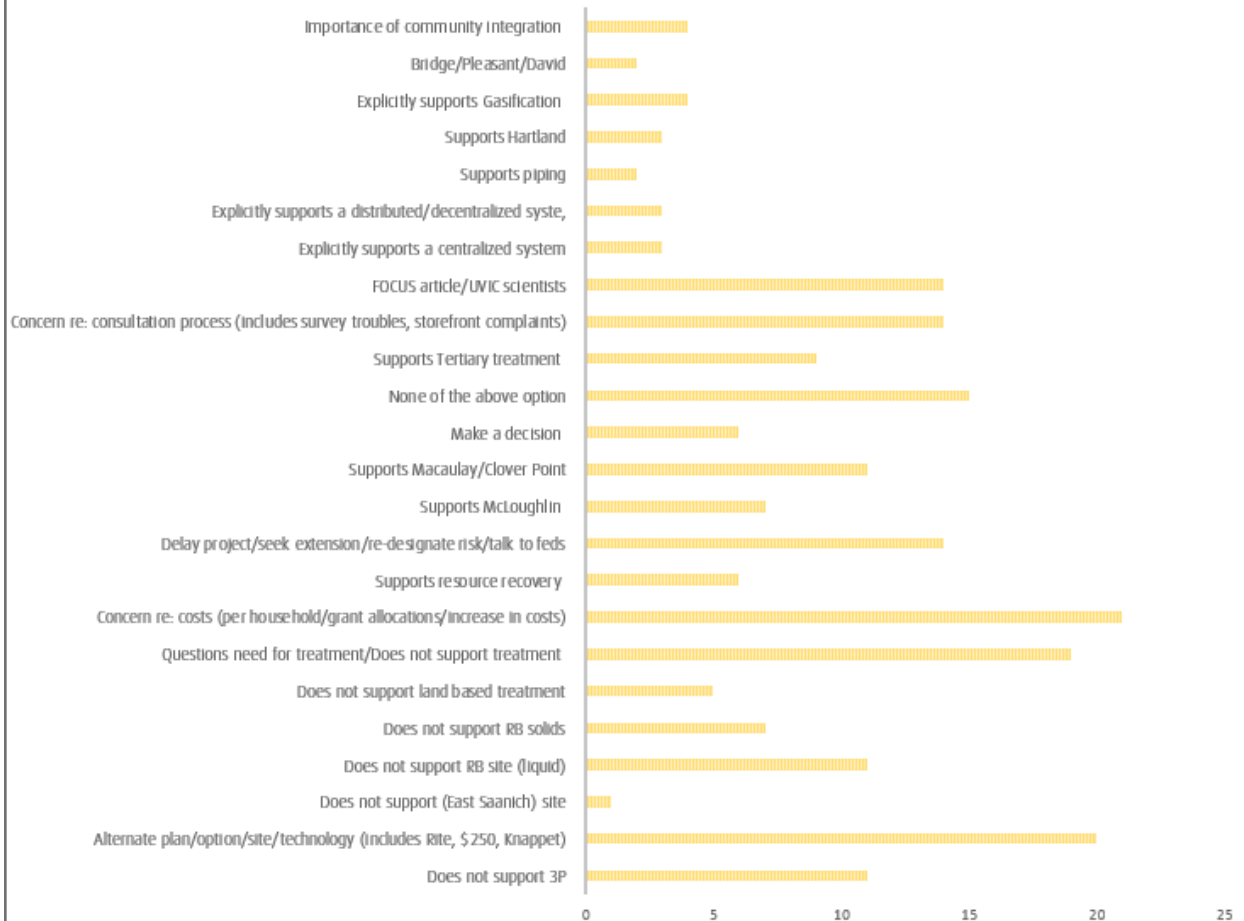
As a tactic for reaching younger audiences, the CRD developed a 'why should you care about wastewater treatment' video that identified why wastewater treatment is of important concern to Core Area residents. This video was used in social media promotion and was played during Open House and Workshop events.

Email Correspondence

Residents were encouraged to provide their direct feedback to wastewater@crd.bc.ca. Correspondence was also collected through eastside@crd.bc.ca, info@westsidesolutions and correspondence received by the CRD Board, CRD reception, or other Core Area directors. These emails were tracked for qualitative analysis and responded to as required. Throughout the consultation period, the CRD received over 80 emails with feedback regarding the project. These emails can be found as part of the appendices in this document.

Below is a table of the general themes that were identified through the correspondence analysis.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE CODING ANALYSIS



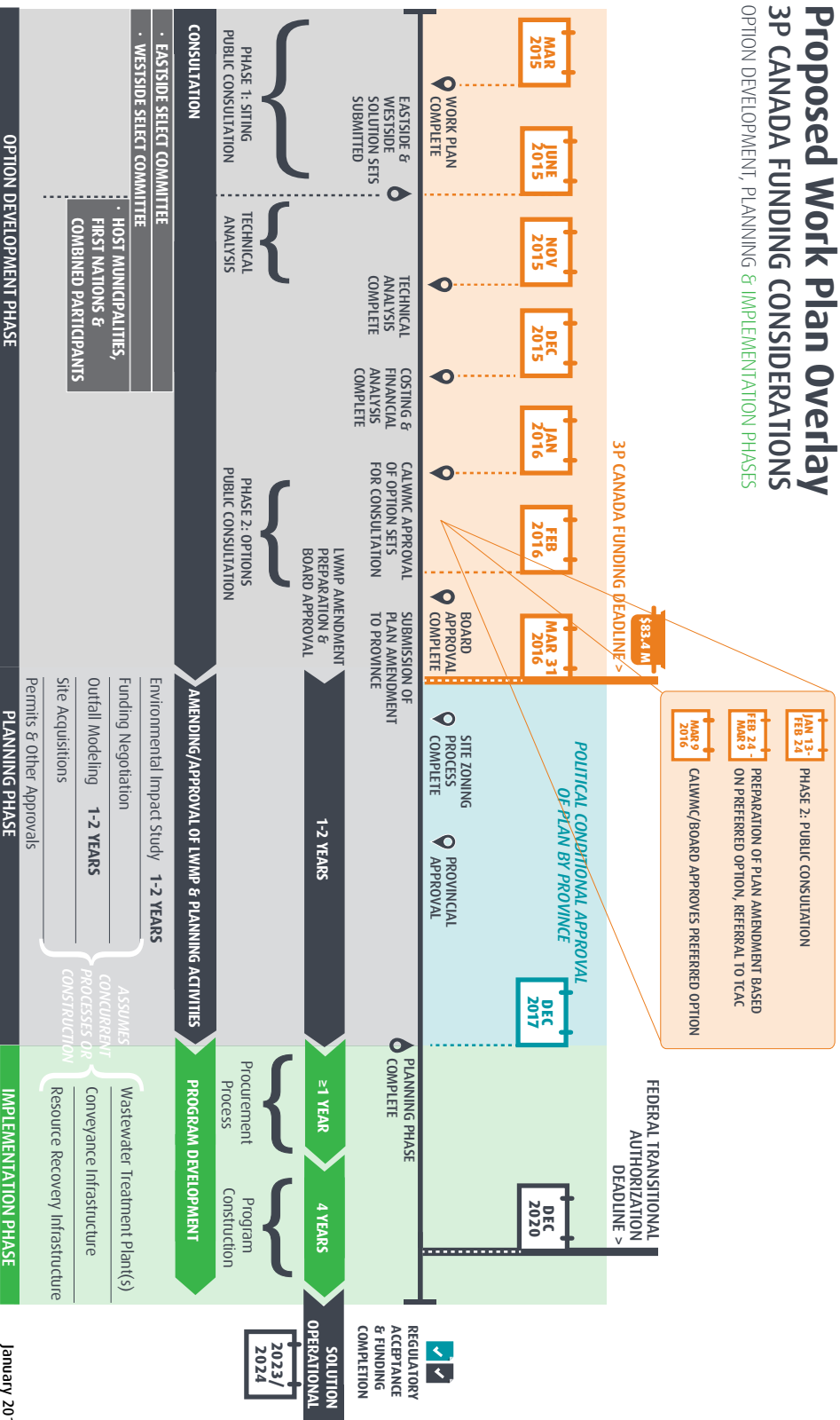
Public Consultation Summary

The Eastside and Westside consultation reports will summarize the findings from this phase of the consultation process. A report from Ipsos Reid will provide an outline of the survey results and a comprehensive review of summary comments will be available (see separate appendice).



Proposed Work Plan Overlay 3P CANADA FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

OPTION DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION PHASES



Correspondence Emails

Good Evening:

As I understand the challenges you are facing, I have some thoughts and visualized proposal.

As the Interchange at McKenzie plans are still being debated, why not combine both Capital projects into one?

Plan: Heading south on Hwy 1 on the south side of Admirals (right hand side heading into town) there is a large open area. Just behind Tillicum Mall, close to Cuthbert Homes Park.

(1) Locate the treatment plant at this intersection, while designing the new interchange.

(2) Intake could come from all municipalities with an achievable pipeline system. The City of Victoria is not far, Western Communities are not far, Oak Bay Municipality would be the greatest distance but still achievable with an appropriate grid system, and yes this plant would be in Saanich, however so is the mass in flux of \$ coming into that municipality for the already planned Interchange.

(3) For discharge, an outflow pipeline proposal to feed it from the Treatment Plant. >>> From developed site, cut through across Tillicum along Obed (or alternate) then along Gorge Rd, ending parallel to Pleasant Street, south of Halkett Island.

Visualization:

(1) A building that would incorporate>>> Cement structure housing Plant, with large glass (5 stories) windows facing the Highway. Housing a Tourism Facility (Prominently shown on the outside glass facade), Cultural Exhibits and small shop leasing opportunities.

(2) On top of Treatment Plant, but next to Tourism facility, would be a 5 Story Parking Structure (ground stability would need to be verified before construction). Feeder lanes off the overpass right into the Parking area.

(3) There would be a Main Bus Hub. >>> B.C. Transit for McKenzie, Admirals, and Douglas St. routes heading south, and Hwy 1 to Western Communities heading north.

Tour buses and Wilson's/Pacific Coach etc. would also link to this hub providing bus service North Up Island, and along McKenzie to Airport and B.C. Ferries.

Regards,

To whom it may concern,

I have never heard any discussion about the feasibility of the gravel pit on Metchosin Rd in Colwood as a possible site for a treatment plant.

We now pump into the Strait and it would seem to be much simpler and cost effective to extend the line to the pit and treat it there. I realize that the site is now privately owned but it is also in the process of being redeveloped. Surely something could be worked out. Thanks for your efforts,

After watching these issues over the years, I am appalled that the CRD is now engaged in what amounts to a project selection crap shoot. (Pun intended).

(A) How are we taxpayers suppose to make choices when almost everything is still in flux. And, we've already spent \$65 million with nothing to show for it.

(B) Whatever happens (short of not building anything) the taxpayers will be tremendously burdened with tax increases that many (specially on fixed incomes) will not be able to bear. With a \$billion plus price tag being floated around that implies a tax increase of \$500-800 for everybody, the reality (example-Johnson Street Bridge) is that what starts out as a billion ends up being two or three billion (\$1500 per taxpayer?) and there won't be any turning back. On top of it all is the "velocity of money" effect that will see increases of price of most consumer goods in Victoria while simultaneously reducing the amount of money we consumers have to spend.

(C) The scientific evidence seems to be that the existing method of treatment is NOT harming the environment and in fact makes the sea life in the Straits more healthy than other spots. Is the CRD dismissing all the experts from UVic that have publicly said there is no need to build anything. There is a huge likely-hood that, if built, it could be the biggest white elephant in history.

(D) Prime Minister Trudeau is also on record as saying that further treatment would not provide much if any improvement in Greater Victoria's discharges into the waterways.

(E) It looks like the rush is on to build "something" in order to grab the federal and provincial money on offer. What short-sightedness!

I urge CRD to at least offer taxpayers an option of voting for "no solution" so our politicians get clear feedback on how disastrous any one of the other seven choices will be.

Correspondence Emails

Hi:

I've chosen this method to respond to your survey for a very specific reason.

I am absolutely horrified that you are surveying average citizens on extremely technical solutions to a very complex issue.

I definitely do not want my "next door neighbour" making a decision for me on one of the most costly and complicated issues in our area. That's what we elect you people for and what we expect the experts that you hire to do. There are very few people out there that have anything close to the knowledge required to make a sound and reasonable judgement call on this.

It's nice to be kept in the loop on what's happening, but that should be the limit to it where citizens are concerned.

I truly hope that reasonable minds will prevail or we're all in big trouble.

Thank you.

I am highly interested in this topic, went to the website you have advertised re public consultation, and started to look at the online survey. Neither your website materials nor survey discuss the option of staying with the current ocean based disposal. Because you don't permit that option, your consultation is illegitimate.

The facts are that if science-based decision making is used, the current system would be retained, and that both the Federal and Provincial mandates on this issue can be changed. If the public really does want to spend \$1b for a land based system, despite the science saying its unnecessary, then only through a fair plebiscite can the issue be resolved democratically.

Your survey is useless. It does not ask the most important question, Is secondary treatment necessary? The answer: no.

I can't think of a reason to skew metrics like these, but i have to share that your first question in the survey could be perceived as trying to manipulate / confuse results because of its design.

Based on what you know or have heard about the need to treat wastewater, please rank your HIGHEST, SECOND HIGHEST and THIRD HIGHEST priorities for this project.

Third highest priority	---
Highest priority	---
Second highest priority	---

[Back](#) [Next](#)

The text says highest, second highest and third, but the field options start at third, highest, then second. Majority of readers will not play close attention, and you will not get the accuracy of responses you are looking for. If you're going to ask the question, common logic dictates you should make it easy for a person to provide their answer.

Respectfully,

Dear Sir/Madame:

Thank you for inviting the public to provide input regarding the proposed wastewater treatment plant or plants in Greater Victoria. There is a reason why consensus has been found to be impossible and this is because wastewater treatment is unnecessary and undesirable. Solid scientific research shows that the Clover Point outfall has produced a thriving ecosystem and there is no threat of bacterial contamination. It is time we took on the Federal government and the general attitude of Canadians, backed by this excellent research! I believe that Canada's media will support a balanced and interesting debate over this issue.

Please leave things as they are and work to change the Federal government unnecessary mandate!

Best regards,

Correspondence Emails

Rather than reply to a series of prescribed questions with a selection of prescribed answers, I would like to make a more personal response.

My understanding of how major projects of this nature should proceed is that having ascertained that there is a situation which needs addressing the appropriate levels of government hire experts to advise on the necessity, feasibility and costs of such proposals and then we the public entrust our elected officials to weight this advice and make an informed decision as to which is the best course of action, public consultation being part of the process.

Sadly this has not been the experience for Greater Victoria residents and now we are faced with a choice of options, none of which are a solution to the perceived problem and most of which carry an unacceptable price tag.

This whole mess has been a political failure of the highest degree.

My reading of the media reports is that first off the present practice is the most scientifically valid approach and that land based secondary or tertiary sewage treatment will only compound the problem rather than solving it. The three levels of government, federal, provincial and municipal, have not worked together to solve the problem and this lack of cooperation has been compounded by local municipal officials grandstanding their opposition to proposed solutions.

Let us not be pushed into a poor decision and if the promised money from higher levels of government is taken off the table then let's just abandon the whole thing.

sincerely,

Although I filled out your survey, I was not able to vote for my favored approach which is to do nothing. Scientists have said that we have a unique situation here and wastewater treatment is not required. Because your survey does not allow this option - the results will not be valid.

I would like to suggest a more Eco-friendly alternative rather than the old conventional approach that doesn't work for this island. Time to move forward and away from the old way of thinking. See link below.

<http://www.naturalflow.co.nz>

We think it is time that the Capital Region asks the provincial and federal governments to listen to scientists and public health experts like Dr. Shaun Peck and not force Greater Victoria to spend millions of dollars on sewage treatment that is not necessary at this time and may do more harm to the environment than our unique present system. It is not too late to stop this emotionally charged process and use our tax dollars more wisely by improving the present system, e. g. dilapidated storm drains etc..

Ms. Mayor,

I know that Montreal dumped 8 billion litres of raw sewage into the St. Lawrence, but I read all over social media that Victoria, B.C., dumps raw sewage into their water routinely.

What do you have to say about that?

Instead of the Project Goals which include meeting regulations etc. Who made this decision?

Goals are observable and measurable end results.
Commitments are a willingness to give your time and energy to.

Goals are what we have to achieve. For me one of the key goals is meeting Federal regulations.

Both shd be in survey. Plus the priority setting is confusing, who ever lists third priority, then highest and then second. Even description says first, second and third.

To me I already think survey is flawed for average citizens who know nothing about details, just concepts.

Correspondence Emails

i tried to take the sewage questionnaire. it was very long with too many pages. Mostly got it filled out when i lost it, due to trying to go back a page. But my main reaction was that it was less a questionnaire than a sales pitch. None of the 7 options was acceptable. Reasons: too costly and all depended on Rock Bay for the Victoria part. Rock Bay will require totally unacceptable tearing up of Cook Street and enormous costs.. There are cheaper options that have much less disruption being discussed on the radio. Slow down the process; don't be governed by the senior governments' threat of withdrawing funding in case artificial deadlines are not met.

Secondary treatment is unnecessary and will burden the taxpayers of the CRD for capital and operational costs forever. When future historians look at the demise of our wonderful city, there is no question the massive waste of taxpayer dollars will be viewed as the major factor in our regions livability. The "environment" that is the supposed rationale for this boondoggle would be much better served by a rail based regional transit system that will reduce carbon spewing motor vehicles from our traffic choked roadways. In addition, walk by the homeless camp at the courthouse and explain to me with a straight face how sewage treatment is needed now. It's so sad really that the Victoria region continues to be haunted by the government of Gordon Campbell and later by the Harper regime.

Sadly, this note is (aptly, I guess) the equivalent of "pissing in the wind". Oh well, for the record....

Regretfully,

Have you actually tried to complete the survey yourselves? When you get to the end of it, there is no submit button. Once you've completed it, you get in a loop on the NEXT button that I can't seem to find my way out of.

Am I missing something here?

Please provide a response to the article in the February 2016 edition of FOCUS magazine - Option 10: our best bet to avoid sewericide - by David Broadland. Thanks

I completed and submitted your questionnaire on wastewater treatment as best I could. The questionnaire was somewhat bias, for the following reasons:

(1) It did not offer a choice of leaving things as they presently are (primary-treated sewage discharged at two sites).

(2) It finished with requiring three choices in no particular order of priority.

(3) It did not offer the option of a below-ground treatment system at Clover Point, that is reportedly much cheaper than any of the choices presented for consideration.

Hi,

Your survey, likely by design, forces the takers into one of the seven options plus the 3b, which will show that the public agrees to one of the options vs a true result with a none of the above.

It does not allow

- the taker/public to state none of the above
- the option to revisit the one site in Esquimalt
- the ability to suggest other options ie the vertical shaft option at Clover Point.

Even the comments/note field at the end is very unfriendly, it should be a multiline text box not a single line.

Also the website states "The current total cost of the wastewater treatment program is estimated to be \$788* million. The CRD has secured funding from federal and provincial governments to support this capital project." The options should be within that figure not significantly above that figure.

Finally Now that we have a Prime Minister who has stated specifically that he does not believe there is a need for treatment and that the money could be better spent you should ask Ottawa to revisit the 2020 requirement, which was meant to safeguard drinking water supply.

Kind Regards,

Correspondence Emails

I am simply not going to complete your survey if you insist that I must choose three options.

I will only be satisfied with one option and that is ONE plant- tertiary treatment. I moved from Edmonton with a much greater population and one plant - no problems odor or otherwise. There is only 1 acceptable option here for this population, one plant.

I have lived here five years and I cannot believe the ridiculous delay, indecision and carrying on about sewage treatment.

Make a decision.

I have just completed the survey and it is very hard to believe you will be obtaining any useful information from the collective responses. It may make everyone feel good about inviting community comments, but the comments, for the most part, will be provided without sufficient knowledge to be meaningful. Certainly that is the case in my response. I could be very supportive of information sessions which highlighted the various proposals and options being considered by those responsible for making the decision, but turning the process into near-referendums is an abdication of responsibility by our elected officials, and an opportunity for all those disaffected folks to hi-jack the process. Once the decision is made that we should be doing some treatment of our wastewater, obtain the appropriate professional advice and recommendation, elicit proposals, and make the decision. Waste water treatment is a very well established industry and it should not take this long to make a decision. Thank you.

There must have been a flaw in the selection process and the results should be invalidated.

The process chose the most expensive design and most disruptive for existing infrastructure while rejecting on a technicality a superior, technologically advanced and much cheaper to build design by world renown NORAM from Vancouver.

sewage project
As a tax payer I should be making a decision re: sewage project on all projects not only on the most expensive and outdated!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This is a question from your section :

CORE AREA WASTEWATER SURVEY

Why do we need to treat wastewater?

My opinion is:

We don't need it, and it is just a waste of taxpayers money !!!

Many years ago an engineering study found that Victoria's geographical position (end of the island) takes care of the waste into the sea, compared to other cities, like Vancouver or Seattle, where they need water treatment before the discharge.

Some observations:

Wastewater water treatment for Victoria is one massively expensive PR exercise. In simple terms treatment is ineffective for pharmaceuticals, toxins and the like and seemingly unnecessary for biological matter as there is plenty of oxygen available in the Strait of Juan de Fuca to treat it naturally. It is now 2016 and people are turned off by the thought of an 1816 treatment (despite any credible proof that there is actually any harm) therefore some PR is needed here.

Since the bulk of the wastewater is already in a pipe the worst idea I can think of is to turn that pipe around and point it at yourselves, not only right at yourselves but upwind most days and upstream twice a day. What is this preoccupation with having to treat it right on top of ourselves? We don't even have a cost effective plan for the byproducts.

Make a bigger and better pipe, get the wastewater completely contained in that pipe and then run it anywhere but into downtown Victoria. Metchosin is one huge glacial gravel pit. The pit already carved out of that landscape should have been acquired years ago for this purpose instead of present efforts trying to turn that sow's ear into a silk purse. Metchosin could probably run tax free just charging Victoria for treating the regional sewage. Out in Metchosin you could barge the byproduct for use in coastal reforestation projects. Run the liquid out into the Strait as before, if there is ever an problem with the treatment plant (extreme weather event for example) flip a switch and run everything out into the Strait until remedied.

Correspondence Emails

Lindsay Taylor, Communication Coordinator, CRD Waste water Survey 2016

Sorry Lindsay we just cannot bring our selves to complete your survey. We are amazed after attending and participating in so many meetings and hearing so many good things about today's available technology that the proposed option basically falls back on a major plant using secondary treatment. And secondly we believe the questionnaire format is designed to support a Rock Bay location, which we do not support.

Our comments on the proposal are attached above.

Thank you,

PS. We did attend the Gordon Head United Church show and tell on Sunday

Attachment: LWMP Innovation Potential Alternatives Ignored

The CRD is asking for public input for their 2016 Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP). We appreciate being given the opportunity but are amazed at how complicated and overly expensive the whole process has become. There is a very simple solution out there and it should be explored - follow the existing pipes, utilize the existing infrastructure, install as little new piping and pumping stations as possible, locate sites west and east along the trunk lines, and consider all solid waste for final treatment using gasification to create energy and utilize as much grey water as possible where possible. And then provide a business case for the project.

All the current 7 options offered are traditional centralized and expensive, ranging from \$880m for the defunct McLoughlin Plan to \$1.3 billion for the various 7 Rock Bay Options. A large part of the extra cost is being spent on new piping and pumping which will also have social and business cost related to construction. The main reason for the extra new piping is that the chosen location, Rock Bay, is not located near existing trunk lines. Rock Bay in the inner harbour is also located on soil that will liquefy in an earth quake.

The CRD says it is looking at Integrated Resource Management which, if optimized, will save billions of dollars over the long term. Yet for the LWMP the CRD is aware of 3 viable sewage treatment alternatives, put together by qualified professionals that will cost significantly less, \$300-600m, and has excluded these alternative options from the process and the 7 options presented for public consideration. We need the CRD to include these innovative solutions that save money and have greater environmental and social benefits. The public needs this information prior to making any site determination or input to the 2016 LWMP.

We can better assess option sets if we have them up front not after and before the die is cast. Otherwise it will be too late to create a plan that will look forward to the future but instead will capture the past to meet a bureaucratic and now obviously changeable deadline. We agree with the CRD that all Waste Resource Management needs to be integrated and optimized. As such an innovative distributed tertiary liquid waste system plan that makes use of existing trunk lines and facilities deserves serious consideration as does gasification to deal with the solids.

Your survey form should allow one to generate their own priorities not give only 8 tailor made responses. We shudder at the results forthcoming from your 8 choices and focus on specific communities.

Given the 7 proposed options are not acceptable to us:

Our top Priorities are:

1. Keep costs affordable; include the 3 less costly professionally developed alternatives for public consideration.
2. Minimize environmental, social and business disruptions
3. Integrate waste management and develop an innovative solution using tertiary and gasification technology in a distributed system.
4. Negotiate a different time line with senior governments.

One example selected from the sites currently identified by both West & East Side solutions located along or close to the existing trunk lines would be the following: Using sites going from lower to higher elevations: This seems logical and doable and deserves design and costing for tertiary treatment and included as part of the option set prior to asking for input from the public.

1. Macaulay Point/wet weather – small plant to pick up in between areas below - ADWF 4%

West trunk

Esquimalt First nations ADWF 18%

Colwood (golf course or Juan de Fuca) AWDF 9%

Total AWDF 63%

Captures flows from Langford down Captures flows from Saanich east and VicWest

North East trunk

Victoria Works Yard AWDF 18%

Marigold PS AWDF 14%

2. Clover Point/Wet weather AWDF14%

Currie PS/Windsor Park AWDF 14%

Gordon Head/ Cadboro Bay 2 AWDF 9% continues on the following page

continued.....

Total AWDF 37%

This captures flows from the east side

Grand Total AWDF 100%

A distributed system along existing trunk lines would use existing outfalls and tertiary treatment would provide safer water than secondary treatment during wet weather and potentially usable water for each location.

ADWF = the average dry weather flow

I am unable to support any of the options in the Wastewater Options Questionnaire. They all ignore the amazing natural resource we have in the cold water and currents in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

It is a fiction that Victoria dumps raw sewage into the Strait. Primary Treatment (also called Preliminary) as it exists at Macaulay and Clover Point plants consists of filtering out all solids larger than the diameter of a pencil, waiting while the remainder settles, then skimming the fats off the top, then discharging the water at the upper part of the tank into the ocean and leaving the solids at the bottom to settle and compact further until they are removed at periodic cleaning.

Bottom feeders are an integral part of a healthy marine environment. What they currently get from us is very little different from the naturally occurring marine debris, and they, like every other living being, do want to eat.

In the options presented to us, this system will continue up to the point of discharge into the ocean when it will be diverted through expensively and disruptively built pipelines for secondary and/or tertiary treatment. This is a tragic waste of the rare natural resource that Victoria has in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The water temperature and currents exists at only a couple of other cities on the planet. One, San Diego, was not required to put in secondary treatment. The Canadian Federal decision to require secondary treatment was because almost all Canadian cities are situated on fresh water. They don't have a Strait of Juan de Fuca.

We only barely failed the first assessment. Why has the CRD chosen to ignore this amazing natural resource instead of working with it? Look in the February 2016 copy of FOCUS magazine (p.p. 12-15) for an innovative method of upgrading our sewage outfall without bankrupting expenses or construction of any new pipelines. It uses the natural resources we already have. It mixes and dilutes the primarily treated sewage so it will meet the Fisheries Act regulations, at about one fifth the cost of the cheapest CRD proposal.

The University of Victoria Marine Scientists have been saying this for years. The CRD is acting as though it is deaf to science.

I attended the workshop at Victoria Conference Centre on Feb. 10. and have been following the sewage debate for a few years.

First, from all the scientific literature I have studied on the subject, I don't feel that Victoria needs a land-based sewage treatment facility. The present system -- according to the preponderance of science information -- works not only well, but better than would any land-based facility.

My first question is, has any request been made to the federal or provincial authorities that Victoria, because of its unique Juan de Fuca strait location, be exempted from their orders that a treatment facility be built?

That said, however, it seems that the Victoria area councils have acceded to the senior governments' demands and that some sort of plant will be built, and the question now is where to locate it, or them.

My suggestion for a site is Clover Point. I do so because many of the sanitary sewers lines already lead there, their effluent screened and sent several kilometres out into the strait and there discharged into cold tide-flushed currents through a number of different outlets.

Certainly there would be disruption at Clover Point for a year or two. But with a camouflage design and careful landscaping, after a while the facility would blend in with its surroundings and be barely noticeable.

I'd like to see some photos of attractively concealed treatment plants in other communities.

Correspondence Emails

I have begun this survey twice, been interrupted and lost my data so I will just tell you my thoughts. From what I read, secondary treatment does nothing further to eliminate toxins that the natural action of the sea takes care of. Tertiary treatment will take care of toxins from drugs, etc, so if we are going to do this, we need to do tertiary treatment. I am, of course, in favour of a small footprint, no great trucking of waste, and the reuse and sale of anything that can be salvaged. Unfortunately, I am very wary of the ever rising costs and the fact that \$78 million has already been spent on consultation!! I live on a self-funded pension so rising property taxes are of concern. I am also aware that there are new, more innovative solutions being put forward that would cost a great deal less. Given the Johnson Street bridge fiasco, I have grave reservations about the process to date. I urge the CRD to ask for an extension and a variance based on the scientific analysis of our particular situation done by several marine scientists. There are any number of local scientists you could bring into this process. There is only so much the citizenry can bear, financially, environmentally and philosophically.

Thank you for your open house and presentation last week. I would like to provide you with my input to the project as follows.

Although in the future, I can see that there would be a growing need for additional sites, due to the limited time frame remaining to the City to act, I would suggest proceeding with just the one Plant plan at this time. Perhaps others could be phased in as needed in the future. This also eliminates the need to coordinate with other jurisdictions at this time. It sounds like there are already facilities and synergistic opportunity to process material at the Hartland Landfill. Let's take advantage of that existing infrastructure. I would prefer to see material pumped there rather than trucked.

Site location: I would like to suggest one of the Bridge St./Pleasant Street/David Street locations, partially just to avoid the need and time delay in having to negotiate with First Nations. Whichever location, it would be nice to be able to develop a waterfront pathway system that connects the Goose Trail through Burnside/Gorge to the Bay Street Bridge. Perhaps the Store Street location could be acquired as a new location for disrupted business?

Please take the processing to the Tertiary Level. I would prefer the gasification process for processing the waste.

Let's get it done! Thank you

Hello

After attending the consultation briefing at the Burnside Gorge community centre for residents of this area, on Feb 14th 2016, I would like to say I am not in favour of solids processing at RockBay.

Thank you

The science says a treatment plant is unnecessary. Besides the money, what about all the new greenhouse gases? Taking a tiny portion of the money, and spending it on the net positive benefits on not going ahead with this. Thank You

About EastSide Waste Water treatment plan(s):

I've attended several information sessions in this public consultation process including the first one at the Belfry Theatre and then a follow-up session at the Ocean Pointe Resort. The latest session I attended was on Feb. 9th at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre. I have also followed information online and in print.

I am interested in learning more about the questions raised in several recent Focus articles - in December 2015 and January 2016. Many points have been raised by local scientists and investigative journalists. There were a number of us at that Feb. 9th meeting who felt that the objections/concerns raised in the Focus articles were not adequately addressed but that the decision to treat our sewage by 2020 was a given. For those of us questioning the very premise of these "principles", it was disheartening and discouraging. In all the work I've been following since the beginning of this public participation process, I haven't seen these points specifically discussed by the CRD. Could you point me to where these may have been addressed?

The engineer at the Feb. 9th meeting mentioned that there was contamination at the Clover Point outfall discovered in 2007 (2009?) but didn't know how much or of what kind. Has there been any more recent studies about the sewage impact here in Victoria? What about the suggestion that the CRD petition the feds to lower our status from high to low/medium and to delay implementation till these very reasonable points have been addressed. Looking forward to learning more.

Respectively,

Publicly owned and operated services are a vital part of our community. In this time of economic uncertainty, and the low Canadian dollar, keeping costs low should be one of our main priorities. Public run facilities cost less and have less risk involved. With local government involved the wastewater project will be more transparent and less secretive. 30 years is too long for a private corporation to make money off of the CRD resident's sewage - P3 no more!

Tertiary treatment is the only treatment removing 99% of impurities, not just "sewage", but all unseen chemicals poured down drains and flushed down toilets, especially "unseen chemicals"!

Our poor sick oceans and ground waters require care NOW!

We don't want "outfalls"

Why can't it be done RIGHT the first time, spend the \$ for our grandchildren.

On May 26, 2015 Chek News presented a piece "Could a sewage treatment ship solve Greater Victoria's problem". Please watch the 5 min. short on Google. Search EnviroNor AS. It is the first listing. On the home page scroll down to "watch the concept" in the green box. It is a very explanatory presentation from this Norwegian Company. EnviroNor AS is an experienced company specializing in aqua recovery on an industrial scale. They use tankers or barges to hold the mechanical operations thus using NO valuable land. The ship can sit 5 plus kms. off shore so no neighbourhoods disturbed, virtually unseen, unheard and odourless (to us on shore). Therefore the municipal infrastructures remain the same, leading to Clover Point and out from there. We MUST get the pharmaceuticals, heavy metals and micro plastics filtered out to realize true sewage treatment. These innovations are on the forefront and the ship hulls can be designed to take advantage of future technologies. This may not be so easily done on land with formed solid cement structures. There would be NO need for water and sludge lines and/or trucks to run through neighbourhoods as the clean water is simply dispersed into the Straits and the sludge can be barged away for agricultural purposes.

A ship has a far better chance of riding out a major earthquake (and/or a fifteen foot tsunami wave) than an on shore station and it's underground supply lines. The damage to houses could be dreadful with old infrastructure in ruins. That should be the true worry. In the worst case scenario, the sewer ship is disabled, at least the outfall would still disperse safely into the sea as it currently does. An earthquake would likely result in zero ship damage and quick repairs could be made to hoses and connections. Not so much with cement stations and underground lines. In the presentation, Sigmund Larsen indicates one ship could serve a population of 250,000. TWO ships could be supplied for the \$783 million current quote with room to grow. Eastside interested? Or any extra Westside money could go toward upgrading the aging infrastructure, sure to be another big necessary burden to the taxpayers in the future.

PLUS there are two navy ships going to scrap that would likely be candidates for housing the EnviroNor AS equipment and would look completely normal as if patrolling in our straits.

OR two years ago I suggested "seconding" 5 acres of the 128 acres of Federal Land at Albert Head currently being used as a cadets retreat. The headland is high enough to have natural tsunami protection. It offers woodlands for camouflage of its existence and has no neighbours to upset. Clean treated water would be dispersed right into the sea. And, again, no sludge trucking or piping through miles of neighbourhoods. And no new infrastructure is required. The current outflow pipes are extended and redirected underwater to Albert Head.

OR my friend suggested using Ross Bay (right next to Clover Point outlet) as the treatment station site and install a grass sports field and clubhouse on top as exemplified in Portland Oregon. Another company has suggested a deep well site at Clover Point. Again that location saves money for future upgrading of infrastructure by not rerouting the whole system.

After five years of going nowhere it's time to think outside the box. The new cable ferry has come to Denman Island and the sky hasn't fallen yet.

Why aren't any innovative ideas being considered? Not one concept has been accepted by anyone. Time to expand your horizons and present acceptable alternatives to the taxpayers. Please take a moment to watch the presentation.

Yours VERY sincerely

The necessary option is to approach senior levels of government to insist upon a full environmental impact assessment before proceeding further which would include a professional evaluation of the current system including the benefits of organic nutrients in the marine environment.

Lindsay Taylor, Communication Coordinator, CRD Waste water Survey 2016

Sorry Lindsay we just cannot bring our selves to complete your survey. We are amazed after attending and participating in so many meetings and hearing so many good things about today's available technology that the proposed option basically falls back on a major plant using secondary treatment. And secondly we believe the questionnaire format is designed to support a Rock Bay location, which we do not support.

Our comments on the proposal are attached above.

Thank you,

PS. We did attend the Gordon Head United Church show and tell on Sunday

As a taxpayer and retired research chemist I cannot support spending 1 Billion or more on a sewage treatment system that transfers poisonous and other pollutants from the liquid portion to the solid portion. This would require very expensive handling and treatment on land and could lead to serious land (or air) pollution, and hence just does not make sense.

The only real solution is to prevent poisons and pollutants from entering the sewage in the first place.

Reading the article "Option 10" by David Broadland in the February issue of FOCUS I am impressed by this far less expensive and common sense solution .

This "Option 10", as well as confirmed viable tertiary treatment, should be given full consideration.

I have followed the Waste Water Treatment issue for more than five years. Over the past year, and since the McLaughlin Point proposal was rejected by the Esquimalt Council, I have attended open houses, workshops and community forum. I have read many articles and heard many opinions.

I am still not completely convinced that we need treatment. I am of the view that education, source control and strict enforcement of source control regulations will allow us to differ the decision until 2040. However, that said, should you wish to have the treatment done by 2020 as per the current Federal and Provincial laws, I suggest you pause and consider the recently proposed site and technology options which are cost effective and produce better outcome. At the recent workshop on Saturday at UVic I heard that the present seven options and cost ranging from \$1.031 to \$1.348 billion is good enough for 2030 and after that we will need additional about \$250 million to extend the life until 2045. Also, I have now read that the old McLaughlin point proposal can be brought back at a cost of about \$830 million.

I am of the view that the treatment plants located at Clover Point and Macaulay Point (near or adjacent to the current out falls) will save us cost and improve the over all outcome.

I urge CRD Committees (East and West sides) and CRD board to

(a) Considering obtaining extension to year 2040 from Federal and Provincial authorities and

(b) Pause and evaluate the new proposals (known as Knapette Proposal) and reconsider McLaughlin Point.

Thank you. Yours truly,

Considering that the experts all say we'd be doing more harm than good by treating our sewage on land... why are we still planning to do that? Shouldn't we listen to the experts and leave well enough alone. Just tell the critics what the experts say about Victoria's system.

Sorry for the late reply; I was out of town. I do not support the current rushed process and support the position set out by Brian Grover in the TC Comment today. What is needed is to lay out the various options - fully costed, and put those before the public in a referendum. The current and rushed process is a sham and shame and is too costly. Ms. Helps attempt to railroad her Mayor colleagues into a decision at high cost and for a totally inadequate system is unseemly and un justified.

To: CRD

Re: Wastewater Survey

Given the limited options 1A and 2 are not significant enough to account for the greater price of the latter., especially if there are cpst pveruns connected with the greater amount of piping in the second option. We're only shifting a 10% improvement related to tertiary treatment. While I like the idea of 100% tertiary in option 1B, I am concerned about its higher cost carbon and energy footprint as well as cost.

Other options are laying out more pipe and more complexity along with more costs to be paid by a fairly small urban population already watching the costs of the Blue Bridge escalate.

There already is a controversy whetehr the science says we need to treat effluent as it is now discharged into the ocean. The main prvlem is treatment of pharmaceuticals and storm water from the streets, but none of these options is a 100% fix.

For now I would rather we fulfill our minimum legal requirement with the least exposure of the public to cost overuns.

However, in planning with a view to the future, we should be building a system that would allow the add-on of tertiary treatment at some point down the road when the greater size of the urban area can afford to pay for it. We need something basic that we can afford right now and can add the gold paint to later.

Yours sincerely,

The below email correspondence is a combination of 27 emails from one individual.

I totally agree with the argument in John Drew's letter to the editor (see hyperlink below) of February 14, 2016, that any treatment plant constructed in Rock Bay will undoubtedly spill sewage into the Gorge waterway at some point during its lifetime. Accordingly, I am totally opposed to any treatment plant being constructed on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site...

Under all of the options that the public is to choose from, the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site, south of Bay Street and immediately west of Government Street, is designated for some type of treatment facility. Looking at the information in the wastewater portion of the CRD's web site and in the Citizen's Guide, I found the aerial photograph of the site really unhelpful. The aerial photograph 1/ is from such a high level that one cannot make out the users of surrounding properties 2/ has been cropped so that the reader does not see the short distance to downtown Victoria 3/ has only the three street names Bay, Douglas and Government marked on it 4/ does not specify Pembroke Street as the southern boundary of this site 5/ does not specify Princess Street as the northern boundary of this site. There should have been a ground level photograph of the site so the general public can appreciate the size of the site, its gently sloping nature from Government Street, its western frontage onto the Gorge, etc. In response to my questions about the poor mapping, I was told that the CRD did not want to overburden the general public with too much information. In this case, I believe the CRD deliberately did not want to draw the public's attention to the geographical implications of using this site for a treatment plant....

I strongly object to the public consultation open houses and workshops displaying a photo of Barcelona's treatment facility. Within the Barcelona administrative area, there are 1.6 million people and the population is 4.7 million when one includes the area beyond the administrative area. Clearly, there is no reasonable comparison between what a city of that size can do in terms of beautification and aesthetics for its treatment facilities versus what the CRD can do when its wastewater area population is only 300,00 people. Yet, at both the CRD Workshop and the CRD Open House that I intended, both the facilitator and the engineer on-hand intimated we can also have a similarly beautiful facility. This was just one instance of the CRD trying to minimize any fears that we could land up with an ugly looking treatment plant site on the BC Hydro and Transport Canada properties....

At both the Work Shop and the Open House that I intended, it was suggested by the moderator and the Urban Systems person present, that there is the potential for other non-wastewater facilities on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site in Rock Bay. When talking to Dan Wong, the Planner from Urban Systems, at the February 12 Open House, I asked him specifically to tell me how much land mightbe left over for other uses/users under the various options being discussed. Dan explained that it depends on which option is finally chosen and what technologies are applied for the chosen option, however, he said that the seven plant option would likely result in the least and smallest wastewater treatment facilities on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. I then asked Dan how much of the site would likely be required under Option 1A, assuming trucking rather than piping to Hartland. I could not get an answer from him. Under this option, I fear that practically all of the site will be needed. However, if that is incorrect, then I further fear that the CRD will want to retain, for future possible use, those parts not needed immediately. That would mean that the chance of using some of the Store Street site for other significant uses will be lost forever... I have be unable to obtain any information about the remediation work carried out on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. I am concerned about how the remediated soils on the site will react if there is a reasonably strong earthquake, let alone a gigantic one as is currently being forecast sometime in the future. When I raised this issue with the Urban Systems engineer at the February 10, 2016 Eastside Workshop at Victoria Conference Centre, he suggested that this site is no worse than thousands of other sites within the CRD and, regardless, any issues related to ground stability can be resolved as part of the construction of a treatment plant at the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. My

response to the above is that it does not make sense putting a community's key infrastructure on a site that is potentially more vulnerable to liquefaction than other sites, and doing so only increases the capital cost of the project and the possibility of cost overruns. Based on this issue alone, I am opposed to a treatment plant being built on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site.... It is generally acknowledged that the North and South Poles are melting faster than previously projected and that, as a consequence, sea levels are going to rise quicker than expected. So I am left asking myself, why is the CRD proposing, under all of the options currently under discussion, that there will be treatment plant on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site which is not very high above sea level? I am sure that the project engineers would love the challenge of building huge walls to stop water coming into the site, raising structures off the ground or developing some other novel solution. However, all potential remedies mean the expenditure of even more money on a project that is already going to hurt financially the 300, 000 residents within the treatment area. As far as I am concerned, it is total madness building a treatment plant on low lying land in Rock Bay that will be subject to rising sea levels....

The public has been asked to pick sites under the current public consultation process, without any knowledge about the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. We should have been told about the possible risks and implications of any digging into the recently remediated soils there. For example, will any such digging dredge up new contaminants and/or cause an inflow of contaminants into the remediated site? If either of these possibilities exists, then it seems totally inappropriate to put any treatment plant on this site after \$70 million has been spent to remediate it....

The BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is basically the same grade as Government Street on the east side. From that street, the property then slopes gently westward to the property's Gorge frontage. Similarly, the property gently slopes from south to north. Given the overall flatness of the site and the lack of major natural impediments within the site, I am concerned that any buildings over two or three stories in height are going to be easily visible by people and vehicles using Government Street for ingress and egress downtown Victoria. More important to me, than the heights of any buildings, is the height of the 4 or more treatment tanks that will go on the site. The CRD has been really careful not to tell the general public, as part of the public consultation process, what the diameter, and particularly the height of those tanks, likely will be. As for any suggestion that the CRD has no idea, whatsoever, what the possible height of the tanks might be, is totally ludicrous, as they could not complete a rough estimate of the total project cost without first making some assumptions in that regard. At the Eastside Public Workshop on the second floor of the Conference Centre, I asked the engineer and moderator what the likely height of the tanks might be and they suggested about the height of that room, which I would guess is about 40 feet to the underside of the ceiling. I have looked, using the Internet, at actual site photographs for projects shown in the Citizens Guide and on the table-top information boards, and quite clearly some of the tanks on those touted projects are way higher than 40 feet. After the public consultation ends on February 20, I fear that the engineers will take over and build whatever they feel is necessary for an efficient treatment facility. I have a very sick feeling that, at the end of the day, the citizens of Capital Region and particularly the citizens of the City of Victoria will find themselves stuck with a giant towering project (regardless of any attempts at aesthetics) that overwhelms the neighbourhood. Rather than take the chance of that possibility, I believe we need to kill the idea of any treatment plant at the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site, which is adjacent to Government Street, one of our only three arterial roads running north out of the City of Victoria.... Yates Street is the City of Victoria's most important and central street running east-west through downtown. The BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is located on the west side of Government, essentially between Pembroke Street and Queens Avenue. If one

looks at a City of Victoria map, one can quickly count that Pembroke is seven streets north of Yates, while Queens Avenue is nine streets north of Yates. Next, Chinatown is located basically on Fisgard Street. Pembroke Street is only four streets north of that, while Queens is six streets north of it. I am totally baffled how anyone can suggest that it makes any sense placing a wastewater treatment facility so close to Chinatown and particularly downtown Victoria... While it is stating the obvious, people need to be reminded that the City of Victoria is blocked on the south, east and in Vic West from major redevelopment, unless it is prepared to become involved in a huge fight over the destruction of a huge swath of existing housing in those areas. Accordingly, the only logical direction for future redevelopment is north in the area bounded by Fisgard on the south, Bay Street to the North, Douglas Street on the East and Government Street on the west. Regardless how the area is currently zoned, this "mixed use" area is just begging for redevelopment. Many of the older buildings in the area are in poor condition, while many of the newer ones are cheaply built. Not surprisingly, a significant portion of the value of the properties in this area is in the land. Over the next 50 years, the area could go through a fantastic evolution. However, I fear that will be stopped in its tracks if the CRD manages to get away with building a wastewater treatment plant on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. If the CRD project is too overwhelming and too visible from Government Street, then the indicated area above will become a dead zone. We cannot let that happen. The citizens of Victoria need to tell the Mayor and her elected colleagues that having a treatment plant adjacent to Government Street between Pembroke St. and Queens Avenue would destroy the future northern extension of the City of Victoria... The construction of any wastewater treatment plant on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site will not have a positive impact on surrounding land values, in contrast to the significant land value increases that typically result from nearby major redevelopment projects in urban areas. If anything, there is a significant chance that a treatment plant in Rock Bay will decrease surrounding land values. This is another reason why Council for the City of Victoria should reject use of the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site for any type of treatment plant... It is very obvious that the CRD has reached separate understandings with BC Hydro and Transport Canada with respect to the process by which it will acquire their respective properties and the sale price to be paid in each case. Yet, no information whatsoever has been available to the public about this matter, as part of the current public consultation process. This lack of information has created a lot of confusion and questions amongst the general public and increased suspicion of elected and non-elected CRD and the City of Victoria officials. One would have thought officials would have learned from past secrecy mistakes.... On June 9, 2012, the Times Colonist had an article "First Nations buy prime land". In the article, there is a reference that this (i.e., the Transport Canada lands) could be "... the first step towards what could one day be a bustling downtown development". The article also mentions that the BC Hydro site will be sold after it is remediated and that "The City of Victoria has been hoping Rock Bay would develop as a future employment district, including a possible high tech business area." In other words, before the CRD's current plan to put some type of treatment plant at the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site, there have been thoughts about the redevelopment potential of the Rock Bay area south of Bay Street, particularly those land west of Government Street. More recently, there was a letter in the Times Colonist on November 24, 2015 entitled "Consider Rock Bay for an arts district". There also has been talk about putting a Casino on the Transport Canada site, which would not be incompatible with arts activities. No doubt, there are more potential uses for the BC Hydro and Transport Canada lands. My understanding is that when large properties come up for redevelopment within the City of Victoria, the proponent is required to go through an extensive process to obtain thoughts and ideas from the general public as to the best uses for the property and the acceptability of the developer's ideas and plans. Why is this not happening with respect to the BC Hydro and Transport Canada lands? I would argue that "due process" has been lost in the CRD's panic to find a solution to its wastewater treatment problem. We need to stop

and have a public discussion as to what the people of the City of Victoria want to happen within respect to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. The site is close to be finished in terms of remediation at the huge cost of \$70 million. The opportunity to revitalize the area along the eastside of the Gorge waterway north of Capital Iron is just too important to the long term health and vitality of the City of Victoria...

I support the need for, at least, a secondary treatment system for Greater Victoria. However, as an urban land and retired BC Government economist, I feel it is totally wrong to put a sewage treatment plant in Rock Bay for the following reasons: - the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is too close to downtown Victoria - use of the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site will make long term redevelopment of the lands between Fisgard and Bay Street much harder, if not impossible, over the next 50 or more years - locating a treatment plant alongside one of the three main arterial roads (Government, Douglas and Blanchard) leading north out of downtown Victoria does not make sense geographically or aesthetically - the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is too low and will be subject to flooding if sea levels rise as projected - at some point, there will be a sewage spill from any wastewater treatment facility constructed on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site and, when it happens, the impact will be devastating to shorelines and properties to the south - the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is too valuable to be used for a treatment plant (over \$70 million spent for remediation) - with wide and lengthy community input, we can find far better uses for the amazingly large and remediated BC Hydro/Transport Canada site...

On December 17, 2015, I sent the four pages of questions (see immediately below) to Mayor Helps. Below the questions (many of which are with respect to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site) is Mayor Helps' response of the same date, indicating that Qs & As would be desirable. In subsequent conversations with Amanda Gibbs, the CRD's public consultations consultant, I first was advised that CRD engineers would be willing to meet with me. That message later changed to words indicating that answers would be more challenging to get. As a result, on February 11, 2016, I sent the email at the bottom asking for a CRD Engineer to call me to arrange a meeting, but I never received a call. Next, at the February 12 Open House in the Vic West Community Centre, one of the staff indicated that she would try to send whatever answers she could get, but that it would likely be on a piece-meal basis.

As of the writing of this email, I have NOT received any answers whatsoever to any of my questions.

From my experience and from talking to other people, the lack of adequate information from the CRD has been one of the biggest frustrations for the general public in completing the online survey and the hand out survey on an informed basis. I believe that if the public had been given a more reasonable amount of information, their answers to the surveys would probably have been significantly different... On December 17, 2015, I sent the four pages of questions (see Appendix (number)) to Mayor Helps. Below the questions (many of which are with respect to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site) is Mayor Helps' response of the same date, indicating that Qs & As would be desirable. In subsequent conversations with Amanda Gibbs, the CRD's public consultations consultant, I first was advised that CRD engineers would be willing to meet with me. That message later changed to words indicating that answers would be more challenging to get. As a result, on February 11, 2016, I sent the email at the bottom asking for a CRD Engineer to call me to arrange a meeting, but I never received a call. Next, at the February 12 Open House in the Vic West Community Centre, one of the staff indicated that she would try to send whatever answers she could get, but that it would likely be on a piece-meal basis. As of the writing of this email, I have NOT received any answers whatsoever to any of my questions. From my experience and from talking to other people, the lack of adequate information from the CRD has been one of the biggest frustrations for the general public in completing the online survey and the hand out survey on an informed basis. I believe that if the public had been given a more reasonable amount of information, their answers to the surveys would probably have been significantly different... I had the opportunity to walk 20 feet or so onto the site one day late last fall when the Pembroke Street gate was inadvertently left open. I was blown away by its huge size (over 8 acres), its gentle slope westward, its frontage on Rock Bay and its remediated state (at a cost of \$70 million). I think it is fair to state that there will likely never be another piece of property, of this size and in this condition, in the City of Victoria available for re-development. I would simply suggest that, if the plywood hoarding around the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site had not been there for a six month period prior to the current public consultation process, a very large number of people would have had an opportunity to go by the site and to think seriously about it. If that ability to see the site had occurred, I believe that the majority of the general public in the CRD would today be totally rejecting any wastewater treatment use of that site...

At one of the public forums, I asked the Urban Systems consultant who was present, how much of the total BC Hydro/Transport Canada site would be required for the one plant option (i.e., Option 1A) assuming the treatment plant waste would be trucked to Hartland. He said that most of it. If the consultant's response was accurate, then I cannot help but hope that the CRD has already reached some type of understanding with the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations who will receive Transport Canada's Rock Bay property once remediation is completed. However, the total lack of land acquisition information at the public forums has resulted in a great many rumors and speculation. Some people think that the CRD will lease the land being acquired by the First Nations and then build at least part of any approved treatment plant on that parcel. Hopefully that approach is not being contemplated by the CRD. Putting key community infrastructure on leased land would give the landlord the opportunity to demand exorbitantly higher land rents after the conclusion of the initial long term land lease. Others are guessing that the First Nations will quickly flip the ownership of the Transport Canada property to the CRD. Under this circumstance, if the CRD has not already negotiated a firm price for the First Nations property, there are major concerns that the minimum purchase price will suddenly skyrocket as soon as CALWMC approves any one of the current options presently up for discussion. Needless to say, a much higher land cost, than currently estimated, would immediately push up all of the total projected cost figures assumed by the CRD. Another speculation is that the First Nations, if there is not a firm deal for the CRD to purchase their newly acquired land, will suddenly renounce their willingness to sell the Transport Canada lands that they will be acquiring and announce they will instead build a casino on the property, which would be a smart alternative actions in terms of jobs and long term income for the bands. A further fear, if this happens, is that the First Nations could build a casino on the former Transport Canada property without any zoning and/or other approvals from the City of Victoria. Long and short, the failure of the CRD to provide the public any information about its land plans and needs, has made it virtually impossible for the public to provide any comments on this important issue, and has left the public wondering if land acquisition issues related to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site could still kill the whole project, as all of the options include use of the Rock Bay site... 1/ February 7, 2016: my formal request to Amanda Gibbs for public viewing access to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site 2/ February 11, 2016: formal response from Amanda Gibbs re: public viewing access to the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site 3/ February 12, 2016: my request to Mayor Helps to instruct staff again to make a serious effort to find a suitable and safe solution 4/ February 14, 2015: my email expressing frustration with

new “no parking” signs suddenly on Government Street beside site and requesting Mayor Helps intervention 5/ February 14, 2015: Mayor Helps instructions to municipal and regional staff to find a solution. My belief is that staff at BC Hydro, Transport Canada and the CRD do not want the public to have any opportunity to view the site, as they fear that it could result in a public backlash about the proposed use of the site for a wastewater treatment plant. As a result, every effort has been made to thwart my proposal. As of the sending of this email, I still have not received any word when public access will be available. Given that the deadline for the public to submit its viewpoints is tomorrow, Friday, at 4:30 pm and given that almost all surveys and letters/emails will now have been completed and/or submitted, any last minute opening tomorrow, if announced, would be totally useless. The bureaucracies have won again!!!! At the two public forums that I attended, there were references, by both Urbans Systems representatives, to the fact that the area north of Fisgard is “industrial” land. Clearly, the consultants were driving this point home in hopes that would convince the public sufficiently to agree to putting a sewage treatment plant (which interestingly is normally deemed a “utility”) on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. What never came up in the forums is the different actual uses around there today. 1/ The Area North of Bay Street and West Douglas Street: This area is filled with a really wide variety of industrial users, The area is very stable and important in terms of jobs and supplying a really broad assortment of services to CRD residents, There is little likelihood that the area will be used much differently in the future 2/ The Area Bounded by Fisgard on the South, Bay Street to the North, Douglas Street on the East and Government Street on the West: This area would typically be called “mixed use”, It has some residential at the north and south ends, but predominately it is non-residential, Non- residential uses here are really varied and include retail stores, warehouses, offices, industrial manufacturers, etc., The buildings tend to be older and tired or newer but cheaply built, Most of the value of the properties in this area is in the land, The area is logically the really long term future development area for the City of Victoria (even if not so reflected in current plans), The area is in transition and has the potential to look very different in 50 years time. 3/ The Area from the Gorge on the West to Government Street on the East, and from Capital Iron North to Bay Street: This area is made up of large parcels owned and used by relatively few companies, Materials handling is a major activity north of Capital Iron, The area has the potential to be redeveloped depending upon what happens with the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. So why is the above important? Quite simply, if the CRD lands up constructing on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site anything less than an absolutely beautiful wastewater treatment facility, the redevelopment potential of the two latter areas above will either be impaired or totally thwarted. Based upon the pictures that I have now looked at of other newer, wastewater treatment facilities, I do not believe there is, or can be, a totally beautiful treatment plant site. Even if such a site exists somewhere today, that type of development, realistically, is not going to happen in the CRD simply because we don’t have the population base necessary to be able to pay the capital costs and the operating costs that go along with such a beautiful facility, despite the best of intentions and initial claims. Unfortunately, there were too many, overly positive comments by staff about Victoria being able to achieve a “platinum” quality level of development....

On February 15, 2016, I sent the photo on page 9 of the Citizen’s Guide to the Brightwater Treatment Centre and asked the purpose of the two different parts of the building shown in the photo and whether they are directly involved in the actual treatment of wastewater? Below is the response that I received.... Thanks for the inquiry! The building in this picture is part of our education and community center; not the wastewater treatment plant. The way it was labeled in the caption is definitely misleading. I attached a graphic of our site. The beige colored buildings on the right/center are the buildings of the wastewater treatment plant. You can see where the education and community center buildings are as well. Let me know if you have any further questions...

Please refer to the following web page: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/article/40645> The second (bottom) photo on this page shows a building similar looking to that on page 8 of the Citizens Guide, but shot from another direction. It was only after looking at that photo on the Oregon web page that I went back and re-read the caption under the photo on page 8 of the CRD’s Citizens Guide, and finally caught the word “support” in the picture explanation, which I had previously totally missed. So, at the Eastside Open House on February 12, I showed the photo on page 8 of the Citizens Guide to some of the participants there. Everyone I asked said they thought the building in the CRD’s photo was a treatment plant. In other words, the photo on page 8 of the Citizens Guide is totally (and deliberately?) misleading. I would also draw your attention to the photo of the Columbia Treatment Facility site shown at the top of this web page. The picture shows lots of huge tanks and what I assume are a large number of settling ponds. Clearly, the Columbia site is huge, yet the facility only services around 600,000 residential and commercial customers, just double our number of users. I am left wondering why the CRD did not include this photo instead in its Citizens Guide, as I presume the Store Street site will look relatively similar in layout as the Columbia site at the end of the day....

It is really important to note that the CRD did not let the general public know, as part of the public consultation process, about land parcels on the west side of Government Street, north from Capital Iron to Bay Street. I suspect that an analysis of that type of information would show that: 1/ there are not a lot of properties owned by totally different owners within this specified area 2/ the small number of properties in this specified area tend to be very large 3/ the BC Hydro/Transport Canada property sits basically in the middle of the few properties between Capital Iron and Bay Street and, as a result, can make or break future re-development of the area 4/ most of the land on either side of the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site is used predominately for raw materials handling 5/ the area is similar in many ways to Granville Island and has an incredible long-term opportunity for consolidation and/or redevelopment. I believe the CRD deliberately did not disclose any maps and/or lists of land information out of fear that the public would suddenly not support a treatment plant in Rock Bay.... Below is the email that I sent on January 31, 2016 to Mayor Helps complaining about the CRD’s Online Survey. I subsequently received two emails from staff (see further below), neither of which addressed my most important concern which was that the computer forced me to fill in sections that I did not want to complete (as I was opposed to the other choices) before it would allow me to proceed to the next page of the online survey.

Within the first few days of February, I learned from staff that, at that point in time, over 1500 attempts had been made to start the online survey, but less than 900 (can’t remember the actual figure) had actually managed to complete it.

It was only at the Eastside Open House on February 12 that I learned that the online survey had been “repaired”, effective as of February 13, to make it more flexible for respondents. I further learned that the CRD has kept the online survey responses for “before” and “after” the repair totally separate. What now really concerns me is that, notwithstanding that answers by the “before” group were forced, the CRD still intends to count, record and disseminate this group’s answers. I am sure that there were other people who faced the same dilemma as I did - fill in reluctantly and continue or quit (which many seem to have done). Long and short, I feel that the online survey results from the “before” group should be totally ignored and destroyed. They just are not an accurate reflection of peoples true feelings.... At the February 12, 2016 Eastside

Open House at the Vic West Community Centre, I asked Dan Wong of Urban Systems how the cost estimate for the Rock Bay Single Plant Option (i.e., Option 1A) was developed. He explained that an "indicative design" (a term apparently used by planners) or preliminary concept would be created indicating what type and size of facilities would need to go on the site based on estimated inflows and outflows. With that conceptual information in hand, the engineers would then develop ballpark cost estimates for each piece of infrastructure that would go the site, and then the figures would be totaled. While some members of the public would not have wanted such detailed information, the CRD would have appeared much more open and transparent if it had had a copy of the "indicated design(s)" available for public viewing. Being able to see the "indicative designs" might also have allowed the public to learn the amount of excess land that possibly might be available for non-wastewater uses (e.g., a casino) under the seven options. For example, Dan explained to me that if one wanted to have the maximum amount of excess land for non-wastewater uses, then the seven plant option would best provide that, as it would reduce the infrastructure required at the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site....

At the February 12, Eastside Open House, Dan Wong, the Urban Planner with Urban Systems, explained that, very deliberately, the public is only being asked for its input on the various site options. Once CALWMC decides which option to proceed with, Mr. Wong further explained that the CRD and the City of Victoria officials would decide which specific technologies would be used for each specific component of the treatment facility (ies) to be built (after consultations with private sector equipment supplies); finalize the project plans; and then call for tenders. What particularly worries me about the above approach presented by Mr. Wong is that it basically is saying "trust us, we know what we are doing". Quite frankly, I don't agree with providing these two levels of government an unfettered ability to resolve every last detail on their own after February 20. In light of past local public-sector construction botch-ups, I have no confidence whatsoever that either one or both levels of government can pull off this huge project on time and on budget, let alone under budget. It is absolutely essential that there be a future opportunity for the general public, at least in those communities where there will be one or more major new facilities constructed (if not in all communities participating in this project) to have input on the detailed drawings for the facility (ies), before the drawings are sent out for tenders. I would argue that we require public input on other types of developments once drawing are sufficiently completed, so why should this wastewater project be exempt from this requirement. Otherwise, one or more communities could face the potential of having to live forever with an ill-designed project....

I am writing to congratulate the "back-room boys" at the CRD for coming up with such a brilliant set of site options that, if people react as anticipated, will have the majority of votes going to their preferred option of a single plant on the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site. On first blush, the wording of the 8 provided, personal priority options looks really wide and reasonable. However, I would suggest that the authors of the online survey know that many of the priority options tend to be "philosophical". Only the choice "How the project costs will affect my taxes" really hits respondents immediately on what the direct impact will be on them. I believe the bureaucrats hope that most people, except avid environmentalists, will gravitate to this financial aspect as their top concern. If that happens to be actually the case when the online survey results are tabulated, then that will, in turn, likely mean that the majority of respondents will have chosen a single plant option. Any good bureaucrat would have known from the beginning that presenting the public with only two or three plant site options would have resulted in screams. So, to still keep the bureaucrats' preferred option (some form of the one plant option) as the likeliest option chosen by the public, they made sure that all other options would be considerably more expensive. However, the wild card for the bureaucrats is the seven plant option that they know will attract a relatively large number of votes. If this happens, the bureaucrats are hoping that the politicians on CALWMC will be too scared to approve that option because of the huge negative backlash that will come from everyone else due to the totally unacceptable tax load created by Option #7. So, in advance of the results of this whole public consultation process, I would ask the CRD bureaucracy to take a bow! In various materials provided as part of the consultation process, there are parallel photos of a digester and a gasifier, with captions "What could a "digester" (or "gasifier") look like?" The digester photo does not name where this actual unit is located, indicate its capacity, tell its actual height (it appears to be at least 75 feet tall), or advise the viewer whether the pictured digester is the size likely needed by the CRD. Similarly, the gasifier photo does not name where this actual unit is located, tell its capacity, or advise the viewer whether the pictured gasifier is the size likely needed by the CRD. What is important to note, however, is that it is easy to tell that the pictured gasifier is only 4 stories in height. Why is the above missing information critically important? The answer is because people, in completing either the questionnaire or online survey, are asked to choose which of the two technologies they prefer. Without any other information, respondents are forced to rely on the photos to make their decision and would most likely choose the gasifier simply due to its apparent low height, in comparison to the huge height of the digester that no person would find acceptable in Rock Bay or, for that matter, in any other populated area of the CRD. Long and short, I would argue that all questionnaire and online survey responses related to gasifier and digester matters should be totally ignored when compiling result, due to inadequate information provided to respondents in advance and due to the biased nature (intended or otherwise) of the two photographs in question.

Consider Rock Bay for an arts district

B.C. Hydro's remediated lands at Rock Bay total 1.73 hectares. This is probably one of the last really large parcels near downtown that will ever be available in the foreseeable future for redevelopment. Before deciding to use much or, worst still all, of the site for sewage-processing facilities, we need to ask the bigger question: Are there other potential uses that would yield even greater long-term economic and social benefits?

For example, this area could be designated as our future entertainment district. Imagine how the area north of Chatham Street would change if this site became the home of a new Maritime Museum; a performing-arts centre with state-of-the-art, multiple performance facilities inside and outside overlooking the waterfront; a training facility for students of ballet, theatre, music and art; new museums.

These types of core activities would, in turn, attract a wide variety of other activities to the area, such as restaurants, banquet facilities and art galleries. Instead of a dead sewage-treatment zone, we could have a fun area where people would love to go and be any time of day.

Many of the existing arts facilities in Victoria are old and inadequate and need to be replaced. If we don't plan now for where these types of activities should occur and be built over the long term, then the health of our whole arts sector will suffer.

Ian Back
Victoria

NOV 24 / 15 T/c

I attended the Burnside Gorge meeting on Feb. 14, and wanted to reconfirm my input values to the survey I completed online several weeks ago. Discussion with the CRD engineer at the open house and info at the meeting has helped confirm my opinions. I live in the Selkirk waterfront (330 Waterfront Cresc) so Rock Bay 2 locations are very close.

Site location: I have no strong opinion on the "3-4" Rock Bay sites. It should be chosen for best overall project cost impact, ensuring flexibility for construction to mitigate cost over runs. (I believe the Store front location may have native rights issues to acquire site and the stretched site layout may increase construction cost so it may not be best one)

Solids Handling: This should be done at the Heartland site using a pipeline. Heartland is better suited to integrate with other activities that happen out there and ensure that power generated is easily tied into a power grid. Power may also be generated from the other garbage. The heartland site seems to have synergies that can be incorporated with the solids processing. Bring food wastes into the Rock Bay site will increase truck traffic in a congested area of the city and this increased traffic noise is a concern for me.

I support tertiary treatment. It seems like the right thing to be doing for the environment (treating of drugs and other chemicals that end up in the waste water). As planned mitigation of noise, smell, traffic and the final layout (visual), including minimizing of excessive & harsh lighting are important to me. Beautification of the streets and surrounding area is desired to increase pedestrian/ cycling use enjoyment.

I believe I read or heard that in 50 years (long after me) there are plans for increased waste water handling in area outside Rock Bay to handle future needs. Future needs are important to consider in today's plans.

I have no comment on all the surrounding area plant sites

Subject: Don't lose an opportunity to replicate Vancouver's successful Granville Island and False Creek

Decades ago, Vancouver's False Creek and Granville Island were heavily industrialized lands that blighted the landscape of the nearby shoreline. Today, these areas are a delightful part of Vancouver, and a central core to many of the city's best offerings.

The area south of Bay Street is similar to the False Creek and Granville Island that once was. With the Store Street Site soon-to-be remediated totally, and given the area's proximity to downtown, the ocean shoreline, the Gorge waterway, etc., this area is positioned as an ideal place for future development in Victoria for higher density residential units, parks, museums, walkways, etc.

The sudden inclusion of the BC Hydro/Transport Canada site as the location for a wastewater treatment facility, under all 7 of the CRD's options, is distressing.

No one lives at South Rock Bay, so perhaps politicians feel that it is easier to suggest this alternative than Ogden Point, Clover Point and other sensitive areas near residential properties. However, to turn these lands over for a wastewater treatment plant is a travesty for future generations of Victorians.

Keep it entirely 'public'. No P3s.

Against Privatization:

We need transparency with our wastewater system. Environmental responsibility is a key factor in wastewater planning and should not be left to profiteers behind closed doors. We need more public jobs to support BC families. We need to know exactly where our taxes are going and the taxpayers have a right to employment from those funds. We don't want a shady corporation who can flee when things go wrong because it will be BC taxpayers cleaning up the mess. Keep it local, keep it green, and keep our own people employed!

NO P3s they are a ripoff. BC AG C. Bellringer's report states the obvious reasons to keep this project publicly owned.

Treatment happens naturally in our receiving event, thus treatment is not necessary. Continue with Source Control Programs. Big waste of money if constructed. If it is wastefully constructed, then at the very least it MUST BE PUBLICLY RUN; absolutely no privatization or P3.

We desperately need a solution to the sewage waste created by those living in the city of Victoria. This is an opportunity to build a state of the art sewage plant. We could even be the first city in the world to use waste as a fuel for our transportation system. Also, storms and sewage discharge will become even more common in the future as global climate changes progress. We need action on the development of a sewage treatment system in the capital city of this province and we need it now.

Attention: Lindsay Taylor

Because the time is short and I cannot get the paper version of the survey in time to you, I would like to give you a brief opinion on wastewater (sewage).

I Live in Victoria.

Importance: 1. level of water Quality... environment.

2. How the project ...taxes.

3. Opportunities...recovery.

My choice is Number 5,,,,(seven smaller plants) This seems very acceptable to me: Smaller, multiple plants, shorter distance of liquids being piped, use of land already in public realm 45% tertiary treatments in some plants, and the greatest return of income, plus the best use of resources.

the most acceptable would be 7plant followed by 4 plant with east Saanich and then three plant with tertiary.

Some thoughts: It seems to me that as each developer of a previous non-resident area (such as Royal Bay) should be taxed to pay for some form of treatment IN HIS DEVELOPMENT AREA. Or, put in a tertiary treatment as part of the development. It can be put underground and the area above would be dedicated as a park, or green space. Isn't there already a treatment in the McPhillips subdivision? Development should be halted in Royal Bay immediately until a treatment centre is installed as part of the condition of development. Why should the taxpayers have to foot the bill for someone's profit?

In Fullerton, California, the sewage treatment plant is a tourist attraction, no smell.

Treatment of solids could be spread about the region. They could use both the Anaerobic and Gasification systems in the CRD perhaps half and half, if suitable. Use the energy produced to serve the local area. It's about time Victoria caught up with the rest of the world.

Dear Lindsay,

I would like to submit a few comments to be included in report.

First, as an ex-committee member of the EPAC- I resigned from this committee because of lack of leadership and, decisions were being made without the knowledge of the Eastside Public Advisory committee. The first round of Ipsos Survey questions were up and running prior to being vetted with the committee. There was a lack of leadership from our elected officials from the beginning of the Public Advisory meetings - adopting Roberts Rules and functioning without a Chair or Vice Chair for months.

Second, I don't believe there is any transparency in this process. A perfect example is how the timelines don't match - public sessions and survey finished on Feb 20th doesn't coincide with the Final reports on sites, costs & technology being presented CALWM committee on Feb 24th, and final reports to the Province on the 29th. How is the public to respond in an informed way by the 20th when the information that has been sadly lacking is presented on the 24th.

Clearly this is not a fair and transparent process that has final decisions coming after public sessions are completed. Also, how does a taxpayer make a decision on Options when they all include the same site? Where is the comparison??

In closing, I would like to add that this year marks 10th year involved with ensuring a fair & transparent process is adopted. As an engaged citizen with The Process it seems to me that if the same people are directing the end results, and outdated information is being stitched together and used as a foundation for the Plan, we will never have the meaningful consultation that the public has been demanding from the CRD.

I believe the operation and maintenance of the final product should remain in public hands rather than with a private company under contract. There have been too many horror stories, cost overruns, local govts taking over because private companies do not do their job to the same standard. They are more interested in profit as their bottom line. It does not pay to go private. Having a private company build the plants under contract would be fine, however, but not to operate them. Operation should be left to local govts of some sort and civic workers.

Hi,

I previously attended a workshop at Burnside-Gorge and an open house at Esquimalt City Hall and spoke with representatives of the engineering firm (Urban Systems) present at each. I submitted comments online earlier today. However, my comments pertaining to processing of solids were fairly long and it was difficult to ensure they were coherent, given the comment format (1 line visible, no chance to review in entirety) on the survey website. I thought I'd better also email these comments, which may / probably look similar to the ones I submitted online. I hope I don't contradict myself!

I was pleased to see reference to "gasification". My initial concern is that the technologies under that general umbrella term vary greatly and the public guide doesn't reflect that. For example, there are pyrolysis technologies at the demonstration or newly-commercial stage that far surpass older technologies with respect to: (1) smaller footprint and ability to be increased in capacity over time (2) ability to handle a highly variable organic feedstock (including municipal organic waste) and be reliable doing so (3) producing more than just gas and electricity, (i.e., bio-oil similar to diesel, gas, and biochar) and (4) increased energy recovery. The proportion of the different products is controllable via reaction temperatures and other conditions. If heavy metal input is minimized (generally considered to be a minor issue in the CRD), the biochar is "clean", i.e., organic "emerging" chemicals of concern that have been examined have been destroyed in the process. The biochar can be a very good soil conditioner. It can contribute to soil carbon sequestration and potentially improve soil productivity or it can be combusted to provide energy. Soil carbon sequestration or increases in soil productivity may not be considered a benefit from the CRD perspective, but are a societal benefit.

In the survey, we are given a choice of anaerobic digestion or "gasification", told that one or the other would be located at one site, either Rock Bay or Hartland, and asked for an opinion. Respondents, by and large, won't appreciate the range of gasification approaches (including footprint and suitability for use in multiple locations in conjunction with liquid waste treatment) and will express preferences based on incomplete, if not misleading, information. It may be possible to have smaller-footprint cost-effective pyrolysis plants at each of several liquid waste treatment plants, if that path is taken; if so, that changes assumptions about how many and where solids plants should be. This isn't fairy-tale stuff. An analogous approach (small power plants fueled by pyrolysis of biosolids and organic waste) is under development in Birmingham UK. I'm concerned the limited choice of options in the public guide and survey and the responses to those limited choices will bias any report proceeding to the CRD liquid waste committee.

The survey states that the CRD should "canvass the market" to determine cost-effective and environmentally-beneficial alternatives. This is imperative. CRD must, not should, do this. The survey also states that information from that canvassing exercise can provide "possibilities" but also states, "these are not proposed options". Perhaps this means options for this survey. Otherwise, it sounds like the canvassing exercise will not matter. I hope that is not true!

My final point is that the CRD may decide arbitrarily not to consider solids processing technologies that don't have a minimum of 5 or 10 years of "proven" "reliable" "operational" service. I understand the need to be conservative. However, older anaerobic digestion and gasification technologies come with their own problems, including capital expense, an inability to effectively deal with problems inherent in sludge and municipal organic waste, and poor recovery of resources. It would make far more sense to slowly and thoroughly examine newer technologies that can effectively deal with these problems and maximize resource recovery in the process. Then, select a new technology that has good evidence of performance, even at a demonstration level, rather than select something that is "proven" operationally (to be mediocre) and be stuck with long-term costs. Pyrolysis technologies have advanced a great deal in the past few years because there is such a need world-wide to minimize the environmental impacts of 8 billion humans' waste and to recover the energy and other resources contained within it. Those improvements and associated testing should shorten the time needed for a technology to be considered "proven".

In short, if necessary, delay the commitment to a full-fledged single biosolids plant if it means ending up with something much less costly and more effective environmentally.

So yes, canvass the marketplace for gasification (pyrolysis) approaches and emphasize the need to do so in this report, don't be wedded to the idea of 1 type of plant in 1 location, and be flexible in timelines and what is considered "proven" technologies. Better to be slow and get the right technology for the 21st century, rather than settle on something proven, but inadequate, from the 20th century.

I hope this is of some use.

Regards,

Please do not put the sewage plant in Rock Bay ! As waterfront home owners in Vic West we object to the potential dangers to the waters of the gorge and inner harbour . Thank you for considering our concerns.

I am great disappointed by the set of commentaries and clearly much shaping is being done. I had expected better. Please know that my choice is not represented by the value set being presented as criteria for selection and justification.

Hi Lindsay,

As I mentioned in a previous e-mail, I took the survey and submitted it a number of weeks ago. Afterwards I was left with more questions than answers. The RITE a plan meeting on Feb 8th brought up a number of issues for consideration. The CRD Surfrider meeting on Tues the 16th gave me further information. Rather than fill the survey in again I'm summarizing what I consider important points.

We need to provide the best possible treatment; most effectively, efficiently, economically and safely; while best serving the environment at least environmental cost.

Tertiary treatment is most desirable. As the population grows more toxins, microbeads and microfibres etc. will enter the water system. Bring the water treatment to the highest standard now. It has been mentioned that secondary treatment facilities could be retrofitted for the purpose of tertiary treatment in the future but this would be a time consuming and expensive process involving yet more debate, studies and process work at increased cost even before construction begins. It has already taken decades to get to the point we are at now.

Gasification appears safer, more environmentally suitable and compact and a cost effective way of dealing with residual solids.

As I understand it much of the infrastructure is in place to transfer it to the Hartland Landfill site.

Provide the best distribution of outfall sites to deal with infiltration and inflow after severe rains so that the water doesn't have to go back into the wastewater treatment system. Make repairs to existing conveyance systems

Rock Bay is pivotal in each of the options we are given. We need enough major treatment sites to: provide back up for system failure resulting from earthquake situation, and adequately provide for the needs of growing outlying communities. Sites that are available now might not be years down the road. Use the sites that have already been approved or that have expressed an interest in development for water processing and multi-use facility. Optimize the use of existing conveyance infrastructure providing upgrades where necessary.

Thanks for providing me with this venue to more precisely express my concerns and preferences. Wishing you and the team all the best of success for the outcome of this process.

1. Has the new federal government re-confirmed the Conservative's mandate that Southern Vancouver Island must provide sewage treatment by 2020? We understand that the new Prime Minister does NOT support this.
2. Has the new government confirmed financial support for sewage treatment?
3. Has the new federal government been contacted to request an extension of time if this must proceed?
4. All of the sewage proposals for construction and operational costs drastically exceed the affordability for the cities and citizens. Wastewater treatment must be affordable.

The Core Area Wastewater Survey presupposes that we are in favour of the land-based sewage treatment approach. We are unable to complete the survey because we are opposed to the proposed treatment approach. Recent findings by DFO researchers have determined that the current proposed multi-billion dollar land-based approach will have a negligible benefit to the marine environment thus there is no justification to pursue this folly.

The CRD may lobby the DFO to reclassify our outfalls from high risk to low and use the time to allow scientists to carry out further research and to reduce even further the already negligible harm to the marine environment by preventing the mixing of stormwater and wastewater and identify and reduce/eliminate point sources of toxic materials before they enter the wastewater.

Sincerely,

I wrote the letter below in June of 2014. Rather than spend time rewriting the basically same opinion I had then, I am simply sending the same email again. Some of the names of agencies may have changed during that nearly two year period, but my suggestions, reasoning and sentiment have not, so below are my opinions of the best way to approach the issues if they actually require a solution, which I am not convinced they do. Personally, I still think this project has been rushed into, pigheadedly, without the right people at the table, and that now would be a perfect time to go back to the federal and provincial governments and ask for additional time to have the whole matter properly evaluated, in terms of its value relative to its costs. I still believe source reduction is much better than trying to remove the most dangerous elements in sewage after the fact. A billion dollar program of education, collection of toxic materials, and updated grey water segregation would go a long way in reducing the amount of materials to be dealt with, and the toxicity of it.

However, if we must develop sewage treatment facilities, small is beautiful. It reduces the amount of movement of the materials, and the infrastructure to do that, it allows for pinpointed treatment, it allows for even distribution of impact, and it requires smaller landmass per unit.

My 2014 commentary follows below:

Sometimes amalgamation makes sense, economically, environmentally, logistically while maintaining fairness, and yet sometimes it does not.

I have maintained that sewage treatment is NOT one of these, for numerous reasons. Municipalities within the CRD differ considerably in the demographics within them, the residential density, industries, even the concentration and types of pharmaceuticals which might be used. By allowing each municipality or groups of municipalities to determine their sewage treatment, the methodologies can be fine tuned to their needs. One population might wish to pay added amount to bring the system to a higher level than required by the federal and provincial laws. One area may have greater issues with certain types of water pollution than another. By being able to customize to the population density and demographics, better treatment options may be possible.

Doing so may also reduce the amount of distance the sewage has to travel. It can also reduce the impact any one neighbourhood has from the treatment facility, since each can be smaller, and how and where the sewage sludge will be dealt with. Basically, it is just fairer for each municipality to be responsible for its own population's sewage.

There are also other advantages to such non-centralized systems, budgets will be more personalized and deal with within a smaller district, making individual municipalities and their politicians more responsive and responsible to their citizens, a variety of treatment technologies can be used, and as such the larger community can learn which work better for their purposes. Further, should retrofits be necessary over time, they can be done in smaller increments and at different times, as required. Should there be a failure of one system, due to breakdown of equipment, floods, earthquake or other disaster, it may be possible to shuttle sewage from other districts to a different treatment facility temporarily.

Final costs are an issue I am unable to directly comment upon. Would a centralized save money? I have my doubts. Whenever a massive project with nearly \$1 billion involved and several layers of government, waste creeps in. I suspect this has already been the case with the CRD involvement. I also suspect that the committee, by its nature, and form may contain the wrong mix of people to be making these types of decisions. Hopefully, municipalities will bring in experts and stakeholders to make better use of the funds. It appears to me the CRD has become way too politicized and stuck in their approaches, and too afraid of scraping bad ideas. There is a type of momentum that develops in such dynamics that can cause things to run off the rail, which is what I believe may have occurred. Too many politicians and too many egos dealing with too much money and not enough knowledge or understanding. And perhaps too many outside consultants who see dollar signs over efficiencies. Also, the CRD, as a non-elected body, can get away with bad decisions by pointing fingers. Municipal politicians do not get that luxury.

As a result of the above, I am writing in advance of next Wednesday's CRD meetings urging you to support the motion put forward by Director Desjardins.

I believe centralized sewage treatment is an error, and that a moratorium on the Seaterra project is needed so that a sober reconsideration of the options can be considered and acted upon. I think new eyes are needed to prevent the entrenchment which appears to be taking place, and that the other financial stakeholders (provincially and federally) should be told that there is not consensus and that time is needed to establish another game plan, even if it somewhat alters the timeline of the completion of the projects.

Individual municipalities, or smaller groups thereof should be provided with some small grants to begin to look into the options open to them, and Seaterra should be suspended during that time. If each municipality can develop their own viable costed option, Seaterra should be disbanded at that time or developed into a coordinating agency for money transfers and the like.

Rushing into a likely bad decision to meet an arbitrary final date would be an irrevocable mistake. Now is the time to wind down and regroup to avoid that.

Thank you.

The CALWMC has provided several options shown below for the public to consider and state their preferences. The current (phase 2) process started with good intentions but has now been shown to be flawed and misguided:

- Sites were selected via a public consultation process that did not provide necessary or sufficient information for the public to make truly informed choices
- One site selected in the flawed process became a key component of all options to the exclusion of other viable alternatives
- System layouts developed for the selected sites by the consultants lacked innovation and imaginative design
- Concepts have not been developed to the appropriate level of detail by the consultants as required to prepare reliable cost estimates or to provide sufficient information for an engaged public to make informed decisions
- Suggestions from the public for alternative concepts have been rejected before obtaining detailed information and without proper evaluation
- Alternative options proposed by private proponents have not been included
- Cost estimates for treatment prepared by the consultants seem grossly inflated compared to costs for the previous McLoughlin option and other options provided by private proponents
- Cost estimates for additional conveyance infrastructure needed for the listed options have not considered the significant construction impacts and ongoing risks imposed on the residents and businesses located adjacent to the pipeline routes, particularly along Cook Street, but also in Esquimalt and Victoria West
- The cost savings and revenue generation potential of an integrated resources management (IRM) approach using advanced gasification has not been considered

	ONE PLANT	ONE PLANT	TWO PLANT	THREE PLANT	THREE PLANT	FOUR PLANT	SEVEN PLANT
	Rock Bay Secondary	Rock Bay Tertiary	Rock Bay & Colwood Secondary & Tertiary	Esquimalt Nation, Rock Bay & Colwood Secondary	Esquimalt Nation, Rock Bay & Colwood Tertiary	Esquimalt Nation, Rock Bay, Colwood & East Saanich	Langford, Colwood, View Royal, Rock Bay, East Saanich, Saanich Core & Esquimalt
CAPITAL COST	\$1.031 billion	\$1.131 billion	\$1.088 billion	\$1.125 billion	\$1.1776 billion	\$1.195 billion	\$1.348 billion
OPERATING COST	\$21 million	\$26.4 million	\$22.8 million	\$23 million	\$24 million	\$25.3 million	\$26.6 million
EST. ANNUAL INCOME	Up to \$0.9 million	Up to \$0.9 million	Up to \$2.4 million	Up to \$1.6 million	Up to \$3.8 million	Up to \$3.8 million	Up to \$4 million
QUALITY OF WATER AFTER TREATMENT	90% secondary, 10% tertiary for water re-use	100% tertiary for some water re-use	80% secondary, 20% tertiary for water re-use	90% secondary, 10% tertiary for water re-use, 100% secondary at Colwood	100% tertiary at Colwood, 90% secondary at Rock Bay & Esquimalt Nation and 10% tertiary	75% secondary, 25% tertiary for water re-use	55% secondary, 45% tertiary for water re-use

The CRD must reject the options shown above and continue with an open inclusive consultation process in an IRM context. Other options are viable and could provide significantly greater benefits to the residents for lower capital and life cycle costs.

I noted that the 2030 costs of over \$250 million (per Appendix D from a CALWMC meeting) for each option was not included as a line item in the citizens guide estimated costs or in the survey.

When I asked at a workshop why it was excluded, the Urban Systems person said it was related to “different funding”. That is nonsense as we are discussing capital costs.

To exclude these costs is a significant omission of pertinent facts and indicates a lack of openness and clarity in presenting information in a citizen’s guide and survey for the taxpayers.

The costs are relevant as the best case for construction is:

- Decision on option 2016
- Approvals complete 2018
- Start construction 2019
- Plant(s) commissioned 2023
- Major upgrade of the plant 2030

A major upgrade of any plant 7 years after commissioning is extremely relevant in any business decision (wastewater or otherwise). To dismiss the above by suggesting the 2030 costs are not relevant due to inflation and discounting is inappropriate as nominal costs are easy for the taxpayer to understand and do not make any assumptions.

I wish to add my name as a Saanich Resident that I support the key concerns over public ownership of the wastewater treatment system as expressed below:

- Public ownership and operation have been a key theme throughout consultation, CRD residents clearly see the importance of public infrastructure and that should be honoured.
- While ideally the entire project would be publicly owned and operated, we ask that the CRD honour their previous commitment and not have any expansion of the P3 portion of the project.
- We remain concerned about the existing P3 and would like to see a plan to transition the solids-energy recovery portion into public delivery as quickly as possible. 30 years is too long for a private corporation to make money off of CRD resident's sewage.
- We remain concerned about the oversight commission lacking transparency and accountability. Once the commission begins their work there should be some type of feedback mechanism in place for the public that is structured and broadly accessible

Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee:

It is very distressing to see CRD elected officials and staff blindly going forward with an unnecessary, ill-advised, and inappropriate project. In so doing, you have already wasted an unconscionable amount of public funds, propose to waste an unbelievable amount in future on a huge project with essentially no benefit, and are failing to do your jobs as elected officials and professionals.

The federal regulations which are being used as the primary justification are poorly written, do not recognize the physical characteristics of the greater Victoria situation, and are not being applied correctly. It is the responsibility of elected officials and CRD professionals to challenge such inappropriate application of inappropriate regulations.

The strong statements of a large variety of independent scientists and professionals against this proposed project are a clear indication that something is seriously wrong with what is happening. These experts have no vested interest one way or another on this issue, and in some cases risk negative consequences of speaking up. The ongoing unwillingness of elected officials to consider and act on this input is truly shocking.

You are strongly encouraged to change course on this insane process and engage the province and federal governments with a view to starting over with a realistic assessment of the need and consideration of options for the future.

Yours truly,

Sorry – your south Vancouver Island system is so dysfunctional I'm not going to support it with yet more "input". Stupid, inefficient and stunningly expensive are the applicable concepts. You guys couldn't organize a piss-up in a brewery.

We are on septic and pay all our costs for maintenance and upkeep of this system. We have been told we will never get on a city sewage line. I am very concerned about my costs for this sewage treatment plan as I will never use it. I understand the "greater good". But I need to be able to afford this as well. Please please please keep our cost down!

Hello Councillor Judy Brownoff,

As a Saanich taxpayer and resident, I would like to express my support for Nels Jensen's motion to include McLoughlin Point and its provincially approved plan in the option set for treatment sites and plans. It may not be chosen, but I believe it should be put back on the table as a viable option. As a member of the GVWWC, I participated in the process and public consultations for the original sewage treatment plans and site options. There was much good work done in those years. The CRD must honestly consider all options and then make a decision and get this project moving forward. I along with many of my friends and neighbours are anxiously awaiting the outcome. Let's make it one we can be proud of.

Respectfully submitted

Re: Wastewater treatment

For reference, I am a Civil Engineer with 25 years experience including wastewater treatment, general infrastructure and management of large projects.

I am concerned that the planning process had identified at a preliminary basis a possible treatment plant site for Clover Point, however when design options were presented to the public (i.e. now) this option has not been pursued. I have reviewed the publicly shared information and have seen reasons why various sites were dismissed, but NO BASIS for relegating or rejecting the Clover Point site. WHY has no design case been developed or costed for Clover Point?

I do recognize site space may be limited but could be increased either through:

- expropriation of nearby lands; or
- "reclaiming" land from the ocean / building into the ocean somewhat. This is a very common practice (e.g. Netherlands).

Advantages of using the Clover Point site include:

[1] no piping of sewage to Rock Bay or other locations

- associated cost and disturbance impact savings
- associated reduction in pumping costs FOREVER
- faster construction time

[2] existing land use is as an outfall

- no need for rezoning or issues with community pushback regarding zoning
- no increased exposure of a community to sewage exposure than there already is

[3] likely faster permitting and construction (see #1 and #2)

[4] dollars spent will be more effective towards treatment instead of towards buying pipes and ripping up roads, parks etc

[5] likely MUCH lower capital cost (land, pipes etc)

[6] likely MUCH lower operating cost (pumping sewage to Rock Bay etc and pumping effluent back to Clover Point)

I also recognize that the Clover Point site may or may not not be suitable for the Westside sewage flows, however if that is the case there are alternate West Shore sites available and under separate consideration.

I look forward to a rigorous response to address this concern. thank you,

I agree with Robert Drew's February 14 op-ed entitled "Rock Bay sewage-plant site makes no sense."

McLoughlin Point was a comparatively remote waterfront site. Rock Bay is in the heart of our city, and its site has higher and better uses than a sewage plant. A spill at Rock Bay would risk contamination of our upper harbour. The building of a pipeline from Rock Bay to the ocean outfall at Clover Point would entail digging a massive trench through the heart of downtown Victoria, at great cost to our economy and especially our valued tourist industry.

I urge you to reject the Rock Bay site.

Respectfully yours,

WE attended the session with options at the session on January 30, 2016 at Gordon Head United Church. We asked several questions of someone who gave only vague answers to our queries. We found this session premature as there are other options in our view to consider. They were not on display. At this point we would be most reluctant to see a system in place that is not 100% tertiary treatment.

I'm less than satisfied with the options the CRD is now proposing for sewage treatment. The workshop at UVic last weekend was ridiculous. Those who organized it had to field a lot of questions, and often the response was, "I have it, and I'll get that for you" - information that should have already been on the screen.

Details about further costs to the taxpayer post 2030 were brought up by an audience member. But not included, nor were the tax implications for citizens based on where they live. Lame excuses from the organizers as to why this info was printed or on the screen. "Tertiary treatment requires more energy" - so what? and then the notion of heat recovery was dismissed because of the low cost of natural gas at present. What??? Tertiary treatment will remove micro plastics which few of us think about a sleeping enemy of ocean life. I don't agree with Rock Bay. I don't understand why all choices have been narrowed to this one site, for ALL the options you propose.

I've followed this exercise for over a year. I don't understand why existing outfalls and pumping stations didn't make the grade for a reasonable distributed system.

I also fail to understand why the CRD hasn't been more forceful in educating all citizens that noise, smell and appearance are not to be feared; by presenting existing examples from other parts of the world, where sewage treatment plants co-exist very nicely with resident neighbours or in parks. This lack of education certainly influenced resident's feelings and therefore, choices of not-in-my-backyard, resulting in the current poor options, in my opinion.

Proposing to incur \$200 million for new pipes to Clover Point is outrageous; not to mention disruption of a major artery like Cook Street. I know, the CRD hasn't identified that as a route; but we all know that's the plan.

I'm told the CRD thought it was too costly to pipe from the Vanderkoeve property on W Burnside, yet supports piping from Clover Point to Rock Bay.

The CRD board of politicians decided 10 acres would be required for a treatment plant - how did they arrive at this number?

If you listen to the RITE group and Mayor Attwell, there are reasonable alternatives. And what about the latest proposal for Clover Point by the Crystal Clear group of respected local professionals?

Whoever is running the CRD show - and that includes politicians who are eager to get this done without due diligence - AND DUE CONSIDERATION OF COST IMPLICATIONS TO ALL TAXPAYERS - don't have my trust.

And finally, the online survey is a joke.

I would like to take the survey as advertised in today's OakBayNews(January 20) but none of the web sites have the survey .Having said that,I am quite dismayed at this headlong rush for treatment when their is no demonstrated need for it nor a solution to the residual sludge problem(dumping it in Hartland is no solution !). Also,why are you looking at Rockbay as a site ?Do you seriously think such a facility downtown and at the head of the Gorge and at the bottom of the inner harbour is a good idea ??As for funding from the Feds and the province,does anyone seriously think they will not provide funding when push comes to shove ?Creating this hysterical atmosphere and then landing on dubious sites and ultimately saddling the taxpayer with huge tax increases is really a dubious proposition.

Jansens suggestion to use Mcloughlin Point makes huge sense.If the CRD really wants to be pushy ,then that is an issue they should dig their heels in on.The site makes the most sense.Of course the issue of what to do with the sludge would still need to be dealt with.What does every other waste treatment plant do with their theirs?Surely we don't have to reinvent the wheel on this issue !?

How does the CRD reconcile the methodology it has chosen to estimate cost per household with the actual method adopted by the City? As well, the CRD currently uses the water consumption figures provided to it by the City in assigning sewage fees to the citizens of Victoria, and not simply dividing costs by the number of households.

You are planning to spend (more of) OUR money UNWISELY Please respect and LISTEN TO THE CONTRARY VOICES (UVic scientists, ARREST) and invest INTELLIGENTLY to maximize the genuine benefit to our local environment while protecting the WALLETS of we municipal citizens, many of who will be struggling to stay in our homes in light of our tough economy and spiralling taxation and cost of living ... Thankyou for minding we ofttimes silent and struggling majority

A dogma that rejects the potentials of innovation has been leading this project.

The CRD knows that advanced gasification as part of integrated waste/resource management is cheap compared to anaerobic digestion. The latter ranges in costs between \$250 and \$350 million. The former ranges in cost between \$50 to \$100 million. So, why then did the CRD not hire true expertise in this area? The “expert” who costed the “gasification” system at \$233 million hasn’t ever designed or implemented such a project.

Another example of the dogma that rejects innovation has been the lack of consideration for the benefits of tertiary treatment. Once the water is clean and ready for human contact it can be discharged locally. Just like the system that Urban Systems designed in Tsawwassen.

These two alone have lead the CRD to ignore, suppress and hide any potential vendors that might compete with the \$250 million proposal, the Biowater/Pivotal proposal, that the CRD has been aware of since, at least, June 9 2015.

Chair Lisa Helps wrote an oped and stated

“At the end of this year-long process, there remain on the one hand those whose only acceptable option is a fully distributed tertiary system with advanced gasification sites scattered throughout the region. Our consultants and technical oversight panel — all highly qualified, capable and independent professionals — have considered this option.

They’ve found that there are many elements of this proposal that can be incorporated into whichever plan we land on. But they’ve given us their independent, professional opinion that the proposal doesn’t meet current provincial regulations.”

From <http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/mayor-lisa-helps-sewage-train-is-headed-safely-for-the-station-1.2165135>

If the statement “Our consultants and technical oversight panel ...(have) given us their independent, professional opinion that the proposal doesn’t meet current provincial regulations.” is true and if the process is fair, open and transparent then there must be a body of evidence to support the statement. Since the rejected proposal’s goal was to save 100’s of millions of dollars and this sum is so staggering, one can expect the body of evidence to be substantial and well documented.

I have asked the Chair and many others in the CRD for this information some time ago without an answer.

Next, think back to Phase 1 where sites were selected. This “public process” was conducted without giving the public anything they needed to know. What is the cost? What size will it be? Will it be above or below ground? Will it be secondary or tertiary? Will there be water amenities? etc etc. None of these questions had answers for the public. This was noted by CRD Directors:

- Absent real cost information, people chose a site thinking they had real cost information. Young
- We were ill advised to do what we did as the public had no capacity to evaluate the sites Derman
- Very hard for the public to pick sites based on the information we provided Brownoff
- Some of the now eliminated sites would still be there if people had known they were part of a small decentralized system. They were fearful Plant

A few recent concerns from the Transparency and Fairness Advisor have raised concerns about the process. Most notably the survey. The Eastside Public Advisory Committee (EPAC) did not review that survey. (Due largely to a completely unrealistic compressed time schedule.) All they saw was a schematic layout for a few pages of the survey. They certainly were not asked to review the question that forced people to “chose three options” without the option to select none of the above. Because of this problem and the switch, mid-stream, to allow for “none of the above”, The Transparency and Fairness Advisor has said the survey results should not be used as a quantitative measure; it can only be used qualitatively.

The entire process risks being rejected because it fails to comply with statutory mandates. The cost estimates according to the TOP are not even Class D. (Feb 13th CALWMC meeting).

The cost savings and revenue generation potential of an integrated resources management (IRM) approach using advanced gasification has not been considered even though its potential has been known for months if not years.

The CRD must reject the options they have proposed and provide more information on solutions that use innovation to save 100’s of millions of dollars.

The annual estimated cost per household has been calculated by the CRD at \$509 for Victoria, including annual debt and operating costs. This was calculated using a projected population equivalent (PPE) of 135,609 divided by 3 PPE to obtain 45,203 households.

However, the City of Victoria calculates our sewage fees on the basis of our total annual water consumption. Using the City's methodology, and our annual water consumption figures reveals that my wife and I, in a single family house with a small yard, currently pay 45% more than a couple in a condominium, because of our lawn, shrub and tree watering, even though our respective sewage contributions to the system would be the same.

On that basis, the cost to a couple owning a single family house with a small yard could be over \$700 per annum... not \$509...higher than any other municipality...most of which do not use total annual water consumption to calculate sewage fees.

How does the CRD reconcile the methodology it has chosen to estimate cost per household with the actual method adopted by the City? As well, the CRD currently uses the water consumption figures provided to it by the City in assigning sewage fees to the citizens of Victoria, and not simply dividing costs by the number of households.

What happened to the Haro Woods plan? That property was purchased by Saanich specifically for a treatment plant for the Finnerty Cove outfall. Waste water could be diverted from Gyro Park back to the Haro Woods plant. It could treat more than half of the waste water generated by Saanich and treated effluent discharged via the Finnerty Cove outfall or piped along to Clover Point.

Proposing a central plant around Cedar Hill X Road and Shelbourne is just a plan for a revolution.

I think the whole topic of treatment is questionable in the first place. Previous scientific research, carried out by highly qualified professionals demonstrated that the current outfalls have minimal impact on the ocean receiving environment.

I do not believe that the operating costs are accurately reflected in the plants selected. My experience has been that operating costs are more in the range of 8 to 10% of capital costs. That would almost triple the proposed operating costs stated in the estimates. This is a critical item because operating costs are not covered by any grants. It would virtually cripple the Victoria citizens if they had to pay an additional \$1000 per household for operations let alone the capital and replacement costs of the system.

There are a lot of options to review and the CRD has done an inordinate amount of work to evaluate the most effective systems. How this area knelt to the ground because one municipality decided that they did not want the treatment plant where it already is has me baffled.

I like the concept of optimizing recovery of heat, treated water and combustible by products of treatment but ONLY if we have to treat. I am not convinced that the federal government or the provincial government is prepared to enforce treatment. How could they accomplish that?

I prefer to delay this project until a more cost effective and environmentally practical treatment methodology is available.

So , went and checked out the storefront after leaving the mtg and brought home the info sheets. Apparently the display boards were on the way but apparently the pictures are the same as ones on the website , will check it out. I hope the physical set up becomes more interesting and what is presented a consequence of time shortage not lack of interest in getting public feedback (no paper or pens in view,not even a computer to be seen .(who is in charge of this public engagement-- ? The press announcements yesterday would make you think it was a big deal but sure isn't the impression at the site.Nice young woman at the door and I did put my name in the draw for a paddle board tho.I wonder wasn't a consultation layout ready to go in Dec. and what did that have on offer? I was prepared that the motion to add McLoughlin would not be debated today but do wish it was available for viewing somewhere. Hope I didn't disappoint with my bit today and don't know what happened to xxxxx and xxx . So many points to make but ultimately I hope the people who have to pay start to hear there is a project ready to go. Isn't that what this latest salvo is about? Cheers

Verbal Feedback from Storefront:

- There are too many options, it is too confusing
 - Want more Eastside materials
 - Online survey not user friendly
 - McLoughlin should be here
 - I'd like to see the flow boundaries of where the flows lead to
 - What about Colwood residents on septic? Will we have to pay?
 - I'd like to see a topographic map with elevation
 - The CRD is misleading people by saying wastewater goes down the drain as that water can be re-used
 - There should be the household costs per municipality for each option largely displayed
 - I have a concern re: trucking and piping to Hartland
 - Why was there no mention of commercial or business annual cost in comparison to the resident cost?
 - When will infrastructure be improved so that cross contamination and overflow of sewage no longer occurs (Cordova Bay) closed most of last winter!
 - It has been over 15 years that Uplands residents fought to avoid upgrades. When will this issue be resolved?
 - No Hartland (no pumping) should treat at Rock Bay
 - What do we do with our sludge?
 - There should be mock up of plants - what would it look like?
 - There should be size of plant footprints available
 - I do not think we need to treat
 - I think this is ridiculous that we are still talking about this - need to move on with it
 - I'm worried about how this will affect my taxes
 - How much have we already paid for this and how much and for how long will we be paying?
 - Household costs - are they the same after 30 years - inflation?
 - We should look at the kinetic proposal and the Clover point site - why would we pump from clover to rock bay to treat?
 - How and where is the storm sewer connected to the sanitary sewer and is there a possibility of the reverse of this flow?
 - 'East Saanich' is misleading because it is not a municipality
 - Misleading information for public in citizens guides
 - If Colwood can do tertiary without outfalls then why can't others?
 - Where in the circled area would the saanich plant go?
1. a) When/how was the testing carried out to say that we need to increase our treatment levels?
 - b) Are these requirements federal or provincial?
 - c) What were the conditions during testing? For example, a hot summer day, a windy day, during the dick migration?
 2. a) Please explain the tendering system.
 - b) He would like it to be implemented where a third party expert creates the blue prints and designs, and those documents are put out to tender. That way everyone is bidding to do the exact same work.
 3. a) How will this project be funded? Where does the loan come from? What is the interest? What do the monthly payments boil down to?
 - b) He would like to see or talk about the amortization plan.

- "Why are we spending so much time and effort into sewage treatment, when I believe that this is not necessary, is there any proof or evidence from knowledgeable people justifying an expense of this nature?"
- I believe there is more revenue needed for education and health, these should have a priority over sewage treatment
- SEWAGE TREATMENT IS NOT NECESSARY, OR HASN'T BEEN PROVEN TO BE NECESSARY"
- How does primary, secondary and tertiary treatment differ when it comes to prescription drugs being taken out of the wastewater?
- Infrastructure Question: When will the infrastructure be improved so that cross contamination and overflow of sewage no longer occurs? (example: Cadboro Bay closed most of last winter!) It has been >15 years that uplands residents fought to avoid upgrades. When will this issue be addressed?

Verbal Feedback Through Phone: Why would you disrupt Rock Bay? Why wouldn't we put it at Clover Point? The CRD is doing nothing and never will. I have no faith that this committee will make a decision. We should be looking at the Kinetic proposal at Clover Point.

Verbal Feedback Through Phone: I would like to know more about the present operating costs (including the costs of monitoring). How could our current system be improved? I&I? Source Control? Improve the system by getting people hooked up to the system. There's already acidification in the ocean. In terms of opportunity, if we need to have a plant, it would be nice to have a learning centre where people can learn about the treatment process, ocean issues and climate change.

Verbal Feedback Through Phone: I think that we should sponsor people from the government to meet the UVIC scientists to discuss how they do their sampling (including the Mayor of Seattle). We need evidence based decision making and we should not be pressed into a decision because we've been designated as high risk.

Verbal Feedback Through Phone: I support a 100% tertiary process (1B). I prefer Anaerobic Digestion. Any plan that is with Esquimalt as a Saanich resident I want nothing to do with. Saanich is the closest to Farmlands - I would support a Saanich going alone option if Esquimalt remains as part of this process as they will continue to disrupt. I would prefer to keep solids processing at Rock Bay.



Public Consultation Summary Report

Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project

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