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REPORT TO CORE AREA LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2016

SUBJECT: Report from the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board - November 2016

ISSUE

To provide the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) with the November 2016 status report on the work of the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board (Project Board) and the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project.

BACKGROUND

Under its Terms of Reference, the Project Board provides monthly status reports to the Capital Regional District (CRD). This is the report for November 2016.

IMPLICATIONS

As noted in the October report, the Project continues to move forward on several fronts. In the past month, the Project Board has focused on the following activities:

- Preparing a Project Execution Plan
- Recruiting a Project Director and assembling a Project Management team
- Engaging the Township of Esquimalt in the development permit process
- Engaging senior levels of government to finalize the funding agreements
- Clarifying the Integrated Resource Management (IRM) planning process with the Ministry of Environment
- Engaging Harbour Resource Partners (HRP), the contractor for the construction of the wastewater treatment plant, to reach a project agreement by early 2017
- Beginning preparations for the procurement of a proponent for the bio-solids treatment facility at Hartland Landfill
- Continuing meetings with municipalities in the Core Area and with stakeholders

A more detailed description of some of these activities follows:

Communication of Project Information/Community Engagement

As noted in the last report, with the approval of the Business Case and the confirmation of senior government funding, the Project Board is in a position to recruit a Project Director and assemble a management team. This team will include resources to communicate with communities, stakeholders, and the broader public and to develop a community consultation and engagement program. This process has begun. The Project Board anticipates the Project being fully staffed by year end.

The Project Board recognizes that, while this process is under way, there is a need to continue providing information and engaging with interested stakeholders. The Project Board has developed a three stage plan to address this need, which is outlined in Attachment 1.

As noted in the October report, and as reflected in the attached Plan, the activities during this interim period include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Project Board scheduling meetings with representatives of the various municipalities and stakeholder groups and continuing discussions with the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. Attachment 2 is a list of the meetings held in the month of October.

In addition to meetings with staff, in order to continue to inform elected officials, the Project Board Chair will be presenting the status of the Project to the City of Victoria Council in November and to Saanich Council in early December. The permitting process in the Township of Esquimalt will involve regular updates to Esquimalt Council. Also, as noted in Attachment 2, the Chair of the Project Board has met with the Department of National Defense and had an introductory meeting with the Victoria Harbour Authority.

Senior Government Funding

Work is underway to support the final review by senior governments and to finalize the funding agreements.

Amendment #11 to the Liquid Waste Management Plan

As noted in the October report, in the conditions of the approval of Amendment #11, the Minister required a definitive plan for the beneficial reuse of bio-solids to be submitted to the Minister on or before December 31, 2017. This deadline is earlier than the Project Board had requested. The Project Board Chair and Vice Chair are in discussion with Ministry staff to further understand the nature of the plan that would be required by that date. In particular they are discussing the plan as it relates to the scope and timeline of the program to be implemented by the CALWMC, which would include consultation with municipalities and First Nations with a view to establishing an IRM plan that includes the beneficial reuse of bio-solids. The Project Board will provide the CALWMC with an update on the conversation with Ministry staff in its next report.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Development Permit Process

The Project Board and representatives of the proponent, HRP, their architects and landscape architects continued their engagement with Esquimalt Council (which began on October 3) at a second meeting of the Committee of the Whole in Esquimalt on October 18 at which councilors had further opportunity to ask questions of the team.

The Chair of the Project Board and HRP have met with staff at Esquimalt. By agreement, a preliminary submission for a development permit will be provided by the CRD and HRP to Esquimalt staff the week of November 7. This information will allow the Project Board and staff to finalize a process and timeline for the development permit and other permits for consideration by Esquimalt Council.

Colwood Studies

The Project Board Chair and Vice Chair met with representatives of Colwood to discuss the process by which the technical studies and environmental impact assessments will be undertaken.

Administrative Matters

The Project Board continues to have regular meetings at which delegations are received.

Monthly reports from the Project Board to the CALWMC will include correspondence received during the preceding month.

CONCLUSION

The Project Board is continuing its work in accordance with the Terms of Reference approved by the CRD Board. This report provides an update on that work.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That this report be received for information.

Submitted by:	Jane Bird, Chair, Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board
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- Attachments: 1. Communication of Project Information/Community Engagement Plan
2. October meetings with municipalities and key stakeholders