

**REPORT TO THE PLANNING & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH 2006**

SUBJECT: Hazmat Service Establishment Update

PURPOSE/ISSUE:

To provide the committee with an update on the status of process for the proposed new service.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

Over the past three years, the Board, and most recently the Planning and Protective Services Committee have been dealing with the issue of establishing a new CRD service to provide Hazardous Materials Incident Response (Hazmat) capability. At the Board meeting of Feb 8th, 2006, the decision was made to place contingency funds for Hazmat within the 2006 budget. The request was also made to give the individual municipalities the opportunity to deal with the service establishment at their councils.

Since that Board meeting, a number of activities have been initiated:

- The 2006 financial plan has been adjusted as requested
- A meeting was set up between the CRD and DND to further clarify the ability of DND to assist in responding to an incident within the CRD – unfortunately, DND cancelled the meeting and a new meeting date has yet to be set.
- The Board decision has been communicated to the Greater Victoria Fire Chiefs Association.
- The Board decision has been communicated to the Regional Emergency Coordinators Commission.
- The item has been discussed at the March CAO's meeting
- A presentation is being prepared to take to the individual municipalities during April and May.

The service is currently expected to be established in the summer of 2006.

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS:

The Saanich Fire Chief, in conjunction with the individual municipal fire chiefs, will meet with the municipal councils this spring. Information on the proposed service and the current response capabilities will be discussed with the councils.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this report be received for information.

Diana E. Lokken, Dip Bus Admin, CMA
General Manager, Corporate Services

Kelly Daniels
C.A.O. Concurrence

COMMENTS: