

## CRD Wastewater Treatment Program – Timeline

### Construction of CRD Sewer System

#### 1890s – 1920s

**1894** – Clover Point trunk sewer and outfall built to service downtown.

**1913** – Second trunk system was added to service Oak Bay, NE Victoria and parts of Saanich.

**1919** – NW trunk sewer system was built to service parts of Esquimalt, Victoria and Saanich.

### Raw sewage discharged out of numerous outfalls

#### Until 1960s

**1961** – Saanich East slope system constructed to service SE Saanich, Gordon Head, Ten Mile Point.

**1966** – Capital Regional District (CRD) formed. Original services included Regional Parks and Sewage Disposal (study) around joint sewage disposal.

**1966** – Prior to this date virtually all sewage generated from the core area was discharged directly at the shoreline, without any screening and treatment. Since this date all outfalls formerly discharging directly to beaches have been either extended or diverted.

**1966** – *Sanitary Sewage Study of the Greater Victoria Area* – Associated Engineering Services.

- Recommendations – all Greater Victoria’s sewage be disposed of as untreated, but screened, through long ocean outfalls into deep, well-flushed waters.

**December 28, 1967** – Trunk sewers and sewage disposal added as a function (except for Sooke, Saltspring and outer Gulf Islands) to implement Sanitary Sewerage Study of 1966.

**1969** – 28 beaches in the CRD were posted with health advisory signs.

**April 28, 1969** – Permit No. PE-270 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Parks for Macaulay Point outfall. This permit was amended on the following dates:

- September 27, 1972
- December 17, 1975
- November 13, 1984
- January 25, 1988

### Monitoring system implemented and system upgrades

#### 1970s – 1980s

**May 28, 1970** – Letter from F.D. Miller, Department of National Defence stating that, “the reservation of a 10 acre site for a future treatment system at Macaulay Point will be available for transfer to the District at the market value at the date it is required.”

**1970-1972** – University of Victoria Biology Department conducted a monitoring program for Macaulay Point outfall. It emphasized receiving water nutrient and chlorophyll level, density profiles, total and fecal coliform bacteria. There was also some investigation of benthic infauna and sediment bacteria.

**1971** – The Macaulay Point pump station and marine outfall was built in 1971, transporting raw wastewater 1700 m offshore, before being released to the ocean at a depth of 60 m (CRD, 2000). Prior to this it was discharging effluent three feet below low tide level.

**June 20, 1973** – Permit No. PE-1877 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Parks for Clover Point outfall. This permit was amended on the following dates:

- December 17, 1975
- July 11, 1977
- June 6, 1978
- January 18, 1980
- June 29, 1988

**1973-1979** – CRD Engineering Department took over the monitoring program from University of Victoria, then expanded the program to include Clover Point, Central Saanich, Bazan Bay and Sidney Treatment Plants. Effluent monitoring for total suspended solids, BOD, total and fecal coliform bacteria was initiated. There was also some benthic infauna investigation done at both Macaulay and Clover Point.

**January 1977** – A letter from the Treasury Board Advisory Committee stated that, “the Department agreed to hold a 10 acre site pending the need to construct the sewage facility and to declare it surplus for sale to the District when, and if, it is required.”

**1981** – The second regional trunk sewer system drains to Clover Point, where a pump station and marine outfall constructed in 1981, discharges wastewater 1200 m off-shore at a depth of 65 m (CRD, 2000). Similar to the Macaulay Point facility, the wastewater arriving at Clover Point receives preliminary treatment via 6 mm fine screens.

**1980 -1983** – Environmental monitoring was suspended while the previous data was reviewed. Effluent quality monitoring continued as per 1973 -1983. The program also included some sediment fecal coliform work, sediment contaminant work and some effluent contaminant work.

**July 1984** - Invitation to consider the preparation of waste management plans was sent to all municipalities and Regional Districts by the Ministries of Municipal Affairs and Environment – a review was needed of the liquid waste disposal strategy of 1966 to determine the most cost effective and environmentally acceptable program for collecting and disposing of the region’s liquid wastes throughout the urban core for the next 25 years.

**November 5, 1986** – The Sanitation and Water Committee gave approval in principle to the preparation of Stage 1 of the Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP).

**July 17, 1987** – Establishment of the [Marine Monitoring Advisory Group \(MMAG\)](#) – requested to review the Region’s monitoring programs and make recommendations for program modifications to meet current needs.

**January 13, 1988** – The CRD Board authorized the preparation of Stage 1 of the LWMP.

**1988** – The Greater Victoria Industrial and Commercial Liquid Waste Survey was conducted in the summer. The purpose of this survey was to determine the extent and constituents of non-domestic waste discharges to sewer systems as background information for the LWMP.

**1989** - Fine screens were installed at the Macaulay pump station in 1989, providing a preliminary level of treatment through removal of wastewater solids, plastics and floatable materials larger than 6 mm in dimension. The screenings are trucked to the Hartland landfill for disposal.

**January 1989** – A report on shoreline sources of contamination was presented to the Environment Committee.

**1989** – MMAG recommended a review of marine monitoring data collected since the 1970's be undertaken, in particular that collected since 1979.

**1989** – In a report compiled for the CRD by NovaTec Consultants Inc, it is reported that neither Clover nor Macaulay Point outfalls were causing the coliform pollution of the beaches.

### Planning for treatment commences

#### 1990s

**February 28, 1990** – LWMP Stage 1 (Feasibility Analysis) - Recommendations included that the CRD develop a Source Control Program.

**July 11, 1990** – The CRD Board approved the undertaking of a study regarding sewage treatment options and the identification of potential sites for sewage treatment. The Board also approved the establishment of a Chemical Contaminant Source Control Program.

**March 27, 1991** - The CRD Board approved a budget of \$130,000 for the 1991 Source Control Program.

**April 24, 1991** – The CRD Board approved a study to examine the feasibility of combining a Colwood/Langford sewage treatment and disposal system with the proposed core sewage treatment and disposal system.

**1991** – In a report written for the CRD by CH2M Hill Engineering Ltd., seven different siting options are identified, involving one or more of six wastewater treatment plant sites. Following the release of this report, the Environment Committee elected to eliminate Beacon Hill, Plumper Bay and Fletcher Challenge sites from further considerations. Costs per average house were assessed at \$182,158. This was based on an interest rate of 11%, borrowing extending over 20 years and no grants from senior government.

**September 6, 1991** – Submission to the Province of Stage 1 – Letter from M.C. Williams to Environmental Protection Manager states, “letter should be considered as the submission of the Stage 1 Report. In addition, it describes proposals for Stage 2 work, and covers those items originally in the Stage 1 Terms of Reference, which are now to be covered in Stage 2.”

**October 9, 1991** – The CRD approved that a LWMP Technical Steering Committee and a LWMP Public Involvement Advisory Committee be established.

**1991** – Humber Road, Rutland Road, Finnerty Cove and McMicking Point outfalls were diverted via the construction of the East Coast Interceptor. Prior to this, Humber and Rutland Road outfalls discharged raw sewage into shallow, near shore waters, while Finnerty and McMicking discharged raw sewage from outfalls that measured 634m and 230m in length and at a depth of 15.5m and 19.5m, respectively.

**1992** – Of the 28 beaches that were posted with health advisory signs in 1969, only one of those beaches remained posted (Ross Bay).

**January 20, 1992** – Approval of Stage 1 by the province – letter from G.E. Oldham, MELP to M. Williams acknowledging the effort that has gone into Stage 1 of the LWMP, but for the government to provide funding for the project a number of items need to be reviewed: storm water management, source control, and a review of pollution control objectives.

**January 21, 1992** – First meeting of the LWMP Technical Steering Committee. The purpose of this committee is to provide technical input on the content of the LWMP. The committee met on a monthly basis 1992-1994. Following this period, meetings were held on:

- January 17, 1995
- September 19, 1995
- March 19, 1996
- September 17, 1996
- October 13, 1998
- December 8, 1998
- February 9, 1999

**January 1992** - The east coast interceptor sewer system was fully operational in January 1992. The 10 km pipeline system intercepts flow from the Finnerty Cove outfall in the District of Saanich, from Humber and Rutland outfalls in Oak Bay, and flow from Victoria, Oak Bay and Saanich that was previously discharged at McMicking Point. The Currie Road pump station in Oak Bay redirects the wastewater to Clover Point pump station. The system also intercepts flow from the Penrhyn pump station, serving Cadboro Bay in Saanich.

**January – February 1992** – Telephone survey to determine public’s misperception and level of knowledge with regards to liquid waste management.

**February 12, 1992** – The Public Involvement Advisory Committee held its first meeting. This committee was formed to provide advice on the public involvement aspects of the LWMP. Committee included members of the public and three CRD directors and met 12 times between February 12 1992 and November 23, 1992. Public involvement included: telephone survey, focus groups, displays, speakers bureau, broadsheets, information papers, conference, open house, video and hotline.

**June 10, 1992** – The CRD Board decides to hold a non-binding referendum to determine the wishes of the public in regards to wastewater treatment.

**October 1992** – The CRD Board made a commitment to develop and maintain a Source Control Program.

**October 21, 1992** – First meeting of the LWMP Inflow and Infiltration subcommittee to effectively manage the inflow and infiltration programs within the sewerage systems of the core area. Committee met eight times between October 21, 1992 – October 8, 1996.

**November 1992** – The CRD Board made a commitment to develop and implement a Source Control Program.

**November 27, 1992** – Referendum on sewage treatment:

- Option A (preliminary treatment) 57%
- Option B (primary treatment) 21%
- Option C (secondary treatment) 22%

**1992 – 1993** – After an offer by Environment Canada to assist with the site selection process was made and discussions were held with the Department of National Defence, Parks Canada, and Environment Canada about possible federal properties that might be surplus to the needs of the Federal Government. Additional sites were identified on Parks Canada land at Yew Point in Colwood, on the Royal Roads site adjacent to Heatherbell Road in Colwood and at Albert Head in Metchosin.

**1993** – Washington State tourism boycotts cancelled major conferences and hotel bookings in Victoria. B.C. Premier Mike Harcourt and Gov. Mike Lowry, came to an informal agreement that Victoria would have primary sewage treatment in place by 2002 and secondary treatment between 2008 and 2013.

**1993** – Seven sites were identified and approved by the Board for continued consideration as potential sites for wastewater treatment:

- Ocean Boulevard
- Macaulay Point
- Hatley Park
- Albert Head
- Construction Aggregates
- Burnside Road West
- Hartland

**March 24, 1993** – The CRD Board approved a budget of \$252,000 for the 1993 [Core Area Source Control Program](#).

**October 13, 1993** – The CRD Board approved a Source Control strategy for 1993-1994.

**1994** – The Environment Committee received an Environmental Impact Assessment report on the sites by Axys Environmental Consulting Ltd.

**March 23, 1994** – The CRD Board approved a program cost of \$390,000 for 1994. The ongoing Source Control Program consists of five main tasks: monitoring, enforcement, education, special projects and administration.

**March 23, 1994** – The CRD was designated as a ‘sewage control area’ under the Waste Management Act (Section 17). This allowed the District to proceed with the completion and adoption of ‘Sewer Use Bylaw No. 1, 1994.’ This bylaw (CRD Bylaw 2231) applies to all residences, businesses or institutions connected either directly or indirectly to sewage facilities operated by the CRD.

**August 10, 1994** – The Board adopted Bylaw No. 2231 for regulation of the discharge of waste into sewers connected to a facility operated by the CRD. Through the issuance of permits the bylaw allows the CRD to regulate the type and quantity of liquids discharged

into a sewer system, monitor discharges and levy fines for discharges that adversely affect the environment. This is the main regulatory mechanism for the Source Control Program.

**October 1994** – Report put out by the CRD entitled: *Wastewater Treatment Plant Costs Update*. This report updates the costs from 1991 dollars, as set out in the CH2M Hill report in 1991 to mid 1994 dollars.

**March 1995** – In response to a letter written to the Department of National Defence, the Environment Committee was informed that Macaulay Point site was no longer an option, the status of the Royal Roads site was unclear and that the Department could not make commitments as to its future. The Environment Committee wrote to the Minister of National Defence to appeal the decision on the Macaulay Point site. However, due to strong objection by the City of Colwood, the committee decided not to appeal the Department's decision on the Royal Roads property.

**March 23, 1995** – The Environment Committee Chair wrote to the Minister of National Defence to appeal the Macaulay Point decision on the basis of cost and the DND's longstanding commitment to reserve a 10 acre site at Macaulay Point for a treatment facility.

**June 23, 1995** – The Department of National Defence replied to this letter saying that their position was unchanged.

**August 1995** – Township of Esquimalt Mayor T. Prentice writes to D. Collette stating that Esquimalt will not rezone land for use in or around Macaulay Point.

**November 1995** – Both the Construction Aggregates site and the Albert Head site were removed from consideration by the Environment Committee.

**January 1996** – Three sites remained in consideration – Burnside West, and the federally owned Macaulay Point and Yew Point. The Hartland landfill site was also dropped from consideration as the land was now allocated for other uses.

**February 1996** – Minister of Environment writes Mayor of Esquimalt C. Clement, supporting Council's position to not locate a sewage treatment at Macaulay Point.

**October 9, 1996** – The CRD Board received and approved the LWMP Stage 2 document.

**October 15, 1996** – Stage 2 of the LWMP submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Land Protection.

**March 31, 1998** – Ministry of Environment writes to the CRD authorizing the CRD to proceed with Stage 3 of the LWMP.

**September 1998** – A report entitled, *Treatment Options for Clover and Macaulay Point Wastewater Discharges*, outlines the costs of upgrading the outfalls with fine screens to achieve the environmental equivalent of primary treatment on a reduced land area.

**October 1998** – A Public Advisory Committee is re-established to facilitate the development of Stage 3 of the LWMP.

**April 22, 1999** – Letter from Cathy McGregor, Minister of Environment, to the Board – This letter is in response to the Board's letter dated January 19, 1999 in which they requested an extension for the completion of Stage 3 LWMP until July 31, 2000. Minister McGregor states that she is in support of the proposed extension, providing the CRD submit a status report on the siting of the sewage treatment facilities and technologies that will be utilized to attain secondary treatment.

**May 5, 1999** – Two reports entitled, *Regional Source Control Program – Assessment of Effectiveness* and *Clover and Macaulay Point – Professional opinion on the Environmental Benefits of Treatment Options* were presented to the Environment Committee.

### Trigger process introduced and planning continues

#### 2000 - 2005

**2000** – CRD Board approves Core Area LWMP

**2003** – [Minister of Environment, Joyce Murray approves the CRD LWMP and trigger process.](#)

**2004** – Mr. Floatie launches and POOP movement is underway.

**2004** - The CRD approached the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) to establish an independent Scientific and Technical Review Panel to carry out an independent review of the Core Area LWMP.

**2004** - At the same time, a Ministry of Environment study finds sufficient contamination at the outfalls to warrant preliminary designation as a contaminated site.

**2003-2004** - Washington State Governor, Christine Gregoire, added her support to the Province of British Columbia's bid for the 2010 Winter Olympics, provided Greater Victoria once again commit to move ahead with adequate wastewater treatment.

#### 2004

- The CRD decides to take a comprehensive look at the pros and cons of wastewater treatment.
- The CRD asks the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) to establish a Scientific and Technical Review Panel and carry out an independent review of wastewater management in the Core Area. This review included a public consultation process.
- The SETAC Panel concluded that the CRD needs to improve the overall quality of its discharged wastewater, and that relying on the dilution and natural dispersion processes of the Strait of Juan de Fuca is not a long-term answer to wastewater disposal, especially considering the growth predicted for the CRD and adjacent communities that also contribute contaminant loads to the Strait and to Puget Sound.
- At the same time, the Ministry of Environment retained an independent consultant, Macdonald Environmental Services Ltd. (MESL) to evaluate the sediment quality associated with the two regional outfalls at Macaulay Point and Clover Point. The study found sufficient contamination to warrant a preliminary designation as a contaminated site, and found water quality guidelines were not being met.

#### 2005

- Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) established

- *May 17, 2005 – Provincial Election*
- *November 19, 2005 – Municipal Election*

## 2006

[CALWMC completes audit of LWMP](#) as directed by the Minister of Environment (March 31, 2006 and every five years after).

Trigger process developed by CRD for [Clover and Macaulay Outfalls](#) to ensure the wastewater discharged does not do harm to human health or the surrounding area – as directed by the Ministry of Environment (2003).

Sewage forums conducted in Victoria, Esquimalt and Colwood.

**July 12, 2006** – Independent Technical and Scientific Review of LWMP received from SETAC. The SETAC Panel submitted their report to the CRD Board in July 2006. The Panel concluded that while the benefits of treatment cannot be described or calculated with any precision, this does not mean that the benefits of treatment would be insignificant (SETAC, 2006). ([July 2006 staff report to CALWMC on SETAC report.](#))

**July 21, 2006** - [Letter from Minister of Environment requiring fixed schedule for treatment \(July 21, 2006\)](#) Based on the two Macdonald Environmental Services Ltd. reports, the Minister of the Environment requests the CRD amend the Core Area LWMP to describe how and when the CRD would start treating wastewater. Fixed schedule for implementing wastewater treatment due by June 30, 2007. ([Report from Macdonald Associates May 2006](#))

**September 27, 2006** - CRD moves ahead with expediting wastewater treatment planning. ([September 2006 staff report](#))

**October 11, 2006** - Draft terms of reference for Technical and Community Advisory Committee to provide input into amendment to LWMP. ([October 2006 staff report](#))

**November 22, 2006** - Contract issued to develop Discussion Papers on potential wastewater treatment processes/technology (Associated Engineering, CH2MHill and Kerr Wood Leidal (November 2006)

**December 6, 2006** - Draft interim report to Minister of Environment on developing a fixed schedule for implementing wastewater treatment. ([December 2006 staff report](#))

## Mandated Treatment and Development of Plan

### 2007 - 2009

## 2007

Extensive research, studies and ongoing public consultation/communication processes to determine the best options for wastewater treatment.

Options included a distributed model (multiple treatment plants) and resource recovery (energy, biosolids and water via tertiary treatment).

Public engagement: Public/stakeholder meetings, Saanich consultation session telephone survey, Colwood consultation session, radio interviews, 15 community



meetings.

**January 24, 2007** - Communications strategy developed and put forward by CRD for wastewater treatment program ([January 2007 staff report](#))

**April 25, 2007** - The Path Forward consultant report presented to CALWMC prepared by Associated Engineering, CH2MHill and Kerr Wood Leidal. ([April 2007 staff report and Path Forward document](#))

**April 2007** - The Path Forward Report

- Program cost: \$1.2billion
- Decentralized system (six sites)
- Hartland named as biosolids facility

**June 27, 2007** - The Path Forward informs the development of (Amendment No.6) submitted to MOE for approval, which includes preliminary cost estimates and capital costs. Ongoing work to evaluate environmental/social impacts of candidate sites.

**June 27, 2007** - Westland Resource Group contracted to conduct site identification and evaluation (June 2007)

**December 2007** - LWMP Amendment No.6 approved by MOE ([December 2007](#)) Business case to be submitted by June 30, 2008 and LWMP Amendment by December 31, 2008

## **2008**

Public consultation: Open houses, 13 public and stakeholder meetings, newsletter delivered to households, Wastewater Made Clear website developed, media communication (backgrounder/news releases, media kit, media advisories) public/stakeholder consultation meetings.

**February 18, 2008** – Sewage Treatment Action Group (STAG) makes presentation and petition to Esquimalt Council requesting to move planning for WWTP from Macaulay to McLoughlin Point. (Letter February 25, 2008)

**February 25, 2008** – Township of Esquimalt requests CRD to shift planning for WWTP to McLoughlin Point from Macaulay due to numerous concerns about impact of WWTP on local residents/tax base. (Letter February 26, 2008)

**March 26, 2008** - Oak Bay committed to separating sewer and storm systems ([March 2008](#))

**Spring/Summer 2008** - Mailer sent by Township of Esquimalt to local residents listing concerns and requests switch from Macaulay to McLoughlin.

**May 22, 2008** – Township of Esquimalt proposes to the CRD to shift planning for WWTP at Macaulay Point to McLoughlin point due to environmental, social and financial impacts. (Letter May 22, 2008)

**Spring 2008** - Ongoing site selection and discussion

**June 11, 2008** – CRD responds to Township of Esquimalt request concerning McLoughlin Point and lists options and process for siting.

**June 18, 2008** – Township of Esquimalt notes its preference for siting the WWTP at McLoughlin Point versus Macaulay Point in a letter to federal government in response to CRD inquiry about acquiring federal land at Macaulay Point (Letter June 18, 2008)

**September 17, 2008** - Discussion Papers on potential wastewater treatment processes/technology develop by (Associated Engineering, CH2MHill and Kerr Wood Leidal published. These papers informed the development of the Path Forward report ([September 2008](#))

**October 22, 2008** - Peer Review Panel suggested and put forward a series of questions ([October 2008](#))

*November 15, 2008 - Municipal Election*

**November 26, 2008** - Contract extended to develop Discussion Papers on potential wastewater treatment processes/technology (Associated Engineering, CH2MHill and Kerr Wood Leidal ([November 2008](#)))

**November 26, 2008** - Progress report to MOE to receive extension on LWMP Amendment No.7 until December 31, 2009. ([November 2008](#))

## **2009**

Public engagement: 15 public and stakeholder meetings, five community dialogue sessions (April) , three community validation sessions (May), open houses (June/July/October) public education campaign, speakers symposium, site tours of existing facilities, public/stakeholder/public consultation meetings. The main concern of the public was for the CRD to provide the most cost effective system.

**January 7, 2009** - Consultation agreement signed with Beecher Bay and Esquimalt First Nations ([January 2009](#))

**January/February 2009** - Peer review questions developed ([January 2009](#)) ([February 2009](#))

**February 11, 2009** - Discussion paper published that reviews distributed systems and costs for resource recovery. Distributed Wastewater Management Strategies Report ([February 2009](#))

**February 2009** - Letter from Township of Esquimalt to CRD requesting that the WWTP be shifted from Macaulay Point to McLoughlin Point at the request of residents/community.

**March 11, 2009** - Review of communications around wastewater treatment program through March/April 2009 with workshops and media ([March 2009](#)). Households in CRD were mailed information, siting discussions around Saanich East-North Oak Bay. Communications and engagement focus on the development of Tripe Bottom Line (TBL) process and community principles. The public reaffirmed that the CRD must provide the most cost effective system.

**March 25, 2009** – Initial costs per household presented to CALWMC. Costs range from \$157 (Langford) to \$712 (Oak Bay) based on total flow rates ([March 2009](#))

**March 28, 2009** – CALWMC Workshop, where community consultation strategy and TBL and Project schedule is approved. (March 2009)

*May 12, 2009 – Provincial Election*

**May 13, 2009** - Peer Review Team Report published, with equal weighting of Triple Bottom Line (TBL) (social, economic, environmental costs) and recommendation of further development of Option 1 renamed option 1A (resources recovered regionally, distributed model estimated at \$1.2billion). Options for phasing are included in Option 1B and the evaluation of the south Colwood gravel pit site in Option 1C. ([May 2009](#))

**May 23, 2009** - CALWMC adopts Wastewater Treatment Strategy to pursue Option 1 (124 million litre per day (MLD) capacity, resources recovered regionally, distributed model estimated at \$1.2billion, with options for phasing). ([May 2009](#))

**June – August 2009** – Procurement approach and research begins.

**June 24, 2009** – CALWMC approves that no further work is completed on project until senior government funding is secured. The program remains in the planning phase and expenditures on implementation and communications are halted. ([June 2009](#))

**July 2009** – Community benefits agreement/approach discussed. ([July 2009](#))

**August 18, 2009** – Letter from Township of Esquimalt to the CRD stating that it is aiming to explore and evaluate all available options and alternatives for sewage treatment, including those outside the options considered by the CRD. (Letter August 18, 2009)

**September 23, 2009** – Analysis of Options 1A, 1B, 1C. 1A is recommended as the south Colwood site is deemed unavailable. “Option 1A” includes membrane bioreactor (MBR) treatment plants in Saanich East - North Oak Bay, McLoughlin Point and the West Shore with facilities providing primary treatment for wet weather flows at Clover Point and Macaulay Point.

**October 7, 2009** – CALWMC approves Peer Review of Business Case. Westshore sewage subcommittee is formed to oversee development of separate WWTP ([October 2009](#))

**October 20, 2009** – Township of Esquimalt passes motion that it does not support McLoughlin Point as site for sewage treatment and urges CRD to explore alternative sites and available technologies (including IRM). (Letter October 20, 2009)

**October 28, 2009** – CALWMC creates Westshore subcommittee to advise CALWMC on the wishes of Langford/Colwood communities as it relates to the sewage treatment project and future governance as per the terms of reference attached to the staff report.

**October 2009** – Discussions/negotiations to purchase McLoughlin Point and siting for Biosolids Energy Centre (BEC) (now known as Resource Recovery Centre (RRC)).

**November 10, 2009** – Review of options for biosolids management ([Stantec/Brown Caldwell Report](#))

**November 25, 2009** – [LWMP Amendment No. 7](#) brought forward providing 114 MLD capacity with a MBR WWTP at Saanich East-Oak Bay, Wet Weather Primary Treatment Plant at Clover Point, secondary treatment WWTP at McLoughlin, Wet Weather Plant at Macaulay Point and conventional WWTP on West Shore with the site to follow. The program budget is reduced from \$1.2 billion to \$961 million. Site selection discussion for Saanich East-North Oak Bay (SENOB) WWTP at Finnerty/Arbutus.

**December 9, 2009** – CRD Board approves LWMP Amendment No. 7 and federal business case in support of funding.

**November 25, 2009** – Submission of [federal business case for funding](#).

**December 8, 2009** – Township of Esquimalt writes to the Ministry of Environment stating that it is not in favour of the LWMP Amendment No.7, as it does not provide optimal IRM and financial benefit. (Letter December 8, 2009)

**December 10, 2009** – Letter to Minister Baird submitting funding ([December 10, 2009](#))

**December 21, 2009** – Letter from Washington Governor supporting the CRD's progress towards implementing wastewater treatment ([December 21, 2009](#))

## Planning and Business Case Development

### 2010-2012

#### 2010

The CRD begins lengthy internal negotiations of legal agreements and funding partnerships with all levels of government. The CRD is unable to make public new information on other sites being considered due to confidentiality agreements with various site owners and requirements when considering land purchases. Alternate sites were considered as modifications to the plan, and were being considered to improve the TBL and reduce the overall capital cost of the program as this was the primary concern of the public.

Public engagement: Public consultation and engagement sessions (January), open houses, neighbourhood validation sessions (May), open houses (June/July/October), community meetings (February/March), Wastewater Made Clear website, media communication.

**January 12, 2010** – CALWMC Westshore subcommittee recommends Option 1A for the Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment—a 7 ML/d wastewater treatment plant at Colwood City Hall and an increase of 7 ML/d of treatment capacity at the proposed McLoughlin wastewater treatment plant (from 84.1ML/day to 91.1ML/day) with biosolids treatment at the central biosolids facility. ([February 2010](#))

**January 27, 2010** – Resource recovery studies on heat recovery systems possible for the James Bay area and University of Victoria. ([January 2010](#))

**February 9, 2010** – [MOE approves LWMP Amendment No.7](#)

**February 10, 2010** – CALWMC approves Westshore recommendation to adjust Option 1A to include WWTPs at McLoughlin, Saanich East and a 7 ML/d MBR WWTP at Colwood City Hall. The capacity at McLoughlin would increase from 84.1 ML/d to 91.1 ML/d to provide to Westshore with a capacity allocation of 14 ML/d. ([February 2010](#))

**February/March 2010** – CALWMC receives delegations on procurement

**March 10, 2010** – CALWMC receives Peer Review Team Report on Business Case ([March 2010](#))

**March 24, 2010** – CALWMC approval of provincial business case for funding. Procurement methods are recommended and total project is listed as \$961 million.

[\(March 2010\)](#)

**March 30, 2010** – CRD approves provincial funding case.

**June 2010** – Revisions to Option 1A wastewater treatment proposal

- Removal of comprehensive tertiary treatment from the LWMP mid-2010 as a result of recommendations from the 2009 North American Peer Review Team report. This report found there to be little to no market for recovered water in the region, and therefore no justification for the costs of construction/operation.
- Moving the headworks from McLoughlin to Clover Point and Macaulay Point provided additional room at the site that allowed the CRD to increase the capacity of the McLoughlin WWTP by 15% from LWMP amendment #7.
- Some elements of tertiary treatment remain part of the LWMP (advanced oxidization and UV disinfection). Further refinements to the “Option 1A” were made to factor in revised growth and 20-year design flow projections and the treatment capacity is reduced to 108 MLD.
- These revisions were significant, as they questioned the need for satellite plants on the West Shore and in Saanich East and the CRD was able to demonstrate that pumping wet weather flows from Clover Point to McLoughlin would reduce the solids load on the environment and eliminate the need for a wet weather treatment plant at Clover Point. Also, additional investigations were carried out for a central plant at McLoughlin Point, Upper Victoria Harbour and the Westshore, as well as for a biosolids facility at Hartland landfill. As a result of these refinements, “Option 1A” was renamed “Option 1A Prime2.” It provided the best TBL and the lowest capital and operating costs in response to the public’s concerns about providing the most effective cost solution.
- Referred to as ‘lowest cost configuration’ ([June 9, 2010 News Release](#))

**June 23, 2010** – Revised federal business case submitted, where Option 1A proposal (now called Option 1A Prime 2) was [revised in LWMP Amendment No.8](#) and defers the Westshore wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) for about 15 years with storage tanks planned in Saanich East-North Oak Bay instead of a WWTP, and the Clover Point wet weather facility was eliminated, pending approval from the Provincial Ministry of Environment. This treatment strategy, the McLoughlin Option, resulted in a reduction in cost for both the core area and the Westshore for a total revised project cost of \$782.7 ([June 2010](#)) ([News Release](#))

**June 2010** – LWMP Amendment No.8

- Saanich East-North Oak Bay (SENOB) attenuation tanks
- Clover Point/Macaulay Point headworks and conveyance including Victoria Harbour crossing to the McLoughlin WWTP
- McLoughlin Point WWTP
- McLoughlin Point Outfall
- Biosolids energy centre and associated resource recovery and conveyance.
- Balance of conveyance and pumping including upgrades to pump stations at Currie Road and Craigflower Road

**July 2010** – Public consultation process around McLoughlin WWTP in Esquimalt,

including two open houses and information brochures. The next steps for public consultation intended to focus on mitigation factors and design for the treatment facility. This was scheduled to take place in the fall, after the funding from the federal and provincial governments, with a report to committee by December 2010.

**July 28, 2010** – Consideration of governance model for the CALWMC/project as part of the provincial funding requirements.

**August 25, 2010** – Approval of LWMP Amendment No.8 by MOE. ([August 25, 2010](#)). Correspondence to Mayor Barb Desjardins from Minister of Environment addressing Esquimalt's concerns about the siting of a WWTP at McLoughlin Point. ([August 25, 2010](#))

**September 10, 2010** – Revisions to provincial business case following approval of LWMP Amendment No.8 ([September 2010](#)).

- SENOB attenuation tank Design, Build (DB)
- Clover and Macaulay facilities Design, Build (DB)
- McLoughlin Point, Victoria Harbour Crossing and Outfall (DB)
- Biosolids Energy Centre Design, Build, Operate/Design Build, Finance, Operate (DBO/DBFO)
- Conveyance (DBB)

[Public consultation report for Saanich East-Oak Bay](#) presented as information to CALWMC (as plan has changed following CALWMC June 23, 2010 decision). Hartland landfill confirmed as [emergency back up for biosolids disposal](#).

**September 22, 2010** – CALWMC consideration of community amenity fund for neighbourhoods impacted by wastewater facilities. ([September 2010](#)).

**October 13, 2010** – Submission of Biosolids Energy Centre (BEC) Land Suitability Study by Westland Assoc. studying criteria such as elevation, land use compatibility, ecological integrity, geotechnical conditions, transportation/access and heritage/archaeological ([October 2010](#)).

**October 27, 2010** – Research into the co-digestion of residual solids with some food waste identifies it as possible ([October 2010](#)).

**November 24, 2010** – Discussion of use of biosolids as fertilizer within the CRD put forward. ([November 2010](#))

**December 20, 2010** – Township of Esquimalt requests the CRD to hold off on further public engagement around McLoughlin Point until community amenity agreement is confirmed. Esquimalt expects a public forum for residents to share their ideas be held in early 2011. ([December 20, 2010](#))

## 2011

As a result of the various confidential negotiations, and as noted above regarding request from Township of Esquimalt to hold off on further public engagement, communication with the public becomes extremely limited during this time.

Discussion of tsunami modelling and its impact on the proposed system and sites, the use of biosolids as land-based fertilizer, siting consideration for the Biosolids Energy Centre (BEC) and market sounding for development of WWTP at McLoughlin and BEC at

Hartland landfill were considered by the CALWMC.

**February 23, 2011** – Full life-cycle cost analysis of CALWMC program completed by Stantec. ([February 2011](#)) Discussion of [dredging option from Esquimalt to Colwood](#) for WWTP on Westshore.

**March 17, 2011** – CALWMC engages with Township of Esquimalt around community amenities regarding constructing a WWTP at McLoughlin Point. ([March 17, 2011](#))

**April 27, 2011** – Study received on potential to integrate solid and liquid waste management plans. The study concluded that while the current regulatory structure is not conducive to the development of integrated waste management plans, there are opportunities for integrating the two waste streams at the operational level. These integration opportunities will be explored during preparation of the SWMP Revision 3, while the legislative impediments will be reviewed with MOE staff. Legal counsel supports the consultant's findings. ([April 2011](#))

**May 25, 2011** – CALWMC bans the production biosolids for use as fertilizer at CRD owned facilities following literature review and delegations. ([May 2011](#))

**September/November 2011** – Land exchange agreement between Saanich and CRD for Haro Woods and siting of SENOB attenuation tank. ([September 16 News Release](#))

*November 19, 2011 - Municipal Election*

## **2012**

**May 9, 2012** – Discussion of revised/updated lifecycle analysis study. Decision not to pursue, as analysis was completed in 2011. ([May 2012](#))

**July 16, 2012** - Provincial and Federal funding agreements announced to fund over \$500M for the core area wastewater treatment program (Province – \$248M, Federal \$253.4M – but must be complete by 2018. ([News Release](#))

**July 18, 2012** - New Federal wastewater management regulations require all jurisdictions to put secondary treatment in place by December 31, 2020. ([News Release](#))

**August 8, 2012** – CALWMC considers implications of new federal regulations on wastewater treatment. Without further upgrades, three of the CRD's wastewater facilities (Clover, Macaulay, Maliview) will not be in compliance with the regulations and potentially will be deleterious to the environment as defined by the regulation. ([August 2012](#))

**October 10, 2012** – Cost allocation formula discussed by CALWMC. Municipal staff have reached consensus on the recommended cost allocation approach for the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program. ([October 2012](#), [Additional report](#))

**November 4, 2012** – Request by Director Hill to halt work on the current wastewater treatment plant and request by Director Desjardins to apply for exemption under federal wastewater regulations. ([November 2012](#))

**November 2012** – Project Management Office (PMO) for the implementation/construction of the approved wastewater management program opens at 1675 Douglas Street.

## Seattera Program and Implementation

### 2013 – 2014

#### 2013

Public engagement: Community Association and stakeholder meetings, open houses and community meetings, public hearing, website created at [www.seatteraprogram.ca](http://www.seatteraprogram.ca), quarterly newsletter, media communications.

**January 2013** – Final CALWMC discussions/approval of Commission bylaw and recommendation to the CRD Board. ([January 2013](#))

**February 2013** – Support for CRD’s wastewater system from Mayor of Port Angeles ([January 3, 2013](#)). Project Management Office preparing procurement documents for the McLoughlin WWTP, Victoria Harbour Crossing and Outfall and working on implementing other program elements including the Craigflower pump station and Arbutus Road attenuation tank.

**February 26, 2013** – Public Open House on Craigflower Pump Station at Shoreline School. ([News Release](#))

**March 5, 2013** – Correspondence from Mayor of Colwood over concern about the cost allocation and payments for the wastewater treatment system as applied to Colwood. ([March 5, 2013](#))

**March 14, 2013** – RFQ released for McLoughlin Point WWTP ([News Release](#))

**March 20, 2013** – Announcement of \$17 million purchase of Viewfield Road site for consideration as site for Biosolids Energy Centre. ([News Release](#))

**March 27, 2013** – Commission members named to the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program ([News Release](#)). Brenda Eaton named as Chair.

**April 2013** – McLoughlin Point WWTP design charette (April 11, 12) and open house (April 13) to solicit comments from the public on the WWTP. The design charette and public Open House generated a number of design ideas on the architectural concept for the McLoughlin Wastewater Treatment Plant and provided an opportunity for public comment. The outcomes of the design charette and Open House were considered in the revision of the design guidelines.

**April 19, 2013** – CRD purchases McLoughlin Point from Imperial Oil for \$4.6 million.

*May 14, 2013 – Provincial Election*

**May 2013** – McLoughlin Design Guidelines summary ([May 2013](#))

**June 12, 2013** - TCAC will be reconvened to provide support in studying the minor changes to LWMP of the Core Area, including the completion date, size of the Arbutus tank and minor adjustments to allow for innovation in the procurement process for the BEC.

**June 2013** – Engagement process around purchase of Viewfield Road site for the BEC



and siting of the BEC at Viewfield or Hartland landfill. Eight open houses held around the CRD. ([News Release](#))

**June 7, 2013** – CRD discontinues pursuit of federal lands for siting facilities for the wastewater treatment program. ([News Release](#))

**June 28, 2013** – Shortlist named for the design, build and partial finance of McLoughlin WWTP. ([News Release](#))

**July 8, 2013** – Esquimalt Public Hearing on the Rezoning of McLoughlin Point to host a WWTP. ([July 8, 9, 2013](#)) ([Meeting Minutes](#)) ([Opening comments from Chair of CRD](#))

**July 12, 2013** – RFP released for the development of WWTP at McLoughlin Point. ([News Release](#))

**July 15, 2013** - Township of Esquimalt's adopts an alternate bylaw stipulating terms and conditions for the Capital Regional District to develop the McLoughlin Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Township of Esquimalt passed an amendment to the Official Community Plan and enacted a bylaw permitting construction of a wastewater treatment plant at the McLoughlin Point site.

([CRD News Release](#))

**July 31, 2013** – New Program Director named for CALWMP Project Management Office – Albert Sweetnam. ([News Release](#))

**Summer/Fall 2013** – Discussions were conducted between CRD and Township of Esquimalt to negotiate an amenity package and design guidelines.

**August 14, 2013** – Timeline and approach to wastewater treatment program confirmed by the CRD Board. Based on the approval of the Plan and the funding agreements, the Project Management Office has been established and advisory consultants retained. Firms are preparing bids for the Request for Proposals (RFP) to construct the McLoughlin Point secondary treatment facility, this RFP was issued by the Commission and is part of their mandate to implement the Program.

**September 25, 2013** – Construction begins on the Craigflower Pump Station. ([News Release](#))

**October 7, 2013** – Core Area Liquid Wastewater Management Program renamed the Seaterra Program ([News Release](#)) Wastewater Made Clear website removed and Seaterra Program site is launched.

**October 9, 2013** – Discussion of technical and financial implications of a distributed wastewater treatment program. ([October 2013](#))

**October 17, 2013** – Engagement and planning proceeds concerning the siting of the Resource Recovery Centre (formerly BEC) at Hartland landfill. Engagement sessions with local community groups initiated and feedback sought to inform development of RFP. ([News Release](#))

**November 25, 2013** – Contract awarded for design of Arbutus Road Attenuation Tank ([News Release](#))

**November 28, 2013** – Review of negotiations between CRD and Township of Esquimalt regarding the bylaws to allow development of WWTP at McLoughlin Point. Staff directed to negotiate a revised bylaw and agreements with two provisions: reduce the total amenity and mitigation costs and remove the requirement for the barging of materials. ([November staff report](#))

**December 11, 2013** – Additional discussion around costs for barging/rezoning amenities at McLoughlin Point. ([December 2013](#))

**December 13, 2013** - Request for Qualifications released for the Resource Recovery Centre (RRC). Request for Proposal for end use of Biosolids also released ([News Release](#)). Environmental Impact Study completed by TERA Environmental Consultants (formerly Westland Resource Group) for the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program Facilities and Terrestrial Environment Volume I of II (October 2013) for the proposed major facilities in the program. These include facilities upgraded at Macaulay Point and Clover Point pump stations, a new treatment facility at McLoughlin Point, a new attenuation tank at Arbutus Road, a new pump station at Craigflower and various ancillary conveyance pipelines. The residual solids conveyance pipeline from McLoughlin Point to Hartland and the Hartland Resource Recovery Centre to be included in the EIS Volume II, which will be completed in 2014. ([December 2010](#))

## **2014**

Public engagement: Community Association and stakeholder meetings, open houses and community meetings, public hearing, website updated at [www.seaterraprogram.ca](http://www.seaterraprogram.ca), quarterly newsletter, media communications.

**January 8, 2014** – CALWMC recommends to the CRD Board regarding the Town of Esquimalt rezoning bylaw for McLoughlin Point:

- 1) Receive the Backgrounder for information;
- 2) Support the new Bylaw 2805;
- 3) Approve the Community Impact and Operating Agreement; and
- 4) Approve the Host Community Impact 5-Year Agreement.

The CALWMC did not support requesting assistance from the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development for arbitration to resolve the impasse between the CRD and the Township of Esquimalt in the event that an agreement is not concluded with Esquimalt.

**January 2014** – Drafting of LWMP Amendment No.9

**February 18/19, 2014** – Township of Esquimalt Public Hearing on the rezoning of McLoughlin Point. Speakers from across the CRD are invited to speak. ([Esquimalt Notice of Meeting and Materials](#))

**March 2014** – Ongoing discussion between CRD and Township of Esquimalt regarding rezoning bylaws for McLoughlin Point and community amenities. ([Letters/Reports on Rezoning](#))

**March 11, 2014** – Residual solids pipeline from McLoughlin Point to Hartland landfill route map released and community open houses held in spring 2014 ([News Release](#))

**March 12, 2014** – Colwood proposes to leave the Seaterra Program ([March Presentation](#)) and that the required amendments and legislative changes be supported, in principle, to enable a separate wastewater treatment system to serve the City of Colwood, subject to:

- a) Colwood obtaining approval by December 2014 from the Provincial Government to proceed in the proposed direction without compromising existing funding agreements,

b) by December 2015, Colwood having acceptable solutions to the inter-municipal issues that arise from this proposal, such that the cost of the capacity required to be maintained on behalf of Colwood, as is necessary during the approval process, and in the event that the Province requires the CRD to maintain redundant capacity in the event of regulatory non-compliance, is fairly compensated, and  
c) Colwood having completed all necessary plans and approvals to enable move forward with planning

**March 20, 2014** – Additional Township of Esquimalt Public Hearing on the rezoning of McLoughlin Point.

**April 7, 2014** – Township of Esquimalt rejects the proposed rezoning bylaw to allow for the proposed WWTP at McLoughlin Point.

**April 9, 2014** – CALWMC considers Esquimalt rezoning options ([April 2014](#))

That an application be made to the Provincial Cabinet under section 37(6) of the Environmental Management Act to declare inoperative those provisions of the Esquimalt Zoning Bylaw and request direction from the province on how to move forward with the project. ([News Release](#)) ([April 11, 2014 letter to Minister of Environment](#))

**April 16, 2014** – Land transfer at Hartland landfill to support development of the Resource Recovery Centre. ([News Release](#))

**May 2, 2014** – Harbour Resource Partners selected as preferred proponent for development of WWTP at McLoughlin Point. ([News Release](#))

**May 6, 2014** – Shortlist of proponents announced for development of Resource Recovery Centre at Hartland landfill. ([News Release](#))

**May 14, 2014** - That implementation of advanced oxidation (ozonation, hydrogen peroxide) be included in the Seaterra Program, which increases the Seaterra Program budget to \$787.9 million. ([Letter to Minister of Environment](#))

**May 27, 2014** – CRD receives letter from Minister of Environment concerning McLoughlin Point rezoning and its decision for the Province not to override the decision of Esquimalt Council to not rezone the site. ([May 27, 2014](#)) CRD announces that it will not proceed with McLoughlin Point following Minister's letter ([News Release](#))

**May 27, 2014** – Seaterra Program releases fly-thru video, photo renderings and details of the preferred proponent's final design to media.

**June 18, 2014** – CALWMC directs staff to complete the request for a transitional authorization, prior to June 30, 2014, based on the existing approved Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan and indicate in the application that an amendment may be submitted if a revised Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan is approved. This is a key step in the federal funding agreement.

CALWMC takes the following steps:

- 1) That a letter be written to the Township of Esquimalt Council requesting that they initiate a development approval process to accommodate the McLoughlin Point WWTP
- 2) That the Capital Regional District recommence a siting process for a centralized wastewater treatment plant site through a municipal/First Nations competition;
- 3) That the Capital Regional District conduct a new pricing exercise for a decentralized system;

4) That the Board Chair request that the Province make the Seaterra Program a Provincial project. ([June 2014](#))

CRD Chair Bryson proposes an offer to Esquimalt to consider amending the cost sharing to offset the entire capital cost of Esquimalt's 6.7% share, in substitution for the amenities previously proposed outside the current bid proposal, by amending the cost sharing to allow for a payment to Esquimalt in the amount equal to Esquimalt's share (\$18.9M) or by removing Esquimalt from the Seaterra capital program cost levy ([June 2014 proposal](#))

**July 3, 2014** – Ministry of Environment approves LWMP Amendment No.9 ([July 3, 2014](#)). Province provide initial guidance on the regulatory steps necessary should the Capital Regional District (CRD) or its member municipalities pursue a treatment option(s) other than those reflected in the current Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan (CALWMP). ([July 3, 2014 – Guidance](#))

**July 15, 2014** - Core Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Site Competition letter distributed to local Mayors and First Nations. ([July 15, 2014](#)). CRD requests Province to take over the Seaterra Program. ([July 15, 2014 – Request](#))

**July 17, 2014** – Response from Esquimalt rejecting request from the CRD to reconsider its decision on rezoning McLoughlin Point ([July 17, 2014](#))

**August 13, 2014** – Communications regarding offer to Esquimalt residents for reduced cost wastewater treatment are held back, following correspondence from Langford and Esquimalt. ([August 2014](#))

### Planning process for new wastewater treatment options begins

**September 10, 2014** – CALWMC considers terms of reference for an Options Study for sewage treatment for the core area. ([September 2014](#))

**October 8, 2014** – CALWMC approves the establishment of a new framework to allow municipalities and First Nations that are participating in the CALWMP to take a leading role in their communities to identify local opportunities for sewage treatment. ([October 2014](#))

**October 23, 2014** – Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee, with members from Colwood, Esquimalt, Langford, View Royal and Songhees Nation, holds first meeting. ([October 2014 – Westside Select Committee Staff Report](#))

*November 15, 2014 – Municipal Election*

**December 12, 2014** – Westside Select Committee brands itself as Westside Solutions and launches [www.westsidesolutions.ca](http://www.westsidesolutions.ca) website. This also marks the beginning of the engagement process with the launch of an online survey.

**December 16, 2014** – Westside Select Committee hosts first open house at the Songhees Nation Wellness Centre – five more open houses were held in the upcoming weeks including: January 14 (Colwood City hall), January 20 (Langford City Hall), January

21 (Esquimalt Municipal Hall) January 22 (Songhees Nation Wellness Centre) and January 29, 2015 (View Royal City Hall).

## 2015

**January 14, 2015** – The CRD Board approves the formation of the Eastside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee (Eastside Select Committee). ([January 2015](#))

**January 27, 2015** – Eastside Select Committee holds first meeting ([January 2015](#))

**March 11, 2015** – CALWMC and CRD Board accepts the [Proposed Work Plan Overlay](#) and directs staff to submit the plan to PPP Canada for consideration in reviewing the CRD Conditional Financial Agreement(CFA) extension request.

**March 11, 2015** – The [Eastside Select Committee Terms of Reference](#) were approved by the CRD Board

**March 13, 2015** – The Westside Select Committee releases Westside Solutions survey results. ([Survey Report](#))

**April 8, 2015** – CRD announces that they have signed an agreement with PPP Canada that will allow for a one year extension to make decisions on how to treat wastewater in the core area with the PPP Canada funding intact. ([Media Release](#))

**April 29, 2015** – Eastside Select Committee hosts first public briefing and dialogue at the Royal BC Museum ([Media Release](#))

**May 6, 2015** – Westside Solutions hosts roundtables (May 6, May 9, May 13). Each roundtable focused on a different theme – Siting and Community Integration, Resource Recovery, Cost and Level of Treatment. ([Cover report](#))

**May 14, 2015** – Eastside Select Committee launches an open public survey and a representative poll with Ipsos Reid to gather information from Eastside residents. ([Representative Poll Report](#), [Open Survey Report](#))

**May 30 and 31 2015** – Eastside hosts siting workshops to share additional information about each technically feasible site. Citizens were asked to weigh in on how sites fared on things like livability, use of existing infrastructure or environmental concerns. ([Eastside Site Profile](#))

**June 10, 2015** – Eastside Select Committee ranks sites based on public feedback to date. ([Site Ranking Presentation](#), [Ranked Site Map](#))

**June 18, 2015** – Westside Select Committee announces the location of 20 potential wastewater treatment sites in the Westside Communities. ([Media Release](#), [Site Profiles](#))

**June 24, 2015** – Both Eastside and Westside publicly release wastewater treatment Option Sets ([Eastside Option Sets](#)) ([Westside Option Sets](#)). The public was asked to assist in narrowing the number of potential treatment options so that a detailed technical and costing analysis of a shortlisted number can be developed. Eastside Select Committee launches the online public feedback tool using the digital engagement platform Ethelo Decisions – closed on July 13 ([Report](#)). Westside Select Committee launches Feedback form titled Westside SiteSpeak – closed on July 22 ([Report](#)).

**July 29, 2015** - the Westside and Eastside Select Committee's put forward their recommendations on shortlisted scenarios for treating wastewater in the core area ([July 2015](#)).

Westside Select Committee Recommendations:

1. That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee recommend that the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) and the Capital Regional District Board direct the Westside technical and public engagement teams to conduct a more comprehensive evaluation of SiteSpeak feedback and technical considerations, including a targeted engagement of new sites, and to report back to the CALWMC by mid-October 2015; and
2. That a meeting of Westside staff and the Technical Oversight Panel occur before any decisions narrowing Westside sites and options occur.

Eastside Select Committee Recommendations:

- That the Eastside Select Committee recommends to the Core Area Liquid Waste Committee and to the Capital Regional District Board:
1. That the following Eastside solutions put forward for the next phase of costing and analysis be analyzed, costed and considered as they integrate with westside flows and proposed Westside solution:
    - Options 1a - centralized system at Rock Bay including a mix of public and private sites, co-location of wastewater and residuals treatment - sub-regional for all of the Eastside flows and for Eastside flows currently directed to the Clover Point outfall;
    - Option 1b - centralized, at Rock Bay including a mix of public and private sites, co-location of wastewater and residuals treatment - regional;
    - That all of the emerging sites from the Eastside reprioritization process including: Rudd Park; Municipal Precinct; Saanich Core; Saanich Public Works; Marigold Pump Station; Victoria Public Works Yard; BC Hydro; Transport Canada; Central Park; Clover Point Pump Station; Ogden Point; Shelbourne; Gordon Head; Penrhyn Pump Station; Trent Pump Station; Royal Jubilee and Windsor Park, be forwarded to the Technical Oversight Panel for general evaluation, including all of the information necessary to do the evaluation;
    - That the Technical Oversight Panel also be asked to advise as to how we could best canvas the private sector broadly to see what solutions they have to best meet the goals of this project; and
    - That the work be done simultaneously and concluded by the end of October at the latest.
  2. That phase two costing of Eastside options includes the following treatment and recovery methods:
    - secondary and tertiary disinfected;
    - anaerobic digestion and gasification; and
    - potential for resource recovery and revenue generation.
  3. That a meeting of Eastside staff and the Technical Oversight Panel occur.

**July 31, 2015** – Core Area Wastewater Treatment Program Commission (formerly Seaterra Commission) announces that it has begun demobilization of the Seaterra

Project Management Office. ([Media Release](#))

**August 12, 2015** - In order to ensure that the review process includes the necessary due diligence, is transparent, and committee members and the public have confidence in the findings, the following roles have been secured for the project ([August 2015](#)):

- Technical support to conduct the detailed analysis and engineering work: Urban Systems, partnered with Carollo Associates, was awarded the contract to conduct the Feasibility and Costing Analysis for the CRD Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan Wastewater Treatment System. ([Scope of Work](#))
- Fairness and Transparency Advisory: Kim Cholette was selected as the Fairness and Transparency Advisor (FTA) to ensure that the process of costing the options, working with the host jurisdiction(s) and preparing an amendment to the Liquid Waste Management Plan is fair, transparent, impartial and objective.
- Technical Oversight Panel: In order to ensure that the rigorous costing and feasibility studies for the wastewater treatment options includes the necessary due diligence the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) has selected six individuals to the Technical Oversight Panel (ToP). ([Biographies](#)) ([Terms of Reference](#))

**September 9, 2015** - the FTA's Terms of Reference were adopted and the formal review process was launched. ([Terms of Reference](#)).

**September 14, 2015** – Technical Oversight Panel workshop with Urban Systems and Carollo Associates

**September 15, 2015** - Technical Oversight Panel public meeting

**September 29, 2015** - Westside Select Committee received technical report regarding interim results of siting analysis. ([Interim Findings Report](#))

**October 2, 2015** - The CALWMC adopted the Project Charter outlining the goals, vision, roles/responsibilities, objectives, budget and schedule for the Core Area Sewage and Resource Recovery System 2.0 Project ([Project Charter](#)). The Committee also received the Technical Oversight Panel's [Status Report #2](#).

**October 14, 2015** - CALWMC confirmed design flow capacity, to be used in the costing and feasibility analysis ([October 2015](#)). The CALWMC also received TOP Status Report #3. At the October 14 Board meeting, the Board formally appointed Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation representatives to the CALWMC ([October 2015](#)).

**November 4, 2015** - The CALWMC received a presentation from the Westside and Eastside public consultation consultants regarding the integrated activities and overall programs on public engagement and consultation for the upcoming months. Following this item, the committee endorsed a supplementary report, recommending to the Board an extension of the public consultation timeline to January 15. The TOP presented Status Report #4 and Urban Systems/Carollo presented draft Technical Memorandum #2, which outlined 4 solutions sets for the capital and life-cycle costing analysis.

([November 2015](#))

All of the option sets provide the required level of secondary treatment and options for advanced tertiary treatment. Solids treatment is still under analysis by the Engineering

Team as they continue to explore market opportunities and technologies for reuse.

[\(News Release\)](#)

- The 7-plant distributed option has facilities located in Langford, Colwood, View Royal, Esquimalt, Rock Bay in Victoria, Saanich Core and East Saanich. Under the 7-plant option, Rock Bay would be a large central-type facility with possibilities for local water reuse, whereas the other 6 smaller plants would be able to provide tertiary treatment for water reuse around each plant, with the exception of the Langford and View Royal facilities, and heat recovery.
- The 4-plant sub-regional option has treatment facilities located at Rock Bay in Victoria, Esquimalt Nation, Colwood and East Saanich. The 4-plant model includes local water reuse possibilities at all four plants.
- The 2-plant option set includes a centralized plant at Rock Bay in Victoria to provide treatment for most of the Core Area, but also a facility in Colwood. At the Colwood facility, effluent would be reused for irrigation and aquifer recharge, contingent on Ministry approval. The large plant becomes the “alternative method of disposal” for the Colwood facility.
- The single plant option is proposed to be located at Rock Bay in Victoria. Additional costing analysis on the single plant option will be conducted to provide costing and financial information with regards to tertiary treatment at the Rock Bay facility in Victoria.

**November 28, 2015** - The CALWMC received Status Report #5 from the TOP. The CALWMC also received a presentation from Urban Systems and Corallo regarding solids treatment and recovery options. [\(November 2015\)](#)

**December 4, 2015** - The CRD released a report with new information relating to the Core Area wastewater treatment project. The report contained a technical report by the project’s engineering consultants, Urban Systems and Carollo Associates, outlining details of the five Core Area option sets and the estimated capital and operating costs. Public input and feedback gathered through the Eastside and Westside Select Committees’ public engagement processes was a critical factor in deciding which sites were chosen for more detailed technical and financial analysis. Also released was a series of site maps for each of the option sets and preliminary estimates of average projected costs for households in the Core Area municipalities (Colwood, Esquimalt, Langford, Oak Bay, Saanich, Victoria, View Royal) and project costs for the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. [\(News Release\)](#)

## **2016**

**January 13, 2016** - The Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) voted to begin consultation on a number of approaches to wastewater treatment in the Core Area [\(News Release\)](#). The committee also received [Status Report #7](#) from the Technical Oversight Panel (TOP).

**January 26, 2016** - A survey was launched as part of the public consultation on potential wastewater treatment options. There were education opportunities built into the survey for those learning the information for the first time and an opportunity to



provide more detailed feedback for those wanting to give input on technical aspects of the project. ([News Release](#))

**January 27, 2016** - The CALWMC received [Status Report #8](#) from the TOP.

**February 10, 2016** - The CALWMC received Status Report #9 from the TOP and Technical Memorandum 3 from the engineering consultants. ([February 2016](#))

**February 24, 2016** - The CALWMC received the public consultation reports for consideration. The CALWMC also received Technical Memorandum 4 from the engineering consultants. A recommendation was put on the table for consideration for a single plant option at Rock Bay. A motion was also put forward to put the McLoughlin Point site back on the table for consideration. The motion was amended to examine the feasibility of locating facilities at either McLoughlin Point or Macaulay Point and Clover Point and a possible site to serve the Western communities ([February 2016](#)).

**February 26, 2016** - The public consultation consultants presented their findings of the consultation on the option sets. After consideration of the consultation reports and the recommendation of the one plant option at Rock Bay, the CALWMC directed staff to work with consultants to undertake value engineering to explore a possible tertiary wastewater plant at either McLoughlin Point or Macaulay Point as an alternative to Rock Bay, a tertiary wastewater plant at Clover Point, with provisions for a 10 ML/D tertiary plant on the westside ([February 2016](#)).

**March 9, 2016** - The CALWMC received a presentation on potential options that included sites at Clover Point, McLoughlin Point and Macaulay Point. The committee selected a two-plant treatment option with plants located at Clover Point and McLoughlin Point as a base case to form a conditional amendment. The committee also approved a parallel process where the CRD would invite the private sector to submit project concepts to evaluate against the option submitted as the conditional amendment. The CRD Board directed staff to refer these sites to both the City of Victoria and the Township of Esquimalt for endorsement in principle ([News Release](#)). On this day, the CRD Board Chair and the CALWMC Chair met with Minister Polak to discuss next steps for the Project. In this meeting, the province offered to support the CRD through the concept call process and the CRD accepted the offer of support ([Letter](#)).

**March 23, 2016** - In a [letter](#) to the Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, the province expressed its support for an extension to the P3 Canada funding agreement which currently expires on March 31, 2016. The letter from the Honourable Peter Fassbender also outlined how the province will facilitate and support the current process through a technology review and active facilitation support ([News Release](#)).

**March 30, 2016** - Federal government approved extension of P3 funding to September 30, 2016 ([Letter from P3 Canada](#)).

**March 30, 2016** - Provincial Minister of Environment approved conditional amendment 10 to the Liquid Waste Management Plan ([MOE Approval Letter](#))

**April 13, 2016** - Provincial Minister of Community, Sport and Development, Peter Fassbender, presented to the CALWMC outlining how the province would support the project in moving forward to meet the P3 funding deadline.

- April 18, 2016** - The Federal Minister of Environment confirmed the CRD's risk designation status. The CRD is classified in the High Risk category for the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations ([Letter from MOE](#)).
- April 25, 2016** - The City of Victoria held an open house to collect feedback from residents regarding siting a treatment plant at Clover Point.
- May 11, 2016** - At the CRD Board meeting, the Honourable Peter Fassbender, Provincial Minister of Communities, Sport and Cultural Development, presented recommendations to the CRD Board regarding a solution to move forward with the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project. The CRD Board approved the recommendations, including the recommendation to move forward with a Project Board approach ([News Release](#)).
- May 25, 2016** - The CRD Board approved the Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board (CAWTPB) [Terms of Reference](#).
- June 9, 2016** - The CRD Board announced membership of the CAWTPB ([News Release](#)).
- July 13, 2016** - The CAWTPB presented their [July Report](#) to the CRD Board.
- August 10, 2016** - The CAWTPB presented their [August Report](#) to the CRD Board.
- August 24, 2016** - The CAWTPB presented an [Interim Report](#) to the CRD Board outlining a short list of options for a wastewater treatment facility.
- September 7, 2016** - The CAWTPB released a [Final Report](#) with a recommendation for a single treatment plant at McLoughlin Point.
- September 14, 2016** - The CRD Board approved the recommendations put forward by the CAWTPB, which formed Amendment 11 of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan ([News Release](#))
- October 3, 2016** – Chair of the CAWTPB along with representatives of the Wastewater Treatment Plant proponent, Harbour Resource Partners, their architects and landscape architects presented the project to the Committee of the Whole in Esquimalt to provide an initial opportunity to ask questions ([October 2016](#))
- October 12, 2016** – The CAWTPB presented their [October Report](#) to the CRD Board.
- October 12, 2016** – CRD Board received approval from the Ministry of Environment for Amendment 11 of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan on the condition that a definitive plan for the beneficial reuse of biosolids be submitted to the Minister by December 31, 2017 ([Letter from MOE](#))
- October 12, 2016** – CRD Board received letter from P3 Canada granting an extension to the Conditional Financial Agreement to December 31, 2016 to allow time to negotiate an updated CFA to reflect the revised project ([Letter from P3](#))
- November 17, 2016** – CAWTPB Chair sends letter to Minister of Environment seeking clarification regarding the conditional approval of Amendment 11 ([Letter to MOE](#))
- November 18, 2016** – Minister of Environment responds with a letter clarifying the conditional approval of Amendment 11 and extending the deadline to submit the definitive plan for the beneficial reuse of biosolids to June 30, 2019 ([Letter from MOE](#))
- December 02, 2016** – Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board Releases RFQ for the Residuals Treatment Plant at Hartland landfill ([Information bulletin](#))
- December 20, 2016** - Development permit application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant at McLoughlin Point submitted to the Township of Esquimalt by CRD/Project

Board/Harbour Resource Partners

**January 10, 2017** – Geotechnical Work begins at McLoughlin Point ([Information Bulletin](#))

**January 11, 2017** – Design Review Committee for the Township of Esquimalt Meets to review the Development Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant at McLoughlin Point

**January 11, 2017** – Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Team participates in a James Bay Community Association Meeting to share information about the Wastewater Treatment Project

**January 11, 2017** – Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Team provides information the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association Land Use Committee Meeting regarding the Clover Point Pump Station Rezoning

**January 12, 2017** – The Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Team hosts an Open House to provide more information on the Wastewater Treatment Plant

**January 14, 2017** – The Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Team hosts a second Open House to provide more information on the Wastewater Treatment Plant

**January 17, 2017** – Advisory Planning Commission meeting takes place in Esquimalt regarding the Zoning for the Wastewater Treatment Plant at McLoughlin Point

**January 23, 2017** – The Township of Esquimalt Hosts an Open House to discuss the Amenity Package that is associated with the Wastewater Treatment Plant at McLoughlin Point