METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
COVID-19 RESPONSE TASK FORCE

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 3, 2020
1:00 pm
28th Floor Boardroom, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia

A G E N D A

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 June 3, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda
That the COVID-19 Response Task Force adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for June 3, 2020 as circulated.

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 May 20, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
That the COVID-19 Response Task Force adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held May 20, 2020 as circulated.

3. DELEGATIONS

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Larry Beasley, Distinguished Practice Professor of Planning, University of British Columbia and Jennifer Keesmaat, Former Chief Planner, City of Toronto
Subject: Urban Declaration

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

5.1 COVID-19 Response Task Force – Future Meetings
Verbal Update
Designated Speaker: Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

1 Note: Recommendation is shown under each item, where applicable.
7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 COVID-19 Response Roundtable of Issues by Members

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.

That the COVID-19 Response Task Force close its regular meeting scheduled for May 20, 2020 pursuant to the Community Charter provisions, Section 90 (2) (b) as follows:

“90 (2) A part of a meeting must be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:
(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the regional district and a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.”

10. ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION


Membership:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dhaliwal, Sav (C) - Burnaby</th>
<th>Froese, Jack - Langley Township</th>
<th>McLaughlin, Ron - Lions Bay</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buchanan, Linda (VC) - North Vancouver City</td>
<td>Harvie, George - Delta</td>
<td>Morden, Mike - Maple Ridge</td>
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<td>Baird, Ken - Tsawwassen First Nation</td>
<td>Hocking, David - Bowen Island</td>
<td>Stewart, Kennedy - Vancouver</td>
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<td>Belenkie, Neil - Belcarra</td>
<td>Hurley, Mike - Burnaby</td>
<td>Stewart, Richard - Coquitlam</td>
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<td>Booth, Mary-Ann - West Vancouver</td>
<td>Little, Mike - North Vancouver District</td>
<td>Vagramov, Rob - Port Moody</td>
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<td>Brodie, Malcolm - Richmond</td>
<td>McCallum, Doug - Surrey</td>
<td>van den Broek, Val - Langley City</td>
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<td>Coté, Jonathan - New Westminster</td>
<td>McCutcheon, Jen - Electoral Area A</td>
<td>Walker, Darryl - White Rock</td>
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<td>Dingwall, Bill - Pitt Meadows</td>
<td>McEwen, John – Anmore</td>
<td>West, Brad - Port Coquitlam</td>
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) COVID-19 Response Task Force held at 1:03 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 in the 28th Floor Boardroom, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Chair, Board Chair Sav Dhaliwal, Burnaby
Vice Chair, Mayor Linda Buchanan, North Vancouver City*
Chief Ken Baird, Tsawwassen*
Mayor Neil Belenkie, Belcarra*
Mayor Mary-Ann Booth, West Vancouver*
Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond*
Mayor Jonathan Coté, New Westminster*
Mayor Bill Dingwall, Pitt Meadows*
Mayor Jack Froese, Langley Township*
Councillor David Hocking, Bowen Island*
Mayor Mike Hurley, Burnaby*
Mayor Mike Little, North Vancouver District*
Mayor Doug McCallum, Surrey*
Director Jen McCutcheon, Electoral Area A*
Mayor John McEwen, Anmore*
Mayor Ron McLaughlin, Lions Bay*
Mayor Mike Morden, Maple Ridge*
Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam*
Mayor Rob Vagramov, Port Moody*
Mayor Val van den Broek, Langley City*
Mayor Darryl Walker, White Rock*
Mayor Brad West, Port Coquitlam*

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Mayor George Harvie, Delta
Mayor Kennedy Stewart, Vancouver

STAFF PRESENT:
Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Chief Administrative Officer
Genevieve Lanz, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by Section 3.6.2 of the Procedure Bylaw
1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 May 20, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED
That the COVID-19 Response Task Force adopt the revised agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for May 20, 2020 as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 May 6, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED
That the COVID-19 Response Task Force adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held May 6, 2020 as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, City of Vancouver

Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, City of Vancouver, provided members with a presentation on the City of Vancouver’s Vulnerable Persons Response, highlighting operational risks and challenges, shelter and housing support, and Downtown East Side resident network and enhanced community stewardship program.

In response to questions, members were informed of collaboration with Urban Indigenous Communities, supporting self-isolation for vulnerable populations, and transitioning COVID-19 restart recovery to the Emergency Operations Centre.

Presentation material titled “Vulnerable Populations and Downtown Eastside COVID-19 Response Actions” is retained with the May 20, 2020 COVID-19 Response Task Force agenda.

4.2 Brenna Ayliffe, Community Health Specialist, Fraser Health and Claire Gram, Population Health Policy and Projects Lead, Vancouver Coastal Health

Brenna Ayliffe, Community Health Specialist, Fraser Health and Claire Gram, Population Health Policy and Projects Lead, Vancouver Coastal Health, provided members with a presentation on the Municipal Food Security and COVID-19 Working Group, highlighting food security and accessibility, volunteer services
and coordination with non-governmental organizations, and immediate and long-term responses.

Presentation material titled “Food Security During COVID-19” is retained with the May 20, 2020 COVID-19 Response Task Force agenda.

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

5.1 COVID-19 Impacts - Regional Planning Data
Heather McNell, General Manager, Regional Planning and Housing Services, provided members with a presentation on the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on regional planning data, highlighting indicators and real-time data analysis, overview of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, and employment statistics from February to April 2020.

Presentation material titled “COVID-19 Impacts Regional Planning Information” is retained with the May 20, 2020 COVID-19 Response Task Force agenda.

5.2 COVID-19 Dashboard
Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer, provided members with a demonstration of the COVID-19 Dashboard, highlighting up-to-date information on the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on Metro Vancouver services.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION ITEMS
No items presented.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 COVID-19 Response Roundtable of Issues by Members
Members commented on regional coordination of facilities reopening, and impact of social distancing measures on air quality and Climate 2050.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS
No items presented.
9. **RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

*It was MOVED and SECONDED*

That the COVID-19 Response Task Force close its regular meeting scheduled for May 20, 2020 pursuant to the *Community Charter* provisions, Section 90 (2) (b) as follows:

“90 (2) A part of a meeting must be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:

(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the regional district and a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.”

**CARRIED**

10. **ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION**

*It was MOVED and SECONDED*


**CARRIED**

(Time: 2:34 p.m.)

____________________________   ____________________________
Genevieve Lanz,      Sav Dhaliwal, Chair
Legislative Services Coordinator
WE THE UNDERSIGNED DECLARE THAT:

The COVID-19 pandemic provides a once-in-a-lifetime responsibility to accelerate the change we require in Canadian cities. With a coordinated effort by the federal government, provinces, and cities, we can repair a half-century of unsustainable planning that has compromised our health, access to housing, the quality of our air, and the long-term financial viability of our cities. Within this short window, we can position Canadian cities to thrive as we embrace a “new normal” and a better “business-as-usual.” A greener, cleaner, decarbonized economy begins with our cities. To get there, we must change the way we plan and operate them. And it is within the power of our political leaders to do so.

To be clear, the measures outlined in the declaration should be considered a starting point for affecting the type of change we need in our cities, but are not a cure-all. Our current urban form has detrimental effects on new Canadians, Indigenous people, racialized populations, and lower-income workers. These groups have disproportionately suffered from the effects of homelessness and gentrification, growing racial- and class-based segregation of neighbourhoods within cities, the social and financial costs of long commutes, and disproportionate rates of working poverty in Canadian cities. To ensure that the structural trends afflicting our cities are not exacerbated or ignored, it will be critical to apply an equity lens throughout the planning and implementation of these measures and to employ population-specific interventions with more universal policy solutions.

We note also that cities are in a period of unprecedented financial uncertainty. While some of the commitments below will require a response from, and coordination with, provincial and federal governments for funding, the majority of these recommendations require a reallocation of resources and a reassessment of priorities -- away from unsustainable, inequitable, costly approaches that are not viable over the long-term -- toward sustainable, cost-efficient, future-oriented approaches. In most instances, the required policy changes can be initiated immediately by municipalities, though implementation periods will vary.

Ensuring the Responsible Use of Land:

1. Update zoning policies to allow more households to access existing neighbourhoods by permitting appropriately scaled multi-tenanted housing, co-housing, laneway housing, and other forms of “gentle density” to be built, as-of-right, alongside houses in low-rise residential neighbourhoods.
2. Commit to the creation of 15-minute neighbourhoods in which it is possible to live, work, and shop, by among other things permitting corner stores, local retail, and live-work housing, and by adding more local parks in all areas of cities.
3. Restrict short-term rentals to ensure that rental homes are not once again removed from the rental market post-COVID-19.
4. Remove all mandatory minimum parking requirements for any new building, to both signal a shift in mobility priorities, and to remove the costly burden of parking, on housing.
5. Prioritize the use of existing municipally-owned land for the creation of affordable housing that remains affordable in perpetuity, and for strategic public green space that supports increased density.
6. Enact stronger restrictions on urban sprawl, including moratoria limiting additional, auto-dependent, suburban sprawl developments.
Accelerating the Decarbonization of our Transportation Systems:

7. Prioritize the immediate transformation of existing streets and roadways for active transportation -- both for the immediate, post-pandemic recovery period and as permanent measures -- by adding additional space for pedestrians and protected bike lanes in a contiguous ‘everywhere-to-everywhere’ network that makes cycling a safe mobility choice for every resident, in every neighbourhood.

8. Enhance bus service levels, recognizing that interim social distancing requirements will demand high levels of public transit service on existing routes, since passenger limits on buses will be required.

9. On major arterial roadways, transform curbside lanes to dedicated Bus Rapid Transit Priority Lanes, to offer a higher level of service and to incentivize public transit usage as economies transition to normal.

10. Enact an immediate and permanent moratorium on the construction and reconstruction of urban expressways, including those in process.

11. Enact congestion pricing policies, and dedicate 100% of the revenues to public transportation expansion.

12. Mandate a conversion timetable stipulating that 100% of taxi and ride-sharing vehicles will be electric.

13. Commit to fully electrify public bus fleets.

14. Require the full electrification of public sector vehicular fleets (this can be achieved through a mass joint Climate Mayors Purchasing Collective).

Embracing Sustainability in our Built and Natural Environments:

15. Require that all new government-owned buildings (federal, provincial, and municipal) be carbon neutral.

16. End the dumping of untreated sewage outflows into lakes, streams, and waterways.

17. Enact a funded, detailed plan to achieve a 40% urban tree canopy.

18. Ensure 100% of municipal operations are powered by clean energy sources.


20. Require all new large office buildings to be emissions-free.

We cannot return to the old normal, when we already faced massive challenges and urgent crises. This declaration should be considered a starting point: a series of clear and distinct actions that Canadian municipalities can take right now to address the sustainability, mobility, and equity issues that the pandemic has highlighted.