

Issues, Comments, Questions and Metro Vancouver Responses

Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee (LGPAC) Phase 2: Meeting # 5

November 17, 2016, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Norgate Community Elementary School
1295 Sowden Street, North Vancouver, BC



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1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Andrea Winkler, Program Manager, Public Involvement, Liquid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver (MV), called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed all to the Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee (LGPAC) meeting. It was noted that summaries of all previous LGPAC meetings, including the LOTT tour, are available on the MV website.

Ms. Winkler expressed appreciation to the LGPAC members for their patience with the Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant (LGSWWTP) planning process, particularly during the procurement phase.

2. Agenda Review

Diana Sollner, Chair, LGPAC, reviewed the agenda for the November 17, 2016 meeting.

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Update LGPAC members on the current state of the LGSWWTP and conveyance projects
- Review education-related activities and plans
- Provide a preview of the next six months.

3. LGPAC Final Report (2017)

The Chair suggested that, due to the limited activity during the year, the 2016 LGPAC report be incorporated into the final LGPAC report that will be prepared in March 2017, when the LGPAC for phase two is complete. This was supported by the LGPAC membership.

4. Project Update

Paul Dufault, Project Manager, LGSWWTP, Liquid Waste Services, MV, led the review of a presentation and highlighted:

- Funding:
 - Funding of \$212 million for the LGSWWTP was approved in the 2017 federal budget
 - Provincial funding has not yet been announced
- Five proponents responded to the Request for Quotation (RFQ); a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to the three shortlisted proponents
- RFP Schedule:
 - Issued on April 13, 2016
 - Technical submissions are due on November 29, 2016, and price submissions on January 26, 2017
 - Selection of a preferred proponent in February 2017
 - Financial close on April 30, 2017
- Site activities will occur shortly after the preferred proponent is selected and will include ground preparation and mobilization
- The conveyance system involves installation of new pipes between the existing WWTP and outfall and the future LGSWWTP

- Two blocks of W 1st Street will be affected by the construction of the conveyance lines, from Philip Ave west to the end of the road. This will likely take place in 2018.
- Siting investigations are underway to locate a new pump station in the Lions Gate Bridge corridor

5. Recap of LOTT Tour

The Chair led the review of a presentation titled “LOTT Wastewater Treatment Plant” and highlighted:

- Metro Vancouver staff and four LGPAC members toured the LOTT facility, located in Washington state, in April 2016
- LOTT was designed as a focal point in the centre of the town
- Education activities:
 - Interactive education activities
 - The importance of educational activities being available for all age ranges
 - Classroom space
 - Art-based learning
- Community integration:
 - Community engagement took place before the design of the plant and community engagement continues today
- Reclaimed water:
 - First WWTP in the US to receive a permit to utilize reclaimed water for recreation purposes
 - Reclaimed water is used in a water feature (stream) and demonstration wetland
- Art mosaics used to reinforce the messaging of the value of water

The LGPAC identified the following aspects of the LOTT program to be considered in the LGSWWTP education program:

- Visualization of a clean water cycle
- Focus on careers
- Operators involved in being tour guides and engaging with the communities
- Coordination with schools including a transportation budget and an education program integrated with the school curriculum
- Importance of having an educator involved in the design of the interactive exhibits
- Maintenance and renewal of the exhibits included in the operating budget
- Revenue stream that can be derived from the buildings
- Educated ratepayer, which will result in decreased water usage.

6. Education Themes

Tanya Melanson, Communications & Education Coordinator, Public Involvement, MV, led the review of a presentation titled “Education Strategy for the LGSWWTP”, and highlighted:

- Development of themes and approaches to learning:
 - Consultation with educators
 - Conversations with LOTT, Brightwater and Science World

- Need to appeal to all age ranges
- Importance of testing exhibits
- How public involvement helped to inform the architectural requirements for learning and public spaces in the new facility.
- Education strategy, plans and programs:
 - Presented Education Strategy to proponents in May 2016
 - MV is available to address proponent questions related to education and public spaces
 - MV will work with Project Co during the design process to ensure space meets expectations for public engagement and education
 - MV will be responsible for public and school program design and delivery once new facility is under MV's management
- Value of education about liquid waste:
 - Opportunities to educate the community about the value of water
 - Benefits to the utility: reduce water consumption, source control, builds support for innovation and costs to construct, operate and upgrade system
 - Increases the trust, transparency of government
- Key concepts:
 - How humans are connected to the water cycle
 - Why we treat wastewater
 - How we treat wastewater
 - Changing our perception of "waste"
 - Changing behaviour and demand management
- MV will be involved in the evaluation process to ensure design meets our education and community integration expectations.

7. Update on LGSWWTP Engagement

Lena Zordan, Policy Coordinator, Public Involvement, MV, provided an update on the LGSWWTP engagement activities:

- A community newsletter will provide a project update in December 2016/January 2017
- Community notification announcing Project Co and transition of communications, timelines and new rendering of plant in Spring 2017
- The transition to Project Co and final LGPAC meeting will take place in May 2017
- Project Co will host a public meeting in May/June 2017
- Continuing to 2021, communication will be led by Project Co

MV will be involved in the evaluation process to ensure the communication and construction mitigation plans meet our expectations.

Ms. Zordan advised that the North Vancouver School District has rejected MV's second request for the installation of an Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQMS) at the Norgate Community Elementary School, despite the support of the LGPAC and the Norgate Park Community Association. MV is seeking an alternate location for the AQMS in the area.

7. Next Steps, Closing Remarks & Action Items

Ms. Winkler thanked the LGPAC members for their participation and noted that Project Co will be invited to attend the final meeting of the LGPAC in May 2017.

The Chair advised that she would circulate an email on the proposed process to develop the 2017 LGPAC report.

The meeting concluded at 8:20 p.m.

8. Issues, Comments, Questions

The following table summarizes MV's responses to questions and concerns provided by attendees, organized by topic, throughout the meeting:

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Funding	
What is the funding contribution requested from the Province?	MV has requested that the Province fund one-third of the total cost.
LGSWWTP construction	
Has there been enough investigation on the site conditions so that there will not be any surprises?	MV has done significant investigative work and shared the results with the three proponents. The site was also open to proponents for their own investigative work.
Will any environmental remediation be required?	There will be some remediation required.
When do expect the public hearing for the development permit will be held?	A public meeting on the construction mitigation will be required prior to the construction. This may take place as early as June 2017.
Who will handle public comments and enquiries?	<p>Project Co will assume responsibility for the process including all communications with the community.</p> <p>MV has included a contractual requirement that Project Co establish a Community Liaison Officer to respond to community enquiries. In addition, Project Co will be required to build upon MV's engagement process and to have one staff member responsible for community engagement.</p> <p>MV will continue to be engaged and work with Project Co to ensure effective and timely communication and follow-up.</p>
Will the District of North Vancouver (DNV) have the final decision on the project?	We are working within the DNV process. MV has worked with DNV to expedite some processes in order to meet the federal regulatory deadline.

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Conveyance Project	
Will the old pipes be removed?	They will not be removed. There may be other uses for them in the future.
Is there a possibility that two different companies would construct the LGSWWTP and the conveyance project?	Yes. The projects will connect at W 1 st Street and Philip Avenue.
Will other utility companies take advantage of the construction to install new infrastructure?	This is a possibility but we have not yet been approached by any utility companies.
What is the timing of the road impact?	It will likely occur sometime in 2018. We will keep one lane open most of the time.
Will Project Co or MV be responsible for presenting the construction schedule to the community for feedback?	Project Co is responsible for the communication and consultation on the LGSWWTP, not the conveyance project. MV will communicate more details, including timing and impacts, prior to construction.
LOTT Tour	
Was there any change in water usage as a result of the community involvement?	There was a decline in household water usage.
The LGSWWTP is located in an industrial area. Is this suitable for community engagement in a manner that is similar to the LOTT plant?	There will be two large multi-purpose indoor spaces and a plaza located outside the building for public use. There is also a budget for educational exhibits and interpretive features.
Will the project share in the financial benefits that would result if household water usage were reduced due to the education program?	The education component is built into the project scope. It was part of the funding application.
Education Program	
Has there been any discussion about collaboration with Science World?	MV has discussed exhibit design with Science World. MV is responsible for the design and delivery of the education programs, however, programming has not been determined yet.
Have there been any decisions made about how to manage the operation of the education program?	Not yet. We will utilize educational programs at other MV facilities to demonstrate the value of implementing the program at the LGSWWTP.

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Will the education program operator be separate from the plant operator?	We have models in other MV facilities where the operators are part of the education program.
Air Quality Monitoring Station	
Are there any legal encumbrances associated with locating the AQMS on the Norgate Community Elementary School grounds?	A license would likely be required.
Could we incorporate an AQMS at the LGSWWTP?	There is already odour monitoring planned as part of the building design. But it would not provide the baseline air quality information for the years prior to the operation of the LGSWWTP.
The LGPAC could appeal the decision by appearing as a delegation to the North Vancouver School District trustees.	Comment noted.

Attendance

LGPAC Members: Diana Sollner (Chair), Richard Hancock (Vice-Chair), Dan Bizzotto, John Jensen, Rene Kormos, Derek Lunden and Jan Timmer

Metro Vancouver Resources: Tina Chiu, Paul Dufault, Tanya Melanson, Andrea Winkler and Lena Zordan

Process Facilitator: Marni Robinson (Context Research)

Recording Secretary: Carol Lee (Raincoast Ventures Ltd.)

Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

AQMS	Air Quality Monitoring Station
LGPAC	Lions Gate Public Advisory Committee
LGSWWTP	Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant
LOTT	Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County Clean Water Alliance, a secondary wastewater treatment facility located in Washington state
MV	Metro Vancouver
Project Co	Design-Builder (successful proponent)
RFQ	Request for Qualification
RFP	Request for Proposal