

Issues, Comments, Questions and Metro Vancouver Responses

Public Open House *Summary*

Saturday, February 20, 2016, 2 to 4 pm
Norgate Community Elementary School
1295 Sowden Street, North Vancouver



1. Introduction

On Saturday, February 20, 2016, from 2pm to 4pm, Metro Vancouver (MV) hosted a Public Open House to provide an update on the new Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant (LGSWWTP). Information was presented on panel boards (attached), maps and via staff. Information covered the process to date and what will happen over the next year. Attendees provided input on traffic and construction mitigation, and educational opportunities.

The Public Open House ran from 2 to 4pm, with approximately 70 people attending.

2. Issue, Comment, Question & MV Response

The following table summarizes MV’s responses to questions and concerns provided by attendees, throughout the Public Open House, organized by topic:

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Odour	
How will odour from the future plant be managed?	<p>Odour control is a priority for the project. A robust odour control strategy will actively focus on prevention, containment, treatment and dispersion to minimize the risk of odour from the plant. The strategy involves containment of compounds within the facility and treatment using a two stage odour control system: bioscrubber followed by polishing with activated carbon. The treated air will be discharged through a single stack for increased dilution and dispersion.</p> <p>Other wastewater treatment plants in Washington State using this type of odour control have virtually no instances of odour complaints or nuisance odours.</p>
Noise	
Will piling occur?	We are expecting piles for the treatment plant, but this will depend on the proposals received. The indicative design is based on pile foundations necessary for earthquake codes.

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Trucks / Traffic Concerns	
Do trucks access the facility from the back and then exit on West 1 st Street?	Yes, the traffic pattern will be one-way.
How many trucks will go to and from the site every day?	When the new LGSWWTP is operational, truck traffic to and from the site will be minimal. The existing Lions Gate (primary) Wastewater Treatment Plant has 1-2 trucks of biosolids leaving the site each week. The new secondary wastewater treatment plant is estimated to have 3-4 truckloads of biosolids, and one residuals truck (to remove grit and screenings) per week. Other possible traffic (but likely not trucks) will include staff, deliveries and external contractors.
Are all solids trucked out of the facility? Where are they going to?	<p>Biosolids will be transported from the plant directly to various projects to provide valuable nutrients and build healthy soil. Some biosolids are applied local and some are hundreds of kilometres away.</p> <p>The LGSWWTP will generate high quality biosolids as an alternative to energy and resource intensive chemical fertilizers. Beneficial use includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reclaiming mining sites and gravel pits; - fertilize rangeland, hayfield, forests, parks and tree farms; and - landfill topper to absorb methane gas and reduce greenhouse gas emission.
Would you consider using a barge to ship biosolids?	This has not been considered to date and would require more in depth study.

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Trucks / Traffic Concerns	
Will there be trucks delivering liquid waste into the plant?	There will be no liquid waste trucked into this facility.
I am concerned about traffic/pedestrian safety at West 1 st Street and Pemberton Avenue.	Comment noted.
How will traffic access the proposed route to the Philip Avenue overpass?	Traffic patterns for the overpass were established as a part of the Philip Ave project.
When will the Pemberton Pedestrian Bridge be completed?	The pedestrian bridge is a District of North Vancouver (DNV) consideration – see DNV for more details. A future pedestrian overpass will be taken into account in the design of LGSWWTP.
Parking in the industrial area is tight.	Comment noted.
Architecture / Plant Design	
How tall are the digesters? I don't want to lose my view.	<p>The digesters' overall height is estimated to be 34.9 metres high, this is the equivalent to an 8 to 10 storey residential building. The preliminary design has the digesters (the highest point of the building) located at the west end of the site.</p> <p>The future LGSWWTP will be comparable with the existing landscape, with most of the building being similar in height to Fibreco, and the digesters being slightly shorter than Kinder Morgan.</p>

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Architecture / Plant Design	
<p>Consider making a lower or thinner structure to not impede views.</p>	<p>The treatment process requires height. Because there is limited space on the site, the components are stacked. There is a flood plain level that all equipment is required to be above. The team has taken possible sea level rise into account.</p>
<p>Will the roof be accessible?</p>	<p>Yes. The roof, lobby and meeting rooms will be accessible to the public while the plant is open. The accessible roof was requested to provide a view of the water system, from the mountains to the ocean.</p>
<p>What is the lifetime of this plant? Can the plant handle the future potential of North and West Vancouver?</p>	<p>The 2020 design will accommodate the expected capacity to 2051. Also, it will be designed with features such as deep tanks so that the facility can be upgraded in the future to meet the needs of the North Shore until the end of the century.</p>

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Architecture / Plant Design	
<p>Why are you designing for secondary treatment? Why not to tertiary treatment?</p>	<p>The LGSWWTP will upgrade the level of treatment from primary to secondary for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to meet the regulatory requirements established in the provincially approved <i>Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan</i> and the new federal <i>Wastewater System Effluent Regulations</i>; - to accommodate the projected population growth on the North Shore; and - to ensure continued protection of public health and the environment of Burrard Inlet and English Bay. <p>Three options (including tertiary treatment) were examined in detail and documented in the Project Definition Report.</p> <p>The deep tank activated sludge process, which provides secondary treatment, was selected on the basis that it meets the treatment objective, has the lowest life cycle cost, has the lowest greenhouse gas emissions, has the lowest energy consumption, requires the least use of chemicals and provides flexibility for future migration to more advanced treatment.</p> <p>This treatment process can be modified in the future to meet more stringent regulatory requirements or higher than projected population growth.</p>

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Construction and Timeline	
What is the timeframe for construction activities?	The construction period will start in 2017 and go to 2021.
The neighbourhood should be provided more information as you approach the construction date. Can you restrict construction hours to the daytime?	Construction hours will be regulated by the DNV noise bylaw .
Funding / Cost to the Taxpayer	
How much will the plant cost?	There is a \$700 million project budget, with \$620 million for the new plant, \$60 million for the conveyance work, and \$20 million to decommission the existing treatment plant.
Where will the funding come from?	<p>The MV Board of Directors has formally committed a one-third share for the project, and is currently seeking a commitment from the federal and British Columbia governments for the remaining two-thirds of the project's capital costs. MV has made a formal request to the Province for a commitment on funding and has requested that the project be designated a Provincial priority under the Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component of the Building Canada Fund. We are awaiting a commitment for this funding. Once designated as a Provincial priority, an application and business case can be submitted to the Federal Government under the Building Canada Fund.</p> <p>Post note: On March 22, 2016, the federal government committed \$212 million to the project.</p>

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Funding / Cost to the Taxpayer	
<p>How is the funding split between the North Shore municipalities and MV? Is there any effluent going to the plant from First Nations communities and will they be involved in funding the project?</p>	<p>Approximately 30% of the municipal portion is shared by the North Shore with 70% of the municipal portion shared by all municipalities in MV. Effluent will come from all communities on the North Shore. Funding that comes First Nations will be through servicing agreements.</p>
<p>What does MV anticipate the cost per person or household will be?</p>	<p>The increase in cost per household will depend on the level of provincial and federal grant funding received.</p>
<p>What is the response timeline for the senior government grant applications and what will happen if there is no provincial or federal funding?</p>	<p>The Province will decide if the project is a priority infrastructure project for BC before MV can apply for federal grants. We are working closely with all levels of government to secure funding.</p> <p>Post note: See page 6.</p>
Employment Opportunities	
<p>How many people work at the current plant and how many will be employed at the new plant?</p>	<p>Currently there are about 15 employees. Maintenance staff provide some additional employment on a roving basis. The new plant will employ 25 to 30 staff.</p>

Issue, Comment, Question	MV Response
Communication	
How do you communicate with residents?	<p>On this project, MV communicates with residents via mail, email, public meetings, and a public advisory committee. All public meetings are also advertised in the community newspaper. In early February 2016, a Project Update Newsletter was delivered to the Norgate area residents and businesses.</p> <p>Information and history on the LGSWWTP is online at www.metrovancouver.org/lionsgate. Content includes public meeting summaries, presentations, reports, and all technical documents for the new Plant (Project Definition Report Volumes 1 -3).</p> <p>You can also join an email list for future updates: LGSWWTP@metrovancouver.org</p>

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