

## **MAYOR'S REPORT TUESDAY Feb 21st, 2023**

### **Wed. Feb 8th, 2023 CRD Board Meeting**

There were many delegations at the microphone, most were concerning a private company's proposal for a broadcasting tower antenna on Gordon Road, part of JDF's Sooke District Plan 42290. When item 8.1 came up there was a decision by Voting Block A to encourage further information discussions with the proponent. Note, that ultimately decisions on radio towers rest with the federal agencies.

#### **Island Corridor**

The CRD Board received a presentation from CEO Larry Stevenson of the Island Corridor Foundation regarding the upcoming court ordered rail decision on March 14th. They are seeing more enthusiasm from the province but the federal government response has been more "wait and see" thus far.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32426&GUID=937E0BA5-6CF0-41A8-A575-8A12DE4D6A50>

#### **Wood Burning and Air Quality**

This staff report on the ability to regulate wood burning on Salt Spring (Consent Agenda 6.2) was informative and may be of interest to Highlands residents.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32423&GUID=899AB783-6E63-4636-B7E4-E44E652698A4>

#### **Evaluation of Passing Lane on Willis Point Road**

Here is the staff report requested by the Environmental Services Committee last Sept:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32298&GUID=E60246A0-B4BC-411E-A88B-A29C5E3174DA>

#### **Biosolids**

By a 36 to 31 weighted vote of the municipalities that financially contribute to the wastewater treatment, the CRD Board has amended the long standing policy banning the land application of biosolids. This decision was not the recommendation of the Environmental Services Committee. CRD policy is now to allow non-agricultural land application of biosolids. Nanaimo Regional District has agreed to accept these biosolids and will meet provincial requirements.

Due to the extended operational difficulties of the cement facility (located on the mainland) to incinerate the biosolids, the CRD have been diluting the biosolids with sand and other materials and landfilling the product at Hartland. Not only has that capacity now been exceeded but the province does not consider landfilling biosolids a beneficial use. This controversial subject prompted a lengthy debate at the Board.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32451&GUID=A8991524-C4A7-4411-93F9-CEF12235667E>

#### **Code of Conduct**

The CRD Board endorsed the development of a code of conduct to establish shared expectations of responsible conduct and behaviour of CRD Directors. Staff will report back to the Governance Committee with resources and examples to facilitate the development of the code of conduct.

#### **Corporate Signage**

The CRD Board approved the creation of new corporate signage guidelines as an initiative in 2019 as part of the 2020 service planning process. Implementation of the CRD signage guidelines is underway, most recently at Thetis Lake Regional Park which created much public outcry. Lake Regional Park and staff were asked to put this work on hold until the corporate sign guidelines could be brought forward to the Board. The Board directed staff to proceed with implementing the CRD signage guidelines, with the exception of the Regional Parks entry signs (portal signs), which are to be brought to the Regional Parks Committee for further consideration.

## **2 Bylaws Approved - Goose and Solid Waste Disposal Loan**

On January 23, 2023, elector approval was obtained for Bylaw No. 4522 “Canada Goose Management Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2022” and Bylaw No. 4515, “Solid Waste Disposal Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2022”. The Board received the Certificate of Results for both Alternative Approval Processes and adopted both Bylaws.

### **Fri. Feb 10th McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Site Visit**

CRD Board members and staff donned safety boots, hard hats, gloves and safety glasses to tour the treatment facility. The concrete structure houses primary, secondary and tertiary treatment processes with sewage entering the plant on the north side and exiting at the outfall located 2 km into the ocean on the south side. Effluent is screened in tanks and sent through tanks where microorganisms grow and consume organic compounds.

Solids are removed and sent to the Residuals Treatment Facility at Hartland. Treated secondary effluent is sent to tertiary treatment tanks to be forced through 5 micron disk filters where further solids are removed and sent to Hartland before the remaining effluent reaches the outfall. Tours should be available to the public soon.

### **Wed. Feb. 15th, 2023 CRD Planning and Protective Services**

The PPSC heard a report on the 2023 PPSC Terms of Reference:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32476&GUID=2FBFE1AD-24F3-4E38-8F57-6245F21BEAAC>

and Regional Growth Strategy Indicators:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32477&GUID=D4E1470D-F345-4480-8DD6-79312008702F>

We also recommended to the CRD Board that the Central Saanich Regional Context Statement be accepted.