Highlights from the CRD Board meeting on August 9, 2023.



## **CRD Board Highlights: August 9, 2023**

CRD Board Highlights provides a brief summary of items from each monthly regional Board meeting. The summary is not inclusive of all agenda items. Please refer to the <u>CRD website</u> for the full agenda, minutes and webcast.

## **Regional Trails Widening and Lighting Project - Funding Options**

The CRD Board reviewed a report that provided funding options for the renewal of critical infrastructure and the widening and lighting of priority sections of the Galloping Goose and Lochside regional trails. The CRD Board directed staff to accelerate the Regional Trails Widening and Lighting Project by including it in the 2024-2028 Financial Plan and that project funds be secured by way of debt. Staff were also directed to continue to develop partnerships, pursue grant opportunities and report back to the Regional Parks Committee at the September 27, 2023 meeting with options to generate additional funds through non-tax revenue.

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## **Long-Term Biosolids Management Planning**

The CRD Board received a report providing an update on the long-term biosolids management Planning process for information. The Capital Regional District (CRD) is required to develop a long-term biosolids management plan, due to the Province by June 2024, as part of the core area wastewater service. The CRD is currently implementing a short-term biosolids plan. The CRD has a technical analysis of potential long-term biosolids management options, which recommends consideration of portfolios of options to ensure program resiliency. The public and First Nations consultation starting in the fall will help inform evaluation and selection of these portfolios. Currently, a Request for Expressions of Interest for an advanced thermal site trial is also underway. Information gathered by these parallel processes will be integrated into a draft long-term biosolids management plan for consideration by the Environmental Services Committee and Board in 2024.

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The CRD Board reviewed and approved an updated advocacy strategy which will inform specific advocacy initiatives and leverage the collective voice of CRD Board members, partners, and staff to assist in achieving Board priorities. The CRD Board Strategic Priorities 2023 - 2026 includes initiatives that require various types of advocacy to senior orders of government, public authorities, and partners in order to make progress.

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## Bylaw No. 4556: Capital Regional District Public Notice Bylaw No. 1, 2023

The CRD Board adopted a new public notice bylaw. With recent legislative amendments, the Board can adopt a public notice bylaw specifying alternative means for publishing statutory public notices. The new bylaw specifies two means of publication beginning January 1, 2024 —one time in a newspaper or print periodical and one time on the CRD website—that are reliable, suitable for providing notices, and accessible. The Public Notice Policy complements the Bylaw and will help ensure that the CRD is informing community members of matters of public interest and complying with the legislative requirements.

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The next Board meeting will be held on September 13, 2023

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