

CRD Board Highlights: March 9, 2022

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 CRD website for the full agenda, minutes and webcast.

Transportation Equity

In November 2021, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board directed staff to report back to the Transportation Committee with implications of applying a robust equity lens to transportation priority implementation, advocacy and future planning. Income, ability, gender, race and other factors play a significant role in determining who benefits or does not benefit from transportation. Transportation equity recognizes the impacts these benefits, or lack of benefits, can have on a community's livability in terms of affordable access to social, economic and recreation opportunities. The CRD will need to use both procedural and distributive tools to integrate the lived experiences of diverse and inclusive communities into transportation priority implementation, advocacy and future planning. The CRD Board directed staff to work in partnership with the Community Social Planning Council to draft an equity lens to inform CRD transportation priority implementation, advocacy and future planning and well as a pilot study to test the application of an equity lens by reviewing gender imbalance in active transportation, focusing on the CRD regional trail network.

Staff Report

2021 Regional Parks Compliance and Enforcement Program

The CRD Board received an update on the 2021 Regional Parks Compliance and Enforcement Program for information. With more than 8.6 million visits annually to regional parks and trails, the ranger program has a key role in helping to ensure park visitors have a positive, safe and respectful visit in regional parks and that park values are protected. In 2021, CRD Regional Parks Rangers were instrumental in addressing a number of compliance and enforcement issues across the system at the same time providing safe and enjoyable experiences for visitors. The CRD Regional Parks Compliance and Enforcement Program will continue to focus on compliance education

as one of the best tools to help alleviate the pressures and challenges the system faces.

Staff Report | Appendices

Socially and Environmentally Responsible Investing

Staff were requested to provide options to move investments further into alignment with the CRD's stated social and environmental values and to develop a draft policy regarding socially and environmentally responsible investing (SRI) that could be considered by member local governments. The CRD has actively pursued options to align investments in treasury activities since 2017. Since the last policy update in 2021, the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA) has introduced an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) framework for responsible investing and reported on alignment of MFA products.

Based on the MFA framework, all pooled funds qualify as SRI and ESG integrated funds managed by signatories to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment. Currently, nearly 90% of the CRD portfolio is aligned with the MFA ESG framework. The CRD Board has adopted the amendment to the CRD Investment Policy to remove total portfolio limits in favor of the MFA ESG framework definitions and directed staff to forward the adopted policy to member municipalities for consideration. Staff Report | Appendices

Oak Bay Lodge Redevelopment Public Engagement Update Regional Parks

A multi-round consultation and engagement process on the future use of the former Oak Bay Lodge property is complete. There was significant interest from the community throughout the process and those suggestions will be shared and incorporated into the schematic design and next steps of the project. Project scoping including working with Island Health on financing and funding options and developing a business plan are ongoing while the Capital Regional Hospital District (CRHD) proceeds with preparations toward a general rezoning of the site. The CRHD Board received the Oak Bay Lodge Redevelopment Public Engagement Update report for information and directed staff to proceed with exploring financing and funding options with Island Health while simultaneously proceeding with project scoping, design and procurement for general rezoning. Staff will report back with a cost to proceed and award of contracts.

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Hospital District Act Amendment Request

An update and amendment to the Hospital District Act is long overdue and has the potential to increase efficiencies, meet the increasing demand on funding and administrative resources, and strengthen relationships with healthcare partners in British Columbia for all Regional Hospital Districts (RHD). The CRHD Board decided to send a joint letter with other RHDs in the Province to the Ministry of Health requesting the Hospital District Act be updated and that the RHDs be consulted and engaged in the process as part of the legislative review.

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CRD's response to COVID-19

The public is welcome to attend CRD Board meetings in-person. However, the public may continue to view meeting materials and webcasts online. Written submissions and applications to address the Board are encouraged, with delegations having the option to participate electronically or in-person.

In response to Ministerial orders, we are updating our process for public notices and hearings for land use applications. For more information, please contact the JDF Office here. For more information on communicating with the CRD Board or appearing as a phone-in delegation at a Board or Committee meeting, click here.

To find out if the committee/commission you are interested in has an upcoming meeting, click here for agendas.

For more information on the CRD's response to COVID-19, please visit www.crd.bc.ca/covid.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022

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