



City of Port Moody

Agenda

Environmental Protection Committee

Electronic Webinar via Zoom

Monday, June 20, 2022

Commencing at 7:00pm

1. Call to Order

You can watch as a Zoom Video Webinar participant at this [link](#).

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 **Recommendation:**

THAT the agenda of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Monday, June 20, 2022 be adopted.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

Pages 3-10

3.1 **Recommendation:**

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022 be adopted.

4. Unfinished Business

5. New Business

**Introduction of
General Manager of
Community Services**

5.1 General Manager of Community Services, Anna Mathewson

Stream Restoration

5.2 Presentation: Dr. Shawn Chartrand, Simon Fraser University

**Green Infrastructure
Subcommittee Update**

5.3 Green Infrastructure Subcommittee

**Light Pollution and
International Dark Sky
Guidelines**

5.4

Staff Updates

6. Information

6.1

7. Adjournment



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Environmental Protection Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee held on Monday, May 16, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Chair
 Damian Regan
 Jutta Rickers-Haunerland
 Kevin Ryan
 Connie Smith
 Koy Tayler
 Judy Taylor-Atkinson
 Jeremy Wong

Absent

Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair
 Margaret Birch (Regrets)

In Attendance

Angela Crampton – Environmental Technician (arrived at 7:42pm)
 Karen Devitt – Environmental Coordinator
 Kelsey Guenette, Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.
 Bryan Moffatt – Urban Forestry Technician (arrived at 7:39pm)
 Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and Parks
 Ding Yu – Project Manager (arrived at 7:39pm)

Also In Attendance

Danielle Dagenais, BC Community Bat Program

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 This item was not addressed.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes**3.1 EPC22/012**

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Monday, April 25, 2022 be adopted.

4. Unfinished Business

5. New Business

Bat-Friendly Communities**5.1 Presentation: Danielle Dagenais, BC Community Bat Program
Attachment: Bat-Friendly Community**

Danielle Dagenais, BC Community Bat Program, gave a presentation on Bat-Friendly Community, and the following was noted:

- the BC Community Bat Program offers a certificate to municipalities for the protection of bats;
- there are 15-17 species of bats in BC, all of which eat insects as their primary diet;
- bats hibernate in locations such as rocks, caves, and trees from October to March and awaken in the spring;
- most bats use anthropogenic habitats and they are commonly found in locations such as carports, door spaces, and walls in homes and buildings;
- it is common to encounter hibernating bats in the winter in the Greater Vancouver area, especially in wood piles or trees as they are often forced to move locations due to fluctuating temperatures and other factors;
- pools are commonly used as a water source for bats;
- female bats produce one pup per year with approximately 50% of pups surviving their first year of life;
- the BC Community Bat Program, which was established in 2015, includes a guide for managing and enhancing bat habitats in BC;
- certified bat-friendly communities include Dawson Creek, Peachland, Richmond, and Delta; and
- White-Nose Syndrome has not been detected in BC yet, but is spreading through Washington state and has been detected in Saskatchewan.

Ms. Dagenais noted the following in response to Committee members' questions:

- the use of probiotics to prohibit the spread of White-Nose Syndrome is still in the trial phase; and
- girl guiding groups have used BC Bat Program Bat Packs to detect bats.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the City of Port Moody endeavours to integrate and find harmony with wildlife in shared spaces;
- significant interest has been shown by residents in the community for the protection of bats;
- Committee member Judy Taylor-Atkinson is in possession of an echolocator and is interested in forming a bat-friendly committee;
- a subcommittee could develop a report to articulate resources and the potential budget needed for bat-friendly certification;
- community members have detected bats around Pigeon Cove, Shoreline Trail, Suter Brook, Klahanie, and other areas; and
- the Port Coquitlam Library has 20 Bat Packs, which include a bat detector, pamphlet, and books about bats, and these resources are available to the community.

Staff advised that there are established City programs that would fit well within the bat-friendly community framework, but that further review is needed.

EPC22/013

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the City of Port Moody become a certified Bat-Friendly Community under the BC Community Bat Program.

Urban Forest Management Strategy

- 5.2 Ding Yu, Project Manager
Attachment: To be distributed on-table

The Project Manager gave a presentation on the Urban Forest Management Strategy (UFMS), and the following was noted:

- an overview of the UFMS was presented to the Committee in November 2021;
- the Tree Protection Bylaw Update has been integrated with the UFMS per Council direction and the first round of public engagement will focus on UFMS but will have high level questions on trees in private property.;

- the current focus is on community engagement and inventory, mapping, and analysis;
- staff interviews with the Environment and Parks, Policy and Development Planning Divisions, and the Fire Department have been completed to help understand key strengths and weaknesses in the City's UFMS;
- a key reason for conducting canopy cover analysis is to understand the provision of ecosystem services and access to forests, which is important when considering urban heat issues in the summer;
- the Tree Inventory Analysis captured approximately 4,500 trees in the streets, which noted how much diversity is in the trees from a vulnerability perspective;
- the engagement plan has been launched, including an information board, surveys, and a mapping tool; and
- next steps include summarizing the feedback from public engagement, conducting stakeholder workshops, developing the draft strategy, hosting a second round of public engagement, and lastly finalizing the strategy for Council approval.

Staff noted the following in response to Committee members' questions:

- community engagement will include two in-person sessions at Rocky Point Park on May 27, 2022 and at Bert Flinn Park on May 28, 2022;
- regional coordination within Metro Vancouver with respect to tree inventory and canopy cover has been undertaken;
- Metro Vancouver's regional canopy cover assessment completed in 2020/2021 informed some of Port Moody's canopy coverage assessment;
- Metro Vancouver has a Tree Bylaw Toolkit that provides elements of tree bylaws;
- consultants reported tree canopy coverage data increase from 55.6% in 2018 to 58.3% in 2022;
- tree canopy coverage is mainly lost due to high density developments;
- UFMS do not typically include expropriation of land; UFMS's typically could involve recommendations for protection of trees during development or identification of significant stand of trees for consideration for park acquisition in the future;
- canopy cover levels in Port Moody and other cities from previous years are studied on a neighbourhood and block scale to understand elements such as vulnerability, diversity, population growth, and future development which help form a projection for future years;

- Portland, Oregon ties canopy coverage to health implications and electricity costs for air conditioners during the summer;
- Port Moody is higher with respect to overall canopy percentage than most municipalities in the Lower Mainland;
- the Port Moody 2022 Urban Forest Report Card rating includes criteria and indicators in addition to canopy coverage, such as aspects related to operations, management, interdepartmental collaboration, condition of trees, and diversity;
- Port Moody plants 500 trees in the city per year, not taking into account new developments or private lands;
- the Environment and Parks Department applied for the 2 Billion Trees Commitment grant by the federal government;
- the overall budget for the strategy is \$82,500, including \$78,000 for Diamond Head Consulting;
- no grant funding has been received to cover strategy costs;
- Diamond Head Consulting has conducted many of the UFMS's for Metro Vancouver municipalities;
- Diamond Head Consulting has been made aware of the Fire Smart Program;
- staff will continue to work on informing the public about the Fire Smart Program and tree canopy coverage.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the UFMS appears to be community values driven with multiple touch points with the public;
- the general public is unaware of the specific benefits of trees and what the threats are;
- tree canopy coverage data should distinguish between public and private lands;
- the number of trees that Port Moody staff plant on a yearly basis could be highlighted in an upcoming Focus newsletter;
- there is potential for the city to lose a high percentage of canopy cover in areas where large developments are proposed; and
- it would be helpful to monetize the total value of trees to the city to show the benefits.

Staff advised that the Committee could demonstrate its support for the UFMS and the Tree Protection Bylaw by attending public events and supporting staff and that information about upcoming events would be circulated to members.

6. Information

Staff Updates

6.1 The Environmental Technician gave a presentation on the Invasive Plant Management Program – Update on Knotweed Plan, and noted the following:

- dredging at Rocky Point Park is still under discussion with regulatory agencies regarding options, with more information to be available at the June 2022 Committee meeting;
- knotweed treatment sites decrease by approximately 50% each year they are treated; and
- some sites are identified for habitat benefit by enhancing green space.

The Environmental Technician noted the following in response to the Committee members' questions:

- the overall burden/load of total area occupied by knotweed on utility properties is unknown, but would be less than 25%;
- CP Rail has been inconsistent with follow-up pesticide treatments;
- new documented sites of knotweed are usually close to previously treated sites as the root network can be large;
- prioritized areas for treatment include important site lines, potential safety issues, and infrastructure issues; and
- any areas with a riparian corridor would be a priority if treatable.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the City could consider an invasive plant bylaw or adding noxious weeds to its Unsightly Premises Bylaw;
- staff may need to be more persistent with respect to diligence in control measures of CP Rail and other utility properties; and
- a bylaw would most likely not solve the issue as utility companies commonly receive complaints.

7. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

Councillor Diana Dilworth,
Chair

Kelsey Guenette,
Recording Secretary

This Page Intentionally Left Blank