



**REPORT TO CORE AREA LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2010**

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**SUBJECT**      **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK UPDATE - CORE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROGRAM**

**ISSUE**

To update the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) on next steps as it relates to the Community Engagement Framework for Wastewater Treatment Facilities.

**SUMMARY**

The key outcome of the May 2009 community engagement program was the development and adoption of a set of community principles for the wastewater treatment program.

Community's "Triple Bottom Line" Principles

The triple bottom line concept applied through public participation is based on the belief that decisions throughout the community must be economically, environmentally and socially responsible, and that the triple bottom line philosophy will lead to a greater balance in decision-making and a more sustainable community over time. The 12 triple bottom line principles speak to what residents value about their community and how they want the wastewater treatment project to be implemented. The triple bottom line principles serve as touchstones – a constant reminder about what is important to the community and continue to shape decisions and public engagement processes.

Linked to this work is the Community Engagement Framework (08 April 2009) and the report titled *Public Consultation Update on Site Selection for a Wastewater Treatment Facility* (12 May 2010) which provides direction for next steps for public consultation with regards to treatment facility siting processes.

At this stage, the issue of community benefits will not form a part of any of the consultation programs, pending further committee consideration and direction.

Biosolids Energy Centre

Similar to the facility siting process in previous consultations, there needs to be confidence that the recommended potential sites meet the technical requirements for the facility and with the potential to be acquired. The Capital Regional District (CRD) needs to recognize and understand the balance between an open public process and preserving confidentiality in land negotiations. Staff do not recommend taking the general areas identified in the September 2010 Westland report titled *Land Suitability for a Biosolids Facility in the Core Area of the Capital Regional District* for public comment. However, once three or four sites are identified and endorsed by the CALWMC, the public process will then incorporate an opportunity for the wider regional community to provide input on the sites and suggest additional sites they deem suitable. As in the past, these sites will then undergo a technical review by staff and consultants and reported back to the CALWMC. The community consultation program will consist of a variety of public participation techniques.

Objectives of the public consultation process:

- An opportunity for the community to gain a better understanding of the work the CRD has already undertaken (information sharing and building of the public's knowledge) around the known sites
- For the CRD to listen and gain a better understanding of the community's concerns

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- For the CRD to gather and respectfully record the community's input (challenges and opportunities) on the various sites
- An opportunity for the community to suggest sites for consideration
- To fulfill the agreed upon direction of having an interactive and meaningful community engagement experience
- For the CRD to have transparency surrounding information and decisions

It is anticipated that the technical work will be completed by the end of 2010; therefore, the public engagement program will begin January 2011. As stated in the 10 May 2010 report, it remains the intention of the CRD to report back on the public engagement and any technical review prior to a final decision on a site.

McLoughlin Point / Esquimalt

Following the community consultation process held in July 2010, the primary focus of the next steps in the public engagement program for the McLoughlin treatment facility will be design and fit as outlined in the Community Engagement Framework – Pillar 4, Step 2. Given the change in the system configuration and a desire to widen the reach of the public input, information and an outreach session will be held in late November/early December. The hope is that more residents will become knowledgeable and engaged in future public process. An information brochure will be sent to homes in Esquimalt and will assist in providing up to date project information.

Public engagement will occur in the early part of 2011 and staff plan to utilize more creative and innovative public participation techniques in this process.

Saanich East-North Oak Bay

Staff intend to report back on the public consultation process for siting the attenuation tank in Saanich East-North Oak Bay once staff have received direction from the CALWMC.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee receive the report for information.



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