



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023 AT 6:00 p.m.
Langley City Hall – Council Chambers
(directly across from the CKF Room)
20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC

A G E N D A

1) **AGENDA**

Adoption of the April 13, 2023 agenda.

2) **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting held March 9, 2023.

3) **DISCUSSION**

1. Earth Day Event Update
2. Follow up about the request for City to offer a rain barrel program to residents. Please see attached email.
3. Review and update action items in March 9, 2023 minutes
4. Review selections and create a 2023 ESC Workplan for Council approval.

4) **STANDING ITEMS**

- a) Poster / Flyer: Determine Future Poster Topic Ideas
- b) New Initiatives and Emerging Trends

5) **ROUND TABLE**

ADJOURNMENT

2022 MEETING DATES

May 11, Jun 8, July 13, Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9

Please notify Janine Clough at jclough@langleycity.ca of your **confirmed attendance** to be able to meet the quorum requirements to hold this meeting.

From: [Rick Bomhof](#)
To: [Janine Clough](#)
Subject: FW: Rain Barrels
Date: March 21, 2023 12:24:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

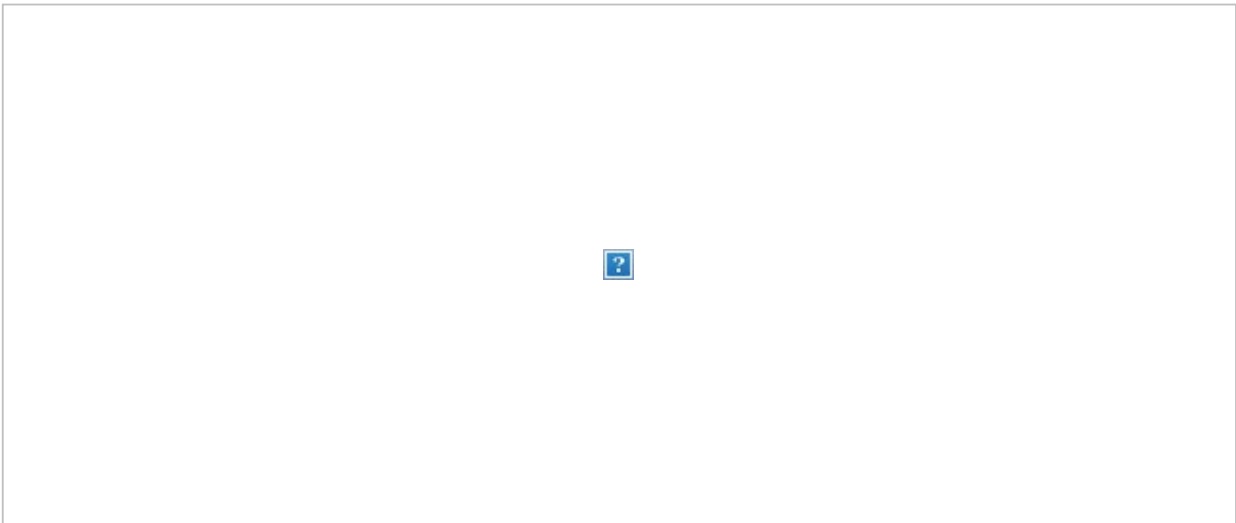
Please add this to the April 13 agenda in follow up to the rain barrel request.

- Rain barrels have a very low impact on outdoor water use during peak periods which is the time alternative sources would be useful. Water demand usually increases significantly in summer during long stretches of dry weather. Rain barrels go dry fairly quickly when there is low or no rainfall between hot spells which defeats the purpose to reduce water demand during peak periods.
- We have sold rain barrels and back yard composters in the past and it was administratively challenging. We are not set up as a retailer would rather not set ourselves up for this when there are reasonable alternatives as taxpayers can purchase rain barrels at Home Depot, Costco, Rona and even Amazon on line. There really isn't a need for the City to purchase, store and sell rain barrels.

I see Vancouver has discontinued selling their rain barrels.



And then there is the concern about mosquitos. Metro Vancouver is trying to educate the public to avoid stagnant water like rain barrels. Seems like governments should be working together on these things not against one another.



Rick

From: Darrin Leite <dleite@langleycity.ca>
Sent: March 21, 2023 10:52 AM

To: Rick Bomhof <rbomhof@langleycity.ca>

Cc: Paul Gilbert <pgilbert@langleycity.ca>

Subject: RE: Rain Barrels

Hi Rick,

Yes, rain barrels were a headache in the past, as was the back yard composters. Can't we just inform the committee that there are reasonable alternatives as taxpayers can purchase rain barrels at Home Depot, Costco, Rona and even Amazon on line. There really isn't a need for the City to purchase, store and sell rain barrels. The City could promote rain barrels and educate the public about their use but it is impractical to set up the ability to sell them at the Ops Centre.

Paul will find out what the ongoing administration cost is and let you know. Dawn would need access to Tempest and the internet to process the payment on-line.

I see Vancouver has discontinued selling their rain barrels.



And then there is the concern about mosquitos. Metro Vancouver is trying to educate the public to avoid stagnant water like rain barrels. Seems like governments should be working together on these things not against one another.



Thanks

Darrin Leite, CPA, CA
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

PROPOSED 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

1. Annual Earth Day Event, planning 2023
2. Discuss Environmental Recognition program(s)
 - in the business community
3. Educational Sustainability Posters
4. Tree Preservation/Urban Forest Management Plan:
 - Review and provide input to Urban Forest Management Plan when ready and being prepared by Diamondhead Consulting.
5. Nicomekl River Clean Up Event
 - Investigate the amount of debris in the river and assess if this is something that can be addressed using volunteers
6. Host a Recycling Event:
 - Target items difficult to recycle, ie. Textiles, Tires, etc.
7. Host a Repair-It Cafe Event
8. Raise "Point of Pride" profile:
 - Recruit new members.
 - Contest: 'street of the year'.
9. Implement Edible Planters
10. Investigate the feasibility of 'Self serve bicycle repair kiosk' located at City Hall



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Langley City Hall – Council Chambers
20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.

Present: Councillor Paul Albrecht, Chair
Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Vice Chair
Nichole Marples, Langley Environmental Partners Society
Lisa Dreves, Langley Field Naturalists
Amika Watari, Post Secondary Institution Rep
Marcela Ferreira, Member at Large
Ellen Hall, Member at Large
Stafford Richter, Member at Large

Staff: Rick Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment
Janine Clough, Recording Secretary
Samantha Paulson, Communications Officer

Absent: Zana Gordon, Member at Large, with regrets

The Chair acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

1) **AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 9, 2023 Agenda for the Environmental Task Group be adopted.

CARRIED

2) **MINUTES**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT February 9, 2023 Minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3) **DISCUSSION**

1. Committee Posters Overview and Process

- a. The City's Communications officer discussed how to create poster content:
 1. What is the purpose of the poster?
 2. What are the key messages? (3 max)
 3. Who is your target audience?
 4. How are you going to distribute the message?
 5. When will you distribute the message?
 6. What is the desired outcome?
- b. A poster needs to introduce a topic; list information or suggestions; and have a final 'Call to Action' (go to a link, go to a function, where do you want them to go?)
- c. Posters are circulated out in the community or on social media for a maximum of 3 weeks at a time.
- d. Members can provide inspiration pictures with their poster information and the City Communications Officer will try to find a comparable high resolution picture to use in the poster.

ACTION: City Communications Officer will send staff the fillable PDF "Committee Poster Request Form" for creating poster content.

2. Finalize Earth Day Event Agenda to revise the 2022 Earth Day Poster for the 2023 event.

- Set up tents along the path leading from Spirit Square south to the Community Garden.
- City Communications Officer will add more details to the 2023 poster, such as prize information and giveaways to draw people's attention.

ACTION: Ms. Ferreira will invite Hives for Habitat to attend Earth Day

ACTION: Ms. Marples will invite BC Hydro to attend Earth Day

ACTION: Ms. Marples to send staff the ED schedule for updating the city website and a map of the tent set up to City's Event Co-ordinator, Ms. Edell.

ACTION: Once poster has been updated staff to send to ESC members to distribute.

ACTION: Mr. Bomhof to find out when the Douglas Recreation Centre renovation will begin?

ACTION: Staff to arrange a large City of Langley map and a large sheet with the following headers: City of Langley, Township of Langley, City of Surrey,

Other, to be made where attendees can place a sticker indicating where they live.

ACTION: City's Communications Officer to amend the following Posters adding QR codes: pollinators, plastic recycling, dog waste, then make 30 photocopies each for distribution at Earth Day

It was also noted by the City's Communications Office, that to advertise the Earth Day Event by running two ads in the local paper and posts on social media, the cost would be approximately \$1200.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Committee allocate \$2500 from the \$10,000 budget of the ESC for the Earth Day Event taking place on April 22, 2023.

ACTION: Staff to research depots that accept flexible plastics for recycling and send information to members.

3. Review and update action items in February 9, 2023 minutes:
 - a. Re: Committee would like to see recycling flexible plastics on a fridge magnet like the City's kitchen waste is on: Communication Officer received the following price. Size: 4.2" x 5.47" for 200 units would be \$302.40 plus tax and shipping (\$25). This price does not include artwork and staff time to create proof.
 - b. Staff to report back to the committee the status of the Naming of the trees in Portage Park: information was sent in Agenda package.
 - c. Staff to make a presentation about the City's Tree management plan and study to ESC when it is ready to be implemented. (Future Presentation).
 - d. Staff to provide trail maps for the members at the next meeting: maps distributed at March meeting. Trail maps distributed to members.
 - e. Staff to send new members copies of all the posters ESC has created so far: Posters were sent to the committees two new members.
4. Create a 2023 ESC Workplan for Council approval.
 - a. Re: Members to send staff suggestions and ideas for the 2023 Workplan or bring in person to the March 9th meeting.
 - b. The following 10 ideas were discussed as possible topics for the work plan:
 1. Annual Earth Day Event, planning 2023
 2. Discuss Environmental Recognition program(s)
 - in the business community
 3. Educational Sustainability Posters

4. Tree Preservation/Urban Forest Management Plan:
 - Review and provide input to Urban Forest Management Plan when ready and being prepared by Diamondhead Consulting.
5. Nicomekl River Clean Up Event
 - Investigate the amount of debris in the river and assess if this is something that can be addressed using volunteers
6. Host a Recycling Event:
 - Target items difficult to recycle, ie. Textiles, Tires, etc.
7. Host a Repair-It Cafe Event
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10. Investigate the feasibility of 'Self-serve bicycle repair kiosk' located at City Hall

ACTION: Staff to list suggestions and email to the members next week to be reviewed and prioritized at our next meeting

4) STANDING ITEMS

- a) Poster / Flyer – Determine Future Topic Ideas:
 - Mr. Richter suggested Container gardening poster targeting multi-family residents.
- b) New Initiatives and Emerging Trends:
 - Food Security
 - Climate Action Strategy (ie. Emergency Preparedness)

5) ROUND TABLE

- a) Community Day organizers are planning to add two more waste stream stations for a total of 4 stations and the event will now run from 11am to 8pm. Organizers need volunteers to man these stations. It was requested for members to reach out to organizations they are associated with that may be able to provide volunteers.
- b) General Discussion about the following:
 - How to secure the posterboard displays at tents during the earth day event.

- Farmers Markets are becoming more than just produce, more artisans and expensive items being sold. Would like to get back to being primarily populated by produce from local farms.
- Streetscape waste containers: A consultant has been retained to complete a streetscape waste container audit and recommend changes in order to improve waste diversion from landfill. The consultant is reviewing pros and cons of five lower mainland and Vancouver Island waste container types, including the Township, for consideration to be used in the city. We expect the report will be completed in early April and a report will go to Council on May April 13.
- Chair to check with CKF about presenting to the committee or having the committee tour the facility. CKF is now manufacturing more paper products to meet current product demands.
- It was discussed that the Township of Langley has been found improperly dismantling beaver dams and not at the correct time of year. It was noted the City of Langley follows provincial guidelines when pulling down beaver dams.
- Member asked Is the City planning to change the classification coding of City streams? Chair noted city is not changing any classifications.
- Rivivify, is a Canadian owned company operating in Vancouver, that recycles textiles. For more information please follow this link: [Revivify | Recycle Clothes, Shoes & Textiles – Recycle Clothes, Shoes & Textiles \(textilerecycling.ca\)](https://www.revivify.ca/RecycleClothesShoesTextiles)

ACTION: LEPS & NES had attended a council meeting in the past that discussed 'Salmon safe' development. Could City provide resources at the development services counter about this topic? Attached is a copy of the July 25, 2022 Council meeting minutes where this issue was discussed. This will be added to the Environmental Sustainability Coordinators task list for consideration in the next few months.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:25 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

Certified Correct:
jc

RECORDING SECRETARY

b. Public Hearing Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2022

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the public hearing meeting held on July 11, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

c. Special Meeting Minutes from July 18, 2022

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the special meeting held on July 18, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

a. Salmon-Safe Certification Program

Theresa Fresco & Andrea McDonald, Fraser Basin Council
Nichole Marples, Langley Environmental Partners Society
Nina Shaw, Nicomekl Enhancement Society

Ms. McDonald provided a PowerPoint presentation, providing information on the following:

- impacts on the landscape have a direct, cascading, and often cumulative effect on wild pacific salmon that migrate through urban and rural landscapes to and from the ocean;
- the Nicomekl Enhancement Society, Langley Environmental Partners Society engaged Salmon Safe BC to present, as a possible tool, to address the growing concerns surrounding the health of the Nicomekl River wild salmon population and other aquatic species;
- the principles of Salmon Safe BC are an excellent way to ensure conservation of the river by promoting sustainable development and agriculture across the city;
- Salmon Safe Standards have been developed specifically for the biological needs of salmon and look at the nexus between land and water management practices and their impact on salmon populations and overall watershed health;
- this presentation is focused on the urban program; however there is also an agricultural program;
- Urban Development Areas of focus include:
 - Stormwater management (applies to all buildings)
 - Water use management (applies to all buildings)

- Erosion prevention and sediment control (applies to all buildings)
 - Pesticide reduction and water quality protection (applies to all buildings)
 - Enhancement of urban ecological function (applies to all buildings)
 - Climate resilience planning (applies to all buildings)
 - Instream habitat protection and restoration (context dependent where wetland is present)
 - Riparian/wetland/vegetation protection and restoration (context dependent where wetland is present)
- Salmon-Safe currently has 10 sites in progress, one certified site and one site renewal which range from Victoria to Vancouver's North Shore;
- Many of the of the developments that meet the requirements of Salmon-Safe do so through the use of green infrastructure or nature-based solutions (ex. bioswales, rain gardens, green roofs);
- the benefits of nature-based approaches in urban environments extend far beyond water quality protection and enhancement (ex. promote urban cooling, increase mental health and well-being, carbon sequestration);
- there is high level alignment with Salmon-Safe standards and the City's OCP and some of its policies;
- there is also significant alignment between Salmon-Safe Standards and what is already required of developers under the City's DPAs in terms of environmental guidelines which would make Salmon-Safe certification an easy tool to accomplish many of the City's existing goals;
- there is alignment with Salmon-Safe standards and the Nicomekl Neighbourhood Plan (ex. Promotes soft engineering; ecological restoration habitat restoration, use of sustainable building materials);
- understand that the City is committed to working with the Kwantlen First Nation and local NGOs on salmon habitat restoration water management;
- partnership and collaboration between the Shared Water Alliance could be furthered through the use of Salmon Safe programs to promote more sustainable development in agriculture;
- encourage the City to explore opportunities for the inclusion of Salmon Safe in civic operations, development recommendations to private organizations and entities, and the use of Salmon Safe in agricultural practices where applicable.

In response to questions from Council members, members of the delegation advised that:

- in recent years the Nicomekl Salmon Hatchery has released between 200,000 to 250,000 fry and in some years, it has increased to between 350,000 to 400,000 fry (which includes fry raised by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans hatchery);
- the Nicomekl Enhancement Society does not have information on the numbers of returning spawners as there isn't a count at the mouth of the Nicomekl River; however, members of the Nicomekl Enhancement Society who have been with the society for a number of years have stated that they have seen the numbers of salmon increased over time;
- in terms of supporting and promoting the Salmon Safe program, the City could provide information about the Salmon Safe program to developers or other others seeking permits for agricultural practices indicating that it already aligns with city policy; it would be an incentive to work towards a higher standard; some municipalities also require that developers achieve Salmon Safe certification as part of the building permit process;
- with respect to pesticide use best practices, if the Salmon Safe certification is not an option due to cost, their standards are open source as are their high hazard pesticide and chemical list which is available on their website; anything on that list should be heavily restricted; there are many other integrated pest management approaches that use more holistic, nature-based approaches that can be implemented;
- in order for the City to achieve Salmon Safe certification, it would require all civic operations and buildings to be Salmon Safe certified which is quite an extensive, long process; however the Salmon Safe program can also be used as recommendations as part of the building permitting process; Ms. Marples confirmed that as she is member of the City's Environmental Sustainability Committee, she could request this topic be put on a future committee agenda and she could provide information to the committee on this topic.