



ENVIRONMENTAL TASK GROUP

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 AT 7:00 p.m.

REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE

A G E N D A

1) **AGENDA**

Adoption of the April 8, 2021 agenda.

2) **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting held March 11, 2021.

3) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

4) **FOR DISCUSSION**

- a) Climate Emergency Response update with regards to the Official Community Plan with the City's Director of Development Services, Carl Johannsen
- b) Review improving sorting of the 3 streams, garbage, food waste and recyclables, at City Events with the City's Event Co-ordinator, Tera Edell.
- c) Review priorities previously set out by the Task group
- d) Review Terms of Reference, List of preferred Initiatives from 2019, members idea list and select task group priority items.

ADJOURNMENT

2021 MEETING DATES

May 13, Jun 10, Jul 8, Sep 9, Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 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.



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TASK GROUP

REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 at 7:04 P.M.

Present: Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Chair
Councillor Paul Albrecht, Vice Chair,
Nichole Marples, Langley Environmental Partners Society
Lisa Dreves, Langley Field Naturalists
Ellen Hall, Member at Large
Lisa Stephens, Member at Large

Staff: Rick Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment
Janine Clough, Recording Secretary

Absent: David Chang, Post-secondary Institution

1) **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 11, 2021 agenda for the Environmental Task Group be adopted.

CARRIED

2) **MINUTES**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the February 11, 2021 minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The existing EV charging station in the City Hall parkade is inaccessible due to COVID restrictions and is further restricted in non-COVID times when Timm's Recreation Center is closed. There was consensus on the task group that the City should consider adding additional 24/7 EV Stations in various locations on City Property.

- Staff noted that there are no plans at this time to put another charging station at City Hall or other city facilities.

- An issue surrounding supplying these stations is it is the municipal taxpayers who would be subsidizing the cost of installation, maintenance and power for these vehicles.
- A question was asked if it would be possible for the City to charge a fee for the charging via credit card?
- It was noted that BC Hydro and senior governments offer rebates for charging station installation costs.

After further discussion it was suggested that the TG ask Council to direct staff to look into installing EV charging stations in various locations throughout the city and on city property that would be accessible 24 hours a day.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to investigate installing a user pay EV charging station at City Hall and other civic facilities that is accessible 24 hours a day to the public.

CARRIED

4) DISCUSSION

- a) Review improving sorting of the 3 streams, garbage, food waste and recyclables, at City Events with the City's Event Co-ordinator, Tera Edell.
 - Event Coordinator unable to attend, deferred to the April 8th meeting.
- b) Review of Street Scape receptacle information.

Staff provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following:

- City has a contract with Creative Outdoor which supply's streetscape recycling/waste receptacles in exchange for advertising rights
- The contract term is 2016 to 2026 with a six month notice for termination with possible payout costs for amortized cost of receptacles for remaining years in contract
- There are 71 street receptacles provided by Creative Outdoor
- The contamination rate is very high and therefore all 3 streams are disposed of in the landfill as garbage.
- The City's collection system consists of a single operator collection packer truck which collects all the material from the Creative Outdoor receptacles, as well as all other city garbage receptacles on city streets, in parks and trails
- To improve waste diversion, it would be necessary to review the following:
 - Receptacle design and signage to clearly identify the acceptable materials that go into each slot/opening.

- If Creative Outdoor would work with the City to implement a new receptacle design or if there would be a cost to terminate the agreement?
- Determine waste contamination rates and reasonable expectations to be able to reduce contamination by making changes to receptacle signage
- Cost to supply new streetscape receptacles and implement a new multi-stream collection system
- Total streetscape waste/recycling weights and potential costs/savings to divert materials from the waste stream (landfill)

Upon further discussion there was general agreement that a better job in streetscape waste diversion needs to be made. A few other comments, questions and suggestions for the City's consideration were:

- Could city's existing receptacles be adapted to accept dog waste?
- Could a pilot project be done for dog waste at a couple of parks in the City, to gauge public response.
- Could city take out advertising on the receptacles to educate the public about separating the garbage and recycling streams?

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

THAT Council request staff to include a budget in 2022 to retain a consultant to complete a street scape and park waste audit and provide options to improve waste diversion

CARRIED

- c) Review Terms of Reference and members idea list (attached in email to the March agenda package) and select task group priority items.

Some mandates from the Terms of Reference were clarified for the group:

- The 'Install rain barrels for watering plants' point is meant for residential, businesses and parks. Wherever possible.
- 'Create an Urban Forest' refers to more plantings on City property. An urban forest management plan is in the 2023 budget. The plan is to complete an inventory of city trees.
- It was noted the City recently hired a full-time arborist

5) **ROUND TABLE**

Discussion followed about the following:

- Utilizing information from organizations, such as Kwantlan that has both horticulture and environment programs.
- About having volunteers to help with initiatives to help avoid costs. The Vice Chair noted that there could be a list of initiatives guided by council and another list organized by the ETG.
- Concerns that the owner/builder may need financial assistance to continue installation of Mason Bee Homes annually in Sendall Gardens.

ACTION: Rick will speak with the owner/builder to find out his funding situation.

ACTION: Ask staff to check on Status or Timeline of the Climate Emergency declaration report around actions?

ACTION: Include an excerpt from the Declaration Report with April's Agenda

For discussion at next meeting:

- Review priorities previously set out by the Task group in the "List of Preferred Initiatives" created in 2019 (pre-Covid)
- Review Terms of Reference, and members list submitted and focus on the group's priorities

6) ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:25 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

Certified Correct:
jc

RECORDING SECRETARY

Excerpt from the January 11, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes:

1. Declaring a Climate Emergency - Councillor Wallace

Notice of Motion provided at the December 14, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

It was MOVED and SECONDED

“WHEREAS Climate change is an existential crisis, and municipalities are at the forefront of addressing it; and

WHEREAS The earth is currently on track to warm by more than 3 degrees Celsius; and

WHEREAS An October 8, 2018 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that it is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, rather than 2 degrees as previously understood, and that doing so “would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society,” and that we have until 2030 to undertake these changes; and

WHEREAS The IPCC report puts the benchmark for greenhouse gas reduction targets for corporate and community-wide emissions at 45% by 2030, 65% by 2040 and 100% by 2050; and

WHEREAS The British Columbia government declared a provincial state of emergency in 2018 over record-setting wildfires; and

WHEREAS Local governments world wide are taking action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and calling on senior levels of government for an urgent emergency response; and

WHEREAS Youth all over the world are forming alliances in addressing and taking action in problem solving in recognizing that every person deserves the right to a healthy environment...clean water, air and soil; and

WHEREAS Sustainabilityteens presented a delegation to Langley City Council back in April of 2019 with a list of concerns and suggestions in the much-needed response to the climate crisis and the need for a Just Recovery for all; and

WHEREAS Understanding the Indigenous Rights: Commit to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Full; and

WHEREAS The need to return to Indigenous Stewardship and the natural world in

respecting the place in which we reside is on the unceded traditional territories Matsqui Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo First Nations; and

WHEREAS Sustainabilityeens met with Metro Vancouver Action Committee and in a statement, stated... The climate crisis affects everyone especially youth, we will be the ones facing the worst impacts of climate change and that looms over us ever day.

Because of this we demand that the committee do everything in their power to:

A) declare a climate emergency and B) adjust their emissions reductions targets to 65% by 2030 and 100% by 2040;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council recognize that climate change constitutes an emergency in the City of Langley; and

THAT Council direct staff to report back on:

- 1. What is the City currently doing/done to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions; and*
- 2. What plans are currently in the process of implementation to further reduce the City's greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Region's climate action targets; and*
- 3. What potential next steps can the City take to:
 - a.) Achieve net-zero carbon emissions before 2050 with a balanced approach for today and future generations*
 - b.) Update the current Sustainability Framework to incorporate current best practices on climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience, and to incorporate principles of biodiversity, sustainability and stewardship to guide future developments and infrastructure projects within Langley City; and**
- 4. What are the City required resources, funding and timelines to implement the current plans, provide any updates, and the potential next steps to achieve the identified targets;*
- 5. Ensure that all orders of government are notified of Langley City's commitment to achieving the GHG emissions targets identified in the Metro Region and the IPCC report; and*
- 6. The City of Langley Environmental Task Group facilitate intergenerational community engagement surrounding a just transition to reduce GHG emissions at the scale that is required, with the focus on vulnerable members of society who will be most impacted by climate change and intersecting inequity; ensure these people are front and center in building long term solutions."*



Terms of Reference Environmental Task Group

1.0 Background:

City Council recently amended the goal statement for one of the key result areas – Environment:

We continue to focus on protecting, promoting and enhancing environmental assets in the community and active in achieving the Zero Waste goals.

At the Blue Sky Session City Council proposed a number of environmental initiatives and programs for consideration and implementation. One of the ideas arising from the Blue Sky Session was the establishment of an Environmental Task Group to evaluate and recommend to City Council bylaws and policies related to the protection and enhancement of the environment.

2.0 Mandate:

The mandate of the group includes, but not limited to, prioritize, evaluate and develop a business case for the implementation of various environmental initiatives and programs such as:

- ✓ Install rain barrels for watering plants
- ✓ Promote business solid waste and recycling education program and incentives
- ✓ Create a bylaw to ban plastic bags
- ✓ Promote landscape and environmental features on boulevards by residents, businesses and developers, ie. food “security”, bee/butterfly gardens
- ✓ Promote landscape, garden and environmental ideas for multi-family home owners
- ✓ Use goats for weed control
- ✓ Install 'real' grass on boulevard
- ✓ Provide netting at storm outfalls to catch garbage
- ✓ Work with LEPS and gardening shops to educate residents on controlling invasive species
- ✓ Create an Urban Forest
- ✓ Dealing with dog waste

The group may undertake multiple initiatives. However, the group shall undertake only one initiative at a time if staff resources are required.

3.0 Composition:

3.1 Membership:

- Two voting members of City Council to be appointed by the Mayor
- One voting member from the Langley Field Naturalists
- One voting member from the Langley Environmental Partners Society
- One voting member representing youth
- One voting member from a post-secondary institution
- Two voting members from the community at-large

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be members of City Council.

3.2 Staff Liaison

- One City of Langley staff to be appointed by the CAO
- Additional staff and/or consultants may be invited to provide technical advice and assistance

3.3 Affiliated Agencies:

Representative(s) from the Affiliated Agencies will be requested to provide expert advice when deemed appropriate to assist the Task Group to fulfill its mandate.

4.0 Reporting Relationship:

The Group will report to City Council through its meeting notes and by making recommendations to City Council.

5.0 Accountability:

The Group is accountable to City Council. The Group will not have the authority to give direction to staff or to commit to expenditures of funds. Action recommended by the Group must be done so by resolution to City Council and with their approval prior to implementation.

6.0 Administration:

The City of Langley will provide administrative support to the Membership to carry out the mandates of the group.

7.0 Meetings:

The Group will meet on a regular basis at the call of the Chair but not less than (4) times per year, in a facility provided by the participating partners.

A quorum shall be a majority of the total voting membership.

8.0 Terms:

The terms of the group shall cease on December 31, 2021. The terms may be extended by City Council to allow the group to fulfill its mandate.

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK GROUP: LIST OF PREFERRED ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES
July 2019

| INITIATIVE | SUGGESTIONS | # OF VOTES |
|--|---|------------|
| Promote landscape boulevards and environmental features on boulevards by residents, <i>Commercial and Public areas</i> ; food production, bees/butterfly gardens | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A partnership with KPU/LEPS/LFN would be essential to the success of this endeavor. • residential mentioned in terms of references but must include commercial, parks, and possible opportunities that explore edible landscaping) • LFN will support, could also offer advice, on native plants or forward people onto groups already doing this (check out Metro Vancouver’s incredible amount of work on their Grow Green program) http://www.growgreenguide.ca/), can promote work in this direction via social media... | 5 |
| Create a by-law to ban plastic bags | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should be done in partnership with the local BIA to ensure that affected parties are made aware of the change to by-laws. This also gives affected parties an opportunity to be involved in the process and be educated about its importance- this will set us up for the introduction of further waste-reduction by-laws. | 3 |
| Invasive species education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education through gardening shops? Possibly tie in with LEPS to have crew deliver educational material, but note the LEPS crew is already doing invasive education at the Farmers Market when they are there. | 3 |
| Provide netting at storm outfalls to catch garbage | | 2 |

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK GROUP: LIST OF PREFERRED ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES
July 2019

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| <p>Create an urban forest</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should be done in partnership with KPU/LEPS/LFN. These organizations would provide a wealth of information and experience to ensure the success of this endeavor. Local Indigenous groups must also be consulted to ensure that this urban forest includes culturally-significant plant species (for more information on this please contact Dr. Kathy Dunster (kathy.dunster@kpu.ca) as she is a fantastic resource for this kind of work) • Especially if this leads to a tree planting program for residents and maybe a tree subsidy program for people to buy big trees? | <p>2</p> |
| <p>Promote business solid waste and recycling education program and incentives</p> | | <p>1</p> |
| <p>ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES</p> | | |
| | <p>I <i>especially</i> want to see food production being incorporated into public spaces as this could be a fabulous opportunity to A) educate people about healthy eating/local food and B) Support our local homeless population (I know that urban planners may be rolling their eyes at this one because they tend to utilize CPTED* methods in their designs but please consider that access to local food is a <u>critical</u> component of achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal #2: Zero Hunger)</p> | <p>1</p> |
| | <p>Environmental Coordinator position with the City of Langley</p> | <p>1</p> |

On Nov 22, 2020, at 2:21 PM, [REDACTED]

Hi Rosemary these are a few of my ideas for 2021:

1. I would like to see some kind of designation to recognize business in Langley that are making an effort to help reduce their impact on the environment. (I know this has come at a meeting but perhaps we could revisit it
2. Partner with maybe township to offer a repair cafe that is maybe covid friendly
3. Partner with secondary/ middle school to design and up cycle an item of clothing. Maybe some type of contest
3. Partner with secondary or middle Tech Ed to create something that has been up cycled
4. Increase our liaison with Kwantleen. I know student rep but I don't think they have attended meetings in a while (since June)
Maybe we could do some type of project ?? Does our local Kwantleen college have an environmental studies program?
5. Maybe city could offer a class on Bees wax wrappers or Home made safe cleaners, canning and jam making classes. I know Leps has offered these with city in past
6. Organize a cleanup of flood plain? John Aldag did organize one a few years ago that I attended. A real eye opener. Even though I frequently walk or run in that area, I was surprised by how much garbage we took out of a small section

I know we have covid but I think we still can maybe get creative and offer these in a covid friendly way

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]