

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – AGENDA - ADDENDUM

Addendum to the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at Village Hall, 2697 Sunnyside Road, Anmore, BC



11. Legislative Reports

(a) Liquid Waste Management Plan

Report dated April 15, 2019 from the Manager of Development Services is attached.



VILLAGE OF ANMORE

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: April 15, 2019

Submitted by: Jason Smith, Manager of Development Services

Subject: Liquid Waste Management Plan

Purpose / Introduction

The purpose of this report is to introduce a Liquid Waste Management and provide Council with the opportunity to review it.

Recommended Options

That Council adopt the Village of Anmore Liquid Waste Management Plan and request staff to submit it to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for approval.

Background

In August 2018 the Minister of Environment and Climate Change issued a Ministerial Order that required the Village of Anmore to complete a Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP). This order stemmed from the ongoing challenges in finding a solution to the septic treatment issues at Anmore Green Estates, which are the subject of a pollution abatement order issued by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (the Ministry).

The original deadline imposed by the Ministry was November 30, 2018. This deadline was extended to April 30, 2019 at the Village's request.

The Village has begun the process of becoming a member of the Metro Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (MVS&DD) by amending its Official Community Plan and requesting Metro Vancouver support for becoming a member. All of these efforts are being made by the Village in an effort to find a long term solution to the septic treatment issues at Anmore Green Estates. Should the Village become a member of the MVS&DD it would come under the region's Liquid Waste Management Plan.

Report/Recommendation to Council

Liquid Waste Management Plan

April 15, 2019

Discussion

Staff have undertaken the development of a Liquid Waste Management Plan that captures the current vision of the Village with regards to how sewage will be treated. This vision is that the Village will continue treat its sewage with private septic systems. The exception being Eagle Mountain Middle School, which is currently serviced by the MVS&DD system, and leaving open the possibility of Anmore Green Estates connecting to the MVS&DD system. User pay is an important principle that is captured in the LWMP, regardless of how properties are serviced homeowners are responsible for paying for the service they receive.

The intent of developing a Village LWMP, and not just waiting to come under the region's LWMP if and when the Village joins the MVS&DD, was to satisfy the Ministerial Order. The actual contents of the Ministerial Order were often being misconstrued or misunderstood in the media and public discussions so resolving the Ministerial Order would help clarify the Village's position and role in the ongoing efforts to resolve the septic treatment issues at Anmore Green Estates.

Should Council choose to adopt the attached LWMP for the Village, staff would then submit it to the Ministry for approval in advance of the April 30, 2019 deadline.

Other Options

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

1. That Council adopt the Village of Anmore Liquid Waste Management Plan and request staff to submit it to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for approval. [Recommended]

Or

2. That Council advise staff of changes they would like to see and have staff bring a revised Liquid Waste Management Plan to the April 30, 2019 regular Council meeting.

Or

3. That Council choose not to proceed with a Liquid Waste Management Plan at this time and advise staff to seek another deadline extension from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

Report/Recommendation to Council

Liquid Waste Management Plan

April 15, 2019

Financial Implications

There are potential financial implications with not proceeding with a Liquid Waste Management Plan. The Ministry has outlined the fines that could be imposed should the Village not comply with the Ministerial Order.

Attachments:

The Village of Anmore Liquid Waste Management Plan

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|---|
| Prepared by: |
|  _____ Jason Smith Manager of Development Services |
| Reviewed for Form and Content / Approved for Submission to Council: |
| Chief Administrative Officer's Comment/Concurrence <div style="text-align: right;">_____ Chief Administrative Officer</div> |



Village of Anmore
Liquid Waste Management Plan

April 12th 2019



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1.0 Introduction

In response to the Ministerial Order dated August 16th, 2018, The Village of Anmore has developed a Liquid waste Management Plan (LWMP) for approval by the Minister of Environment.

Laws governing wastewater management in British Columbia require a standard level of wastewater treatment. BC's Environmental Management Act allows local governments to develop a Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP). The LWMP lets local governments establish a reasonable timeframe to develop affordable community-driven solutions for financing and upgrading infrastructure and to meet requirements under the provincial Municipal Wastewater Regulation (MWR). It also helps to define how local governments will recover resources from waste; reduce pollution, including the volume of flow, entering wastewater infrastructure; and manage stormwater.

An approved LWMP lets a local government borrow money without going to referendum. Since there is no mechanism to publicly appeal an approved LWMP, an LWMP is available for public review and comment, and must be approved by the Municipality, before it is submitted for approval to the Minister of Environment. For overall approval, the plan must align with:

- Community needs and expectations such as affordable solutions to sustainable wastewater management,
- Regional initiatives
- Federal and Provincial regulations and guidelines

A LWMP approved by the Minister of Environment authorizes liquid waste discharge according to provisions in the plan and the associated operational certificates or waste discharge permits. The Ministry of Environment (MOE) issues operational certificates and waste discharge permits to specify monitoring and reporting requirements and conditions for authorized discharges. An approved LWMP is more than a planning document; it is a legal document which gives the local government the authority and responsibility to implement the plan.



2.0 Scope of LWMP

The MOE's primary objectives of an LWMP are to:

1. Protect public health and the environment and
2. Properly consult the public.

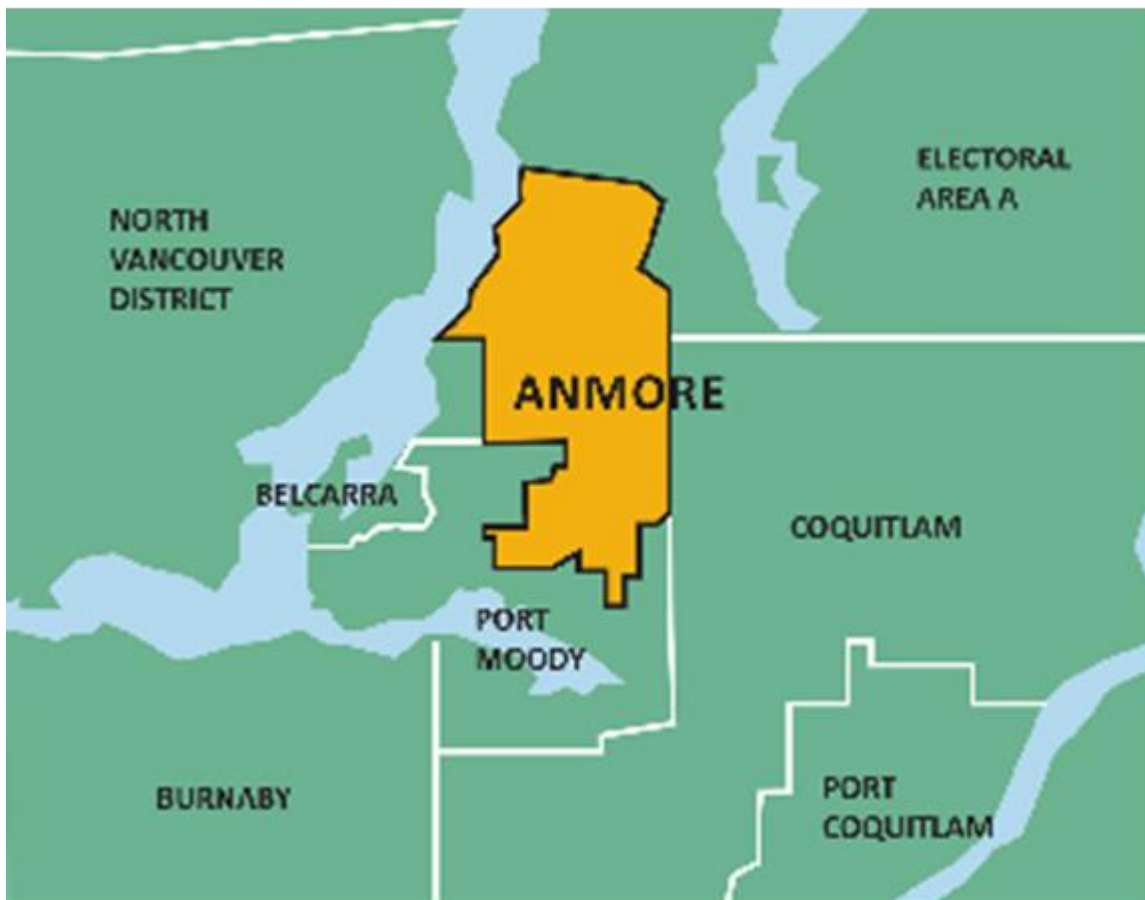
Additional objectives include water conservation; drinking water source protection; recovery of resources from waste; energy conservation; climate change adaptation and mitigation; and sustainable financing and asset management. The MOE's long term goals with respect to LWMPs are for existing municipal wastewater facilities to meet the MWR (Environmental Management Act Municipal Wastewater Regulation) within a reasonable timeframe, including the provision for secondary treatment as a minimum level of effluent treatment. Because public consultation are key components of the LWMP process, an LWMP lets a community be involved with the decision-making process and develop local wastewater management solutions.

The Village has consulted with the public via engagement through our OCP adoption and subsequent amendments, most recent being April 9th 2019, regarding the potential sanitary connection of Anmore Green Estates to the City of Port Moody's (GVS&DD) sewer network. There has not been wider consultation with the public as the content of this LWMP follow the adopted OCP document.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Village of Anmore

In the next 30 years, Metro Vancouver is expected to grow by 1.2 million residents, reaching 3.4 million by 2041. To varying degrees, this increase will take place in all communities. As a small rural community, Anmore is not expected to absorb a significant portion of this regional growth, although by 2041, our current population of approximately 2,200 is expected to almost double to about 4,000 residents.



Village of Anmore and surrounding Municipalities

3.2 Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy

The Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) sets out land use policies intended to focus regional growth within urban service areas, supported by transportation networks, regional infrastructure and community services.

• **Regional Growth Strategy (RGS):**

The regional sewerage system will not be extended beyond the urban containment boundary except for overarching environmental or public health reasons.

Anmore is identified in the RGS as a rural community and is not expected to absorb a large proportion of regional population growth (0.2%), or be connected to regional services, as it is outside the Urban Containment Boundary.

3.3 Village of Anmore's Official Community Plan

The following is an extract from the Village's OCP document regarding Liquid Waste Collection and Disposal Policies

Policy MS-7

The Village will join the Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District to accommodate the connection of Anmore Green Estates to the Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District System. During the time frame of this Plan, the Village will not develop a municipal-wide sewer system

Policy MS-8

As per the Regional Growth Strategy, the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District will not extend regional sewage services to rural areas. An extension may be considered to address public health issues or protect the region's natural assets. An application to amend the Regional Growth Strategy to extend the sewage system would be subject to further study and exploration, and be funded entirely by the owners/residents who would use the system. Private sewage disposal systems will continue to be approved by the BC Ministry of Health or the BC Ministry of Environment.

Policy MS-9

The Village will consider proposals from developers that involve private packaged treatment plants and common disposal fields to service new subdivisions provided that:

- The facilities are owned and operated by professionals and reputable utility companies as so determined by the Village; and
- The facilities are approved in accordance with the standards established by the Ministry of Environment, or other applicable responsible authority.

4.0 Existing Liquid Waste Facilities

4.1 Private Onsite Systems

Anmore's rural properties do not receive public wastewater services. Rural wastewater is treated with privately owned Type 1, 2, or 3 onsite systems (septic systems, private packaged treatment plants, and advanced package treatment plants; categorized based on the resulting water quality). Private onsite systems, if properly installed and maintained, are cost effective options for sustainable wastewater treatment. There are an estimated 677 properties in the Municipality with onsite sewage treatment.

Private onsite systems are currently regulated under the BC Public Health Act Sewerage System Regulation (SSR). The SSR shifted responsibility for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of onsite systems installed or upgraded after May 30, 2005 from local health authorities such as Fraser Health, to professionals (e.g. professional engineers and geoscientists) and registered practitioners (e.g. registered onsite wastewater practitioners). However, the responsibility to arrange for maintenance and replacement of onsite systems in accordance with their maintenance plans is the responsibility of the system owner. Poorly maintained onsite systems can fail, polluting the environment, and endangering public health.

There are also two onsite systems regulated by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change under the Environmental Management Act (?) at Anmore Green Estates and Countryside Estates.

At present, the Village of Anmore does not undertake a public septic education program. As the Village has not had any requests to do so. However, it maybe in the Public's interest to be proactive and help create a public awareness program around onsite sewage disposal regulations, which encourages homeowners to properly use, maintain, and service their system; and provides tools to enable homeowners to detect a failing system. The goal of the program should be to reduce the number of failing systems and to prevent the future failure of ageing systems that could impact human health and the environment.

The guiding principles which guide Anmore's approach to wastewater management moving forward are:

Flexibility

Flexibility is necessary for the LWMP to meet future demands, new environmental criteria and evolving technologies. Infrastructure must also adapt to varying loads, flows, environmental conditions, new regulatory requirements, and new technologies.

Sustainability

The Village must choose affordable solutions for wastewater management that respect and protect the environment and public health. Decisions to replace and upgrade infrastructure will consider potential energy generation, water conservation and reuse, nutrient recovery, greenhouse gas and odour emissions, and operational efficiency. Operational efficiency considers lifecycle costs, resource consumption, ease of operation, adaptability, and worker safety.



Collaboration

The Village will collaborate with other levels of government including First Nations, government agencies, municipalities, businesses, the public, BC Hydro and other stakeholders when developing wastewater management strategies.



5.0 Stormwater

5.1 Stormwater and Rainwater:

Anmore's watersheds contain creeks, tributaries and a lake (Buntzen Lake), all of which are important to the health of the Municipality. The Watersheds provide habitat for fish and wildlife, as well as recreation to many Metro Vancouver residents. Stormwater impacts the health of these watersheds and can degrade their ecosystems. We continue to move forward with an integrated stormwater management plan to better protect our watersheds.

Integrated Stormwater Management Plans (ISMPs) include managing rainwater at the site level, thereby minimizing stormwater runoff. To be effective, we have integrated land use into our stormwater management plan, and appropriate site-level rainwater management practices into our development policies.

6.0 Guiding Principles

The LWMP will establish a set of principles intended to guide the decision-making process towards meeting these goals. The current guiding principles have evolved from the current OCP document and those listed in Metro Vancouver's LWMP, with respect to source control and storm water management. The LWMP is a collaborative plan and needs to reflect the need for sustainable and affordable services.

6.1 Regional Priorities

The LWMP will address the needs of community by focusing on:

- Protecting human health and the environment
- Preparing for growth
- Taking an integrated resource management approach to liquid waste planning
- Efficient delivery of services and management of assets

The Village recognizes the importance of all LWMP programs and will methodically develop the programs, monitor feedback, and refine program delivery in partnership with Metro Vancouver.

6.2 Protect Human Health and the Environment

We will manage our liquid waste and rainwater resources in a manner that protects human health and the environment, and future generations' access to those resources.

6.3 Preparing for Growth

Currently Anmore's OCP document has detailed potential areas of growth within the Municipal boundary. The OCP document identifies that the Municipality will remain as a semi-rural Municipality. Therefore, limiting development to low density uses, which will utilize septic fields for the disposal of their liquid waste.

If Anmore were to significantly increase their population density in the future, it would likely facilitate a change to the Urban Containment Boundary to include the affected areas within the Village. At which point the Village would have to amend their current LWMP to provide a formal strategy to deal with their liquid waste. As the effluent generated would likely require the Municipality to adhere to the Federal and Provisional requires for liquid waste treatment.

Currently, the Eagle Mountain School site and the 51 dwellings that are serviced by the Anmore Green Estates septic system are within the Urban Containment Boundary. The Eagle Mountain School site is currently serviced by the GVS&DD system through a special arrangement with the City of Port Moody and Metro Vancouver.

Given the challenges that Anmore Green Estates is having with complying with their Ministry of Environment permit, the Village of Anmore is planning for the possibility of that development



connecting to the GVS&DD system, so long as it complies with the principles of this plan and all other relevant bylaw and legislation.

In such an event, the Village would probable request to become a member of the GVS&DD. The Village would then fall within the GVS&DD jurisdiction and follow the requirements as set out in the GVS&DD's LWMP. An alternative to becoming a member of the GVS&DD would be for the Village to construct their own liquid waste treatment facility. At which point a major amendment would be required to the LWMP.

6.4 Volume Control Program

Three main objectives for managing liquid wastes at their source are protection of health and the environment, protection of infrastructure and worker safety, and prevention of sewer overflows. Within Anmore the first two point are relevant to the existing systems in place. As a member of Metro Vancouver, the Village encourages residents to abide by the Pollution prevention programs as set out by Metro Vancouver's LWMP and associated policies. This is achieved through permitting, enforcement and outreach programs.

The Village of Anmore has implemented a water-metering program for the entire Municipality. Since the implementation of the metering program, Anmore has seen a decrease in its water usage per Capita. At present the average water use per household is 1275 litres / day. The Village also monitors water usage globally to determine if there are any potential water main leaks within the system.

6.5 Management of Services

The Village currently does not own or operate any liquid waste management infrastructure, if this were to change an amendment to the LWMP should identify the requirements needed to collect, distribute, treat and discharge.

Secondary Upgrades

Currently, Anmore does treat waste on a level that requires secondary waste treatment. If this were to change, the Village would look to become part of the Greater Vancouver Drainage District or review alternative options.

Federal and provincial laws governing wastewater management require us to achieve a standard level of wastewater treatment that can be achieved through secondary wastewater treatment. At present



7.0 Costs and Financing

In accordance with the Municipal Act, Anmore services are funded based on the user pay principle. That is, only those benefitting from the service are required to pay for it. Tax revenue from one service must stay in that service area; funds cannot be transferred to pay for services out of that area. In respect to Liquid Waste Management (LWM), this would result in the users paying all costs associated with the capture, control, treatment and discharge of their waste.

Currently, Anmore residents deal with the cost of disposal on an individual basis or through strata agreements. The Municipality does not bear any costs for sanitary infrastructure, as they do not own or operate any. However, if in the future, sections of the Municipality were to switch to a public sanitary sewer, the costs associated with collection, treatment and growth would be split between those users, i.e. there would be no subsidies from the greater Anmore public.

If this were to occur it would be recommended that the Municipality create a Liquid Waste Management Planning Service Establishment Bylaw which would establish a long range budget for the planning and implementation of a LWMP.

It should be noted that if the Village became part of the GVS&DD these costs and requirements have already been developed.

8.0 Monitoring, Amendments, and Updates

Upon approval of the LWMP amendment, the Village may consider setting up a new committee to oversee and evaluate plan implementations. The role of the monitoring committee, would be to complete an annual review of LWMP progress. During the review, the committee will evaluate progress towards each program objective. When necessary, the committee will recommend refinements to the actions to keep implementation on track with the overall objectives and targets.

At present, the LWMP is basic in its nature and has very few targets, so the committee may not be required and therefore may default to council/staff. However, as amendments to the LWMP occur, this requirement should be reviewed.

Village staff should prepare an annual report which will be available to the MOE and the public it will:

- Document implementation of the LWMP programs
- Track progress towards program actions, targets, and objectives
- Revise expansion schedules to reflect actual growth rates
- Explain deviations and adjustments to actions and targets, if any.

8.1 Amendments and Updates

The Village will initiate periodic amendments or updates to the LWMP as required:

- The MOE requires that local governments review their LWMPs every five to ten years to determine if an amendment or update is required
- The Village will issue an amendment or update if significant changes are made to the cost or timeline of facility expansion or upgrade, or if there are new discharges, or major changes to a program objective or targets
- The Village LWMP monitoring committee (if setup) may wish to initiate the plan amendment process at more frequent intervals over the life of the plan, based on regional needs and initiatives.

At the beginning of an amendment or update, a scope of work will be completed and submitted to MOE staff. The scope will guide the completion of the report for that update. This will be followed by a public review and comment period.



9.0 Operational Certificates

Operational certificates are issued by the MOE. They specify the requirements and conditions for authorized discharges, the monitoring and reporting requirements, and other conditions. Currently, Anmore does not hold or require any certificates to operate a Sanitary network.