



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY AND ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 7:00pm
Via Zoom

A G E N D A

Page

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee - June 23, 2021

Recommendation that the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the June 23, 2021 meeting.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1-5

1. Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee - May 26, 2021

Recommendation that the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee adopt the Minutes of the May 26, 2021 meeting.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation (LSAF)

M. Sachse
D. Melnychuk
A. Reeve
G. Jones
C. Paulson

D. REPORTS

E. CORRESPONDENCE

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F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Future of Farming Task Force

Initial draft recommendations

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: September 22, 2021

Location: TBD

Time: 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Township of
Langley



Est. 1873

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY AND ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 7:00pm
Via Zoom

MINUTES

Present:

J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair
Councillor B. Whitmarsh, Council Co-Chair

C. Clark, I. Han, B. Sharp, and A. Smith

Guests:

J. Saxton, Air Quality Planner, Metro Vancouver
J. Linder, Air Quality Planner, Metro Vancouver
D. Jennejohn, Lead Senior Engineer, Metro Vancouver

Staff:

V. Gafka, Senior Manager, Economic Investment and Development
M. Gunn, Planner, Community and Policy Planning
R. Nelson, Senior Planner, Community and Policy Planning
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee -
May 26, 2021**

Moved by C. Clark,
Seconded by A. Smith,
That the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee approve
the agenda and receive the agenda items of the May 26, 2021 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. **Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee -
April 28, 2021**

Moved by I. Han,
Seconded by C. Clark,
That the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee adopt the
Minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. **Metro Vancouver Residential Wood Burning Regulations & Clean Air Plan 2021**

Residential Wood Burning Regulations

J. Saxton provided a presentation regarding the new Residential Indoor Wood Burning Bylaw. The following information was provided:

- Indoor wood burning is the largest source of annual fine particulate emissions in Metro Vancouver region.
- Second top source of toxic air pollutants, after diesel engines.

A new Bylaw was adopted in March 2020 which includes phased requirements to reduce emissions. Key features of the bylaw include:

- Best burning practices;
- More stringent requirements for urban areas;
- Allowances made for users with low income or a sole source of heat;
- No prohibition during emergency.

Seasonal restrictions are in place from May 15 to September 15 each year. Burning is prohibited during the warm season with the following exceptions:

- Sole source of heat;
- Off-grid outside Urban Containment Boundary;
- During an emergency.

Best burning practices defined in the bylaw schedule and provided on website include:

- Use clean, seasoned wood;
- Do not burn garbage;
- Burn small, hot fires;
- Maintain your appliance.

Registration and declaration for indoor wood burning appliances starts in 2022. Open-air burning of vegetative debris currently requires a site-specific approval from Metro Vancouver. An alternative approach for regulating emissions is being explored.

Clean Air Plan

J. Linder and D. Jennejohn provided a presentation regarding the proposed actions for agriculture and other sectors for the Draft Clean Air Plan. The following information was provided:

Vision of the Plan:

- Metro Vancouver is a carbon neutral region where residents experience healthy, clean, and clean air.

Regional 2030 Targets:

- Reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels.
- Ambient air quality in the region meets or is better than health-based ambient air quality objectives and standards set by Metro Vancouver and other governments.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Increase the amount of time that visual air quality is excellent.

The Plan has 132 actions with 17 strategies in six different issue areas:

- Transportation
- Buildings
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Health
- Measure, Monitor, and Regulate

The strategy for the Agriculture sector is to reduce emissions.

The agriculture targets by 2030 include:

- 35% reduction in agriculture greenhouse gas emissions, from 2010 levels; and
- 10% reduction in agriculture fine particulate matter emissions, from 2020 levels.

Major Agriculture Actions:

- Reduce Emissions from Greenhouses. Work with partners to explore opportunities to reduce emissions from greenhouses.
- Reduce Open-Air Burning. Work with agricultural producers to reduce barriers to adopting alternative to open-air burning of agricultural vegetative waste. Alternatives would complement open-air burning regulatory requirements.

Supporting Agriculture Actions:

- Outreach program on reducing agricultural emissions.
- Pilot study on zero emission agricultural equipment.
- Emission regulation for cannabis industry.
- Streamline emission requirements for anaerobic digestion facilities.

Advocacy for others:

- Advocate to the BC/federal governments to enhance funding for Environmental Farm Plans and cleaner agricultural equipment.
- Advocate to the BC/federal government and others to expand development of anaerobic digestion facilities.
- Advocate to local governments and others to encourage more local food production.

Metro Vancouver is seeking feedback on the draft Plan between April 1 and June 15 at: www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/engagement/clean-air-plan.

Draft Clean Air Plan 2021 --- <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/Clean-Air-Plan-2021.pdf>

D. REPORTS

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. **Future of Farming Task Force**

Committee members were asked at the last meeting to go through the process of navigating the Township website as well as other levels of government, to work through a real life question a farmer and/or ALR landowner might ask the Township and look for ways to reduce the “red tape”, if any.. The following information was presented:

Meat processing facility on a property – J. Caldarella:

- Did not find the information on the TOL website so called Development Services and received a quick response.
- There are specific zoning requirements for a meat processing facility and/or abattoir.
- If a property is not currently zoned for a meat processing facility and/or an abattoir, rezoning would be required.

Bed and Breakfast or Agri-tourism – C. Clark:

- Started on ALC website which took 20 minutes to find information.
- Spent 1.5 hours on the TOL website and it was difficult to find specific information but eventually located.
- Did not contact the Township.
- Each municipality can add further restrictions or bylaws as they so choose.
- Discovered the following information:
 - Only three sleeping units permitted in TOL; 10 permitted by BC Government;
 - Must have permit from the ALC;
 - Cannot be in an accessory building;
 - One establishment per property;
 - Cannot be on property that is smaller than 4.2 acres;
 - Residence must be owner occupied;
 - Fire codes must be followed;
 - Business license is required.

Farmers Grants – I. Han:

- Was unable to find information on the TOL website regarding agriculture grants. Could only find information on Community Grants.
- Will try emailing the TOL to get the information.

Selling products through farmgate – A. Smith:

F. WORK PROGRAM

- Could not find specific information on TOL website regarding farmgate sales.
 - Sent an email to INFO email and received a response asking for her address.
 - The website was not easy to navigate.
- Support for New Farmer - B. Sharp:
- Searched for "Support for local farmers" on TOL website and received 496 hits.
 - Too many results from search questions.
 - Sent an email through "Ask a question" and received a response from M. Gunn.
 - A separate Agriculture page with more specific information is needed.

Action: Staff to provide preliminary draft recommendations for the Report to Council at the June meeting for the committee's consideration.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2021
Location: via Zoom
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by C. Clark,
Seconded by A. Smith,
That the meeting terminate at 8:42pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair