

**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, April 23, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Robert Mazzarolo, Chair  
Councillor Brent Asmundson, Vice Chair  
Mark Ashton, Citizen Representative  
Grayson Barke, Citizen Representative  
Reza Berry, Citizen Representative  
Linton Chokie, Citizen Representative  
Silvia Cojocar, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)  
Mohammad Darabi, Citizen Representative  
Edward Lau, Citizen Representative  
Bonnie Razzaghi, Citizen Representative

REGRETS: Daryoush Mohammad Hassani, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Caresse Selk, Manager Environment  
Angela Jarvis, E-Mobility Manager  
Erin Gorby, Urban Forestry and Parks Services Manager  
Glen Chua, Transportation Planning Specialist  
Payvand Razaghizad, Planner 2  
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk  
Julia Power, Committee Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**1. Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

The Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 were approved.

**NEW BUSINESS****2. Urban Forest Management Plan**

The Urban Forestry and Parks Services Manager provided a presentation entitled “Urban Forestry Management Strategy” that covered the following topics:

- The Urban Forest Management Strategy (hereon “the Strategy”) including, background, key definitions, , timeline, , canopy cover percentages and initial analysis of other data including land surface temperatures, demographics and land ownership.
- The presentation also included commentary regarding challenges that the urban forest is experiencing, including climate change, densification and land use

Silvia Cojocararu arrived to the meeting at this time — 7:04 p.m.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concerns related to continued maintenance of trees, size of trees and potential dangers
- The desire for roof gardens as a creative way to integrate trees into the urban containment boundary
- Desires including, planting more trees to expand canopy coverage, increasing the quantity of smaller trees, implementing street tree projects, collaborating with School District 43 (SD43) to plant trees on its land, and devising a tree planting projection for the City
- The implication of new Provincial housing legislation, Bills 44, 46 and 47 on the availability of open space for growing the urban forest

**3. E-Mobility Strategy**

The E-Mobility Manager provided a presentation entitled “E-Mobility Strategy Update” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the E-Mobility Strategy (hereon “the Strategy”) including, existing federal, provincial and municipal policies, key definitions, timeline, establishing cost estimates, Strategy objectives and targets for e-mobility growth
- Overview of key findings from the public engagement phase including, desire for more charging stations across the City, electric vehicle owners reporting lower operational costs and less maintenance on their vehicles, and challenges encountered by renters lacking control over the installation of electric vehicle chargers
- Analysis of benefits and challenges of electric vehicle and micro-mobility transportation options

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desires including collaborating with nearby retailers to offer cargo solutions for bicycles and scooters and plans for hydrogen-powered vehicles
- Concerns including, the dangers and costs associated with chargers and electric vehicles in stratas
- Understanding the policies governing the installation of charging stations in new developments, including the necessary charger level required

#### **4. Active Transportation Projects**

The Planner 2 and Transportation Planning Specialist provided a presentation entitled "Active Transportation Improvement Projects" that covered the following topics:

- An overview of the ongoing efforts to support people walking and using micro-mobility with aim to work towards the Strategic Transportation Plan's 2050 sustainable mode share objectives.
- An overview of the public engagement feedback received as part of the update to the Strategic Transportation Plan. This included the public's concern and barriers related to cycling and walking, such as road safety and the absence of protected bicycle lanes or crossings, and the strong desire for protected infrastructure that separates people from vehicles.
- An overview of the different walking and micro-mobility facilities to support people of all ages and abilities, as well as an overview of the objectives and timelines of several active transportation improvement projects planned in Southwest Coquitlam (Nelson Street, Smith Avenue and Regan Avenue, King Albert Avenue, Thermal Drive) and City Centre (Guilford Way).
- A list of project webpages to stay informed on public engagement opportunities and the status of the projects.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desires to know of similar projects in comparable high-demand areas
- Desires including, consistency in active transportation options citywide, active transportation infrastructure to connect North and South Coquitlam to City Centre
- Desires for data collection as it relates to understanding the usage of existing micro-mobility routes and prioritizing routes for active transportation improvements
- Concerns related to the inherent topography of the Coquitlam and its impact on supporting of active transportation usage, and extending connectivity beyond jurisdictional limits

## 5. Climate Action Plan

The Manager of Environment provided a presentation entitled “Climate Action Plan: Phase 3 Update and Engagement Highlights” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) including, vision, timeline, objectives, and targets, as well as acknowledging challenges and incorporating feedback from public engagement sessions, alignment with provincial and federal emission reduction goals, and next steps in consulting with kwikwəłəm First Nation

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The desire for advocacy to the province for responsible consumption policies, local food waste initiatives for businesses and education regarding responsible consumption
- Potential establishment of a sub-committee to research the adoption of the BC Zero Carbon Step Code by the City

## 6. Environmental Achievement Awards Selection Update

The Manager, Environment provided a presentation entitled “Environmental Achievement Awards 2024” that covered the following topics:

- An Overview of the 2024 Environmental Achievement Awards including, the nominations, the winners and a special thank you to the sub-committee for their efforts

Discussion ensued relative to the desire for an additional youth award

## 7. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share information and emerging issues from their communities.

The following information was shared:

- “The Life-Sized City” podcast by British Columbia’s Knowledge Network focuses on grassroots social and environmental work in various cities around the world.
- Details regarding the process for establishing a sub-committee.

### OTHER BUSINESS

**NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, June 25, 2024**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Robert Mazzarolo, Chair

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Julia Power, Committee Clerk