

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

For immediate release – June 24, 2011

COUNCIL DELEGATIONS:

Tour de Delta

Tour de Delta Board Chair Dennis des Lauriers provided an overview of the races and events for the 11th Annual Tour de Delta which will be held from July 8-10. A new MK Delta Criterium race will be held in North Delta on the evening of July 8, 2011, replacing the prologue time trial.

2011 Spring Freshet

Delta's Deputy Director of Engineering, Hugh Fraser, provided a presentation on this year's spring freshet. Mr. Fraser noted water levels appear to have peaked June 17th and 18th, but staff continue to monitor the dikes and water levels and provide the Provincial government with updates.

Southlands Proposal

Century Group President Sean Hodgins presented a revised proposal for development of 950 residential units (20%) on the Southlands. The proposal includes 80% of the Southlands being transferred to public ownership for the purposes of reinstating soil-based farming and the protection of environmentally sensitive forested areas.

Mr. Hodgins revised his original proposal following the Mayor's Summit and meetings held with Mayor Jackson, CAO George Harvie and the Community Planning & Development Department's Director and Deputy Director.

Mr. Hodgins plans to consult with the community on his revised proposal this July and August and return to Council at the September 12th Regular Meeting to provide a further refined proposal based on Century Group's community consultation. It is anticipated that following the September 12th presentation, Century Group will submit a formal development application to Delta.

Mayor Jackson and George Harvie stressed that a number of steps, including public consultation, will take place upon an application being received – there are a number of standard processes that must be adhered to with these types of development applications.



MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Jackson highlighted the grand opening celebration of **Holly Elementary School's new playground** that she attended last Friday. Delta contributed \$35,000 to this project and the Holly Elementary Parent Advisory Council raised \$25,000. Mayor Jackson congratulated the PAC on this accomplishment as many children will benefit from the new playground!

Mayor Jackson also expressed her delight in attending the grand opening celebration for the **Ladner Community Garden** at Kensington Park and commended the Ladner Community Garden Society who established 45 plots to provide Delta residents the opportunity to grow healthy and nutritious food for themselves and the local food bank.

Mayor Jackson wished the students of **Hellings Elementary School** the best of luck with their **new community garden**, which was initiated on Monday morning. Delta assisted by providing a truck full of soil, a composter and a rain barrel.

Mayor Jackson noted the various events happening throughout Delta this week including **Delta's annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception**. This event recognizes the amazing group of dedicated volunteers who serve on Delta's various Committees and Commissions.

This Friday evening the **Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust is hosting a Raptors & Roots Summer Solstice Fundraiser**.

This weekend the **Delta Amateur Radio Society** "hams" will join thousands of Amateur Radio operators across North America to show their emergency capabilities.

Mayor Jackson highlighted two free family fun events Delta is hosting this weekend - **the North Delta Family Day Parade and Picnic hosted in partnership with the North Delta Lions Club** at North Delta Community Park and **Delta Community Animal Shelter's 3rd Annual Animal Expo** at Ladner Memorial Park. Both of these events will feature children's activities, entertainment and displays.

BYLAWS:**Three Readings Given to Local Government Election Bylaw Amendment**

Council gave three readings to a bylaw that will amend Schedule A of "General Local Government Election Procedures Bylaw No. 6667, 2008" to reflect the exclusion of Tsawwassen First Nation land from Delta's voting divisions.



Land Use Contract and Rezoning Forwarded to Public Hearing

Council gave two readings to bylaws that discharge a land use contract and rezone a property located at 5670 12 Avenue to Comprehensive Development to permit a wider range of uses in the existing retail commercial development. No new development is proposed at this time.

CONSENT REPORTS:**Council Approves a Contract Amendment to Railway Improvements**

Council approved a contract amendment to accommodate structural improvements at the 64 Avenue Burlington Northern Railway Overhead.

Delta Minor Ball Hockey Licence Agreement Approved

Council endorsed a new licence agreement between the Corporation of Delta and the Delta Minor Ball Hockey Association for the use of the storage space located at the Sungod Recreation Centre. The agreement is in keeping with standard practices used for all not-for-profit organizations that use municipal buildings.

Gymnasium Use Policy Endorsed

Council approved a gymnasium use policy that was developed to standardize operations and manage program flexibility. As it is difficult to commit a certain time slot to any single activity on a long-term basis, the current priority of community programs over rental groups (as was established at Sungod), will also be applied to the South Delta Recreation Centre in the coordination of their recreation schedules.

New Applications Received

Council received two new applications to amend the Official Community Plan and endorsed the initiation of the consultation process for these two projects (Augustinian Monastery of B.C. and Earth King Project 64 Ltd.).

DISCUSSION REPORTS:**2011 Annual Report & 2010 Audited Financial Statements Approved**

Council approved Delta's audited financial statements for December 31, 2010 and the 2011 Annual Report in compliance with the requirements of the *Community Charter*. Delta's Finance Director noted the Corporation of Delta continues to maintain a healthy financial position through the implementation of stringent fiscal policies; all of which has resulted in a balanced budget, significant reductions in our debt balance and a healthy reserve of over \$93 million.



Council Supports a Fire Training Facility

Council approved a five-year lease between Delta and CTV Ltd. for use of a house as a Fire Department training facility. The application will now be referred to the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission whose approval of this non-farm use is required.

Agricultural Profile on Delta Presented

Council received information on Delta's agricultural profile which outlines the current status of agriculture in Delta. The profile is intended to assist in the development of Delta's Agricultural Plan.

Development Permit Approved

Council approved the issuance of a development permit to construct a single family dwelling at 1675 53A Street.

Council Endorses Comments on Metro Vancouver's Draft Integrated Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan

Council endorsed the submission of Delta's comments to Metro Vancouver on the updated draft Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan. The Plan will contribute to the continuous improvement of the region's air quality and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Traffic Signal Improvements to be made at 1 Avenue & 56 Street

To enhance traffic safety, Council endorsed the installation of a full traffic signal at the 1 Avenue and 56 Street intersection. The limited sight distances arising from border traffic congestion, combined with the expected increase in traffic associated with the opening of the Rotary WaterWorks at Diefenbaker Park warranted the need to address this signal to provide greater safety at this intersection.

TransLink 2010 Annual Report

Council received a report on TransLink's 2010 Annual Report, which provides an overview of the organization's performance and states its accomplishments for each of its five strategic areas.

Council Supports Commemorative "Veterans Way" Street Sign

In recognition of the important cultural and historical role of veterans within Canada and Delta, Council approved the installation of a commemorative street sign "Veterans Way" at the corner of Trenant Street and Delta Street, on the same post as the regular street name sign.

For more information on this media release, contact the Mayor's Office at (604) 946-3210 or email mayor@corp.delta.bc.ca

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