

AGENDA ADDENDUM

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Monday, July 4, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, Municipal Hall

355 West Queens Road,

North Vancouver, BC

Council Members:

Mayor Richard Walton

Councillor Roger Bassam

Councillor Robin Hicks

Councillor Mike Little

Councillor Doug MacKay-Dunn

Councillor Lisa Muri

Councillor Alan Nixon



NORTH VANCOUVER
DISTRICT

www.dnv.org

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REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 4, 2011
Council Chamber, Municipal Hall
355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver

AGENDA ADDENDUM

THE FOLLOWING LATE ITEMS ARE ADDED TO THE PUBLISHED AGENDA

8. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

8.4 UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative Funding Applications

File No. 12.6300.50/000.000

Recommendation:

THAT Council endorse by resolution the two attached grant applications to UBCM for:

1. Operational fuel mitigation for Hyannis Fuel Break (90% funded by UBCM; 10% funded by the District); and,
2. Fuel treatment prescriptions (75% funded by UBCM; 25% funded by the District).

8.4.1 Update on Implementation Status of Community Wildfire Protection Plan

File No. 12.6300.50/000.000


Recommendation:

THAT Council receive this report, approve the implementation plan in principle and refer items with a financial impact to the budget process.

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COUNCIL AGENDA/INFORMATION			
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Dept.
Manager


Director


CAO

The District of North Vancouver

REPORT TO COUNCIL

June 24, 2011

File: 12.6300.50/000

Tracking Number: RCA -

AUTHOR: Fiona Dercole
Section Manager, Public Safety

SUBJECT: UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative Funding Applications

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council endorse by resolution the two attached grant applications to UBCM for:

1. Operational fuel mitigation for Hyannis Fuel Break (90% funded by UBCM; 10% funded by the District) AND
2. Fuel treatment prescriptions (75% funded by UBCM; 25% funded by the District)

REASON FOR REPORT:

The District meets the prerequisites to apply for funding under the UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative. UBCM requires a Council resolution for each funding application.

SUMMARY:

Fuel treatments to reduce wildfire risk also reduce windthrow risk and promote healthy forest ecosystems. A cost sharing opportunity is currently available through the UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative. The combined cost of the two projects is \$131,200. The District's portion of the two projects totals \$17,200, with UBCM funding the remaining \$113,400. The two projects are consistent with the recommendations within the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

BACKGROUND:

In 2007, the District retained BA Blackwell and Associates to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The Plan identified areas at risk for wildfire and made recommendations for strategic and systematic mitigation. In 2008, a pilot project was completed in Grousewoods Park, reducing wildfire risk to the surrounding homes. In 2009, operational fuel mitigation was carried out in forested areas surrounding five District water towers and pump stations, protecting the District's critical infrastructure. All of these projects were completed through the UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative.

ANALYSIS:

The proposed work is aligned with the goals outlined in the Framework for Ecosystem-based Management and the Natural Hazards Management Program. UBCM recently announced \$25 million funding available for 2011 and 2012 through the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative.

There are two prerequisites to be eligible to apply for funding for fuel management prescriptions and operational fuel mitigation under the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative:

1. Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2. Successful completion of a fuel mitigation pilot project

The District has met both prerequisites.

The District's current applications build on previous fuel treatment work completed. The new areas proposed would contribute to a shaded fuel break along the Wildland-Urban Interface of the District, and are anticipated to provide the best return on investment for the operational fuel treatment program through protection of the largest and most vulnerable areas of the community.

Timing/Approval Process: The first intake for funding applications is July 22, 2011.

Assuming the projects are approved by UBCM, fuel treatment prescriptions will be developed in August 2011 and will be utilized as a required component when applying for future fuel mitigation cost sharing projects. Operational fuel mitigation work for the Hyannis Fuel Break will commence in fall 2011 and be completed by spring 2011. The second intake for funding applications is October 14, 2011.

Concurrence: Community Forester, Fire and Rescue Services, and the North Shore Emergency Management Office concur with the submission of the two applications for funding to UBCM.

Financial Impacts:

The District's share of the funds for the projects are included in the 2011 Parks budget - Forest Management and Recovery Program.

- *Hyannis Fuel Break:* Total project cost is \$100,000 with \$90,000 UBCM and \$10,000 DNV (90:10 cost share ratio).
- *Fuel prescriptions:* Total project cost is \$31,200 with \$23,400 UBCM and \$7,800 DNV (75:25 cost share ratio).

Liability/Risk: Liability is not increased by systematically implementing recommendations contained within the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Environmental Impact: The site plan for Hyannis Fuel Break aims to improve biodiversity of wildlife habitat through improved understory vegetation development, minimize negative impacts on aesthetic values, soil, vegetation, water and air quality and wildlife. Disturbed areas will be rehabilitated upon completion of the fuel treatment work. All proposed work will follow the District's requirements for environmental protection.

Public Input: Once the applications for funding have been approved, the public in neighbouring areas will be contacted and if required, a public meeting will be held. Appropriate signage will be erected in the area and the Community Forester will be available to answer questions.

Conclusion:

The two proposed funding applications provide an opportunity for significant return on investment to the District and contribute to a number of objectives: reduce wildfire risk, reduce windstorm risk and promote a healthy forest ecosystem. The work is aligned with several existing District initiatives within the natural hazards management program and the framework for ecosystem-based management.

Fiona Dercole

Fiona Dercole
Section Manager, Public Safety

Attachments:

1. Fuel Management Prescription Program Application
2. Operational Fuel Treatment Program Application

<p>REVIEWED WITH:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Community Development</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Development Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Utilities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Operations</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Environment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development</p>	<p>REVIEWED WITH:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Communications</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance <i>MD</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fire Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Human resources</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ITS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GIS</p>	<p>REVIEWED WITH:</p> <p>External Agencies:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Library Board</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NS Health</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RCMP</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Commission</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>	<p>REVIEWED WITH:</p> <p>Advisory Committees:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> _____</p>
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Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative Fuel Management Prescription Program

E-mail: lgps@ubcm.ca

Mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

Fax: (250) 356-5119

2011 APPLICATION FORM

Please type directly in this form or print and complete. Additional space or pages may be used as required. For detailed instructions regarding application requirements please refer to Fuel Management Prescription Program Guide.

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Local Government: District of North Vancouver

Date of Application: June 21, 2011

Contact Person: Fiona Dercole

Title: Section Manager, Public Safety

Phone: 604 990-3819

E-mail: fdercole@dnv.org

SECTION 2: PROJECT INFORMATION

1. NAME OF PROJECT:

District of North Vancouver - Contiguous shaded fuel break

2. DESCRIPTION. Please provide a geographic description of the proposed area, including treatment units as identified in the CWPP.

Areas being considered as priority for fuel treatment are areas along the wildland-urban interface that contain C3, C4 and C5 fuel types and are also at high risk for windthrow. The areas delineated (hatched) on the attached map follow the wildland urban interface (WUI) between the Braemar/Dempsey intersection with the BCTC transmission right of way corridor and the Underwood section of Upper Lynn Valley community. Likewise in the Blueridge community the proposed operational treatment areas follow the WUI parallel with Hyannis drive through to the intersection with McCartney Creek Park / Northlands Golf Course.

These two large area shaded fuel break areas have been strategically selected to compliment the existing fuel breaks provided by the BCTC transmission line corridors which transect the community. Development of these contiguous shaded fuel breaks across the North Vancouver WUI landscape are anticipated to provide the best return on investment for the operational fuel treatment program through protection of the largest and most vulnerable areas of the community.

3. PROPOSED NUMBER OF HECTARES TO BE INCLUDED. Please provide an estimate of the number of hectares to be assessed and the number of hectares to be treated.

48 Ha

4. MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE AFFECTED TIMBER. Please indicate if this project includes Mountain Pine Beetle fuel type:

☐ Yes ☒ No

5. CURRENT THREAT RATING OF PROPOSED AREA. Please indicate the current threat rating and how the threat rating was developed (e.g. Wildfire Management Branch Threat Rating Worksheet). *Please note: threat rating data may be requested.*

The threat rating for the areas came from Wildfire Risk Management System ratings. The areas were identified in the CWPP as a high risk area and Priority Fuel Types.

6. OTHER ACTIVITIES. Please describe the extent to which your community is undertaking non-fuel management activities to reduce the risk of wildfire in the interface.

The District of North Vancouver has developed Wildfire Development Permit Areas (DPAs) and Guidelines as part of its new Official Community Plan. The Wildfire DPA is indicated on a map available to the public, and guidelines are to be adopted by Council in the fall of 2011. Draft guidelines are currently available for review. The purpose of the Wildfire DPA is to encourage and regulate the use of fire resistant building materials, defensible space and vegetation choices for properties included in the Wildfire DPA. The guidelines are based on Firesmart principles.

The District coordinated a full scale multi-agency wildfire emergency exercise in 2008. This exercise was planned by a team comprised of representatives from the municipality, Ministry of Forests, Grouse Mountain Resort, RCMP, etc.

Firehall #3 (Montroyal) is currently under extensive renovation and aims to be a Firesmart Showhome once complete. The public will be able to visit the Firehall, see examples of Firesmart principles and talk about reducing fire risk with fire department personnel.

District-wide evacuation guidelines have been developed. In addition, an area-specific evacuation plan has been developed in conjunction with the community for the isolated areas of Woodlands, Cascades and Sunshine Falls.

Wildfire danger rating information is prominently displayed on the District's website and extensive information about Firesmart and reducing wildfire risk is available to the public online.

District of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services, along with the Community Forester, Public Safety Manager and the North Shore Emergency Management Office regularly participate in multi-agency activities and meetings (including neighbouring jurisdictions, Metro Vancouver and Coastal Fire Centre personnel) to share ideas, resources and test communications systems.

7. REVIEW OF APPLICATION. Was this application reviewed by a Wildfire Management Branch Fuels Management Specialist prior to submission?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Did any other Ministry or organization review the application prior to submission? If yes, please describe:

8. CONSULTANT INFORMATION. If a consultant is being utilized to do some or all of the work, please describe how you will select a qualified individual. If possible, please include the name(s) of the consultant(s):

Prescription Consultant: BA Blackwell & Associates

GIS Consultant: BA Blackwell & Associates

9. COUNCIL/BOARD RESOLUTION. The local government resolution must indicate support for the development of a fuel management prescription and indicate willingness to provide overall grant management. Please include the complete resolution below (or as an attachment) and identify the resolution number and date of Council/Board meeting when the resolution was approved.

See attached

Eligible activities and costs are outlined in Section 4 of the Program & Application Guide. In Section 3 below, please include all proposed eligible costs for the development of your prescription.

SECTION 3: PROPOSED ACTIVITIES & COSTS

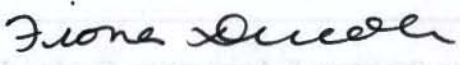
Activity	Proposed Cost
Evaluation of the site(s) and inventory of stand structure	\$1,560.00
Assessment(s) that are directly related to the resource values affected by the prescription within the proposed area	\$3,120.00
Production of prescription, maps and spatial data	\$1,872.00
Lay out and traversing of treatment area(s) in the field	\$15,912.00
Staff and contractor costs directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription	\$3,744.00
Local government administration costs directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription	\$2,184.00
Planning, consultation with stakeholders and public information directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription	\$2,808.00
Other proposed activities. <u>Please describe:</u>	\$
Total Proposed Costs:	\$31,200.00

The Fuel Management Prescription program can contribute a maximum of 75% of the cost of eligible activities and the remainder (25%) is required to be funded through community contributions.

Total Grant Requested (75% of total cost):	\$23,400.00
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Please note that you will be required to provide detailed information on the community contribution in the final report. This includes information on contributions from other grant programs. If information is available now, please complete Section 4 below:

SECTION 4: OTHER GRANTS	
Grant(s) Description:	Estimated Grant Value
	\$

SECTION 5: SIGNATURE (To be signed by Local Government Applicant)
I certify that the area covered by the proposed prescription: (1) is not scheduled for development; (2) is not scheduled for sale; and (3) is within the jurisdiction of the local government (or appropriate approvals are in place)
Signature: 
Name & Title: Fiona Dercole, Section Manager Public Safety

The Application Form must be completed in full and signed by the local government. Applications should be submitted as Word or PDF documents and should be e-mailed to lgps@ubcm.ca with the required attachments.

In addition to the Application Form, the following separate attachments are required to be submitted as part of your application:

- Council or Board resolution indicating support for the proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management (if not included in the application form)
- Maps and photos that clearly identify the area(s) that are the subject of the application
- If not UBCM funded, a copy of the completed CWPP for the proposed area

23,344.00	Staff and contractor costs directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription
22,184.00	Local government administration costs directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription
21,808.00	Planning, consultation with stakeholders and public information directly related to the development of a fuel management prescription
0	Other proposed activities (Prescribed activities)
67,336.00	Total Proposed Costs

The Fuel Management Prescription program can contribute a maximum of 75% of the cost of eligible activities and the remainder (25%) is required to be funded through community contributions.

20,490.00	Total Grant Requested (75% of total cost):
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Please note that you will be required to provide detailed information on the community contribution in the final report. This includes information on contributions from other grant programs. If information is available, please complete Section 4 below.

Supporting Photos and Maps for the District of North Vancouver's Shade Fuel Break Prescription Funding Application



Figure 1. Dense shade tolerant trees contribute to overall fuel loading.



Figure 2. Dense second growth stands have interlocked crowns and are beginning to self-thin, contributing to surface fuel loadings.



Figure 3. Low crowns in western hemlock and redcedar ingrowth forms abundant ladder and contiguous crown fuels in the proposed treatment area.



Map 1. Proposed shaded fuel break prescription areas in the District of North Vancouver.



Map 1. Proposed Hyannis Drive operational fuel treatment.

Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative Operational Fuel Treatment Program

E-mail: lgps@ubcm.ca

Mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

Fax: (250) 356-5119

2011 APPLICATION FORM

Please type directly in this form or print and complete. Additional space or pages may be used as required. For detailed instructions regarding application requirements please refer to the Community Operational Fuel Treatment Program & Application Guide.

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Local Government: District of North Vancouver

Date of Application: June 23, 2011

Contact Person: Fiona Dercole

Title: Section Manager, Public Safety

Phone: 604 990-3819

E-mail: fdercole@dnv.org

SECTION 2: PROJECT INFORMATION

1. NAME OF PROJECT.

Hyannis Fuel Break

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION. Please provide a geographic description, description of fuel load and objective(s) of the proposed fuel treatment for the area being considered for treatment.

The proposed treatment area is in the District of North Vancouver and extends from Hyannis Point behind Hyannis Drive and ties to the already completed critical infrastructure fuel treatment.

The current fuel type is C3 with some C4 due to regeneration under the main canopy. Ladder fuels are high due to the regeneration and crown fuels are contiguous. Surface fuels are moderate to high due to windfall and dumping of woody debris.

3. PROPOSED NUMBER OF HECTARES TO BE TREATED.

7.6

4. MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE AFFECTED TIMBER. Please indicate if this project includes Mountain Pine Beetle fuel type:

☐ Yes ☒ No

- 5. THREAT RATING OF PROPOSED TREATMENT AREA.** Please indicate the current (pre-treatment) threat rating, how the threat rating was developed (e.g. Wildfire Management Branch Threat Rating Worksheet) and the expected threat rating after the treatment is completed. *Please note: threat rating data may be requested.*

The fuels here were identified in the CWPP completed for the District of North Vancouver as high hazard with priority fuel types. A subsequent study and report of the area around Hyannis Drive also found the fuels to be hazardous and risk to adjacent structures as high. Operational treatments were approved and completed adjacent to critical infrastructure 500 m from the new proposed treatment area.

- 6. OTHER ACTIVITIES.** Please describe the extent to which your community is undertaking non-fuel management activities to reduce the risk of wildfire in the interface.

The District of North Vancouver has developed Wildfire Development Permit Areas (DPAs) and Guidelines as part of its new Official Community Plan. The Wildfire DPA is indicated on a map available to the public, and guidelines are to be adopted by Council in the fall of 2011. Draft guidelines are currently available for review. The purpose of the Wildfire DPA is to encourage and regulate the use of fire resistant building materials, defensible space and vegetation choices for properties included in the Wildfire DPA. The guidelines are based on Firesmart principles.

The District coordinated a full scale multi-agency wildfire emergency exercise in 2008. This exercise was planned by a team comprised of representatives from the municipality, Ministry of Forests, Grouse Mountain Resort, RCMP, etc.

Firehall #3 (Montroyal) is currently under extensive renovation and aims to be a Firesmart Showhome once complete. The public will be able to visit the Firehall, see examples of Firesmart principles and talk about reducing fire risk with fire department personnel.

District-wide evacuation guidelines have been developed. In addition, an area-specific evacuation plan has been developed in conjunction with the community for the isolated areas of Woodlands, Cascades and Sunshine Falls.

Wildfire danger rating information is prominently displayed on the District's website and extensive information about Firesmart and reducing wildfire risk is available to the public online.

District of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services, along with the Community Forester, Public Safety Manager and the North Shore Emergency Management Office regularly participate in multi-agency activities and meetings (including neighbouring jurisdictions, Metro Vancouver and Coastal Fire Centre personnel) to share ideas, resources and test communications systems.

- 7. REVIEW OF APPLICATION.** Did a Wildfire Management Branch Fuels Management Specialist review this application prior to submission?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Did any other Ministry or organization review the application prior to submission? If yes, please describe:

No review of this project has occurred, however Brian McIntosh conducted a field review of the adjacent treatment that this project will connect to.

8. CONTRACTOR INFORMATION. If a contractor is being utilized to do some or all of the work, please describe how you will select a qualified individual. If possible, please include the name(s) of the contractor(s):

Selection of a contractor to complete operational treatments will be conducted through and an open RFP process.

Operational Treatment Contractor:

GIS Contractor: B.A. Blackwell & Associates Ltd.

9. COUNCIL/BOARD RESOLUTION. The local government resolution must indicate support for the operational fuel treatment project and indicate willingness to provide overall grant management. Please include the complete resolution below (or as an attachment) and identify the resolution number and date of Council/Board meeting when the resolution was approved.

Eligible activities and costs are outlined in Section 4 of the Program & Application Guide. In Section 3 below, please include all proposed eligible costs for your operational fuel treatment.

SECTION 3: PROPOSED FUEL TREATMENT ACTIVITIES & COSTS	
Activity	Proposed Cost
Eligible fuel treatment activities:	
• Use of prescribed fire	\$0.00
• Lop and scatter	\$0.00
• Chipping & mastication	\$26,100.00
• Piling	\$0.00
• Pruning	\$6,300.00
• Tree removal	\$10,800.00
• Debris management/removal	\$46,800.00
Staff and contractor costs directly related to fuel treatment activities. <u>Please describe:</u> Supervision and Monitoring, GIS mapping, UBCM Reporting. This will account for a portion of the in-kind costs associated with the project.	\$4,600.00
Local government administration costs directly related to fuel treatment activities. <u>Please describe:</u> Accounting, RFP Process, Supervision, public consultation, UBCM reporting and meetings with fuels specialist. This will account for a portion of the in-kind costs associated with the project.	\$5,000.00
Signage and public information directly related to completed fuel treatment activities. <u>Please describe:</u> Signs will be produced and erected in the neighbour hood and on adjacent trail networkds. This will account for a portion of the in-kind costs associated with the project.	\$400.00
Other proposed activities. <u>Please describe:</u>	\$
Total Proposed Costs:	\$100,000.00

The Community Operational Fuel Treatment program can contribute a maximum of:

- 90% of the cost of eligible activities up to \$100,000 in funding per applicant per calendar year AND
- 75% of the cost of eligible activities from \$100,001 to \$400,000 in funding per applicant per calendar year

The remainder is required to be funded through community contributions.

Up to \$100,000 in funding (90% of eligible cost):	\$100,000.00
\$100,001 to \$400,000 in funding (75% of eligible cost):	\$
Total Grant Requested:	\$90,000.00

Please note that you will be required to provide detailed information on the community contribution in the final report. This includes information on contributions from other grant programs and all project revenues. If information is available now, please complete Sections 4 and 5 below:

SECTION 4: OTHER GRANTS	
Grant(s) Description:	Estimated Grant Value
	\$

SECTION 5: REVENUE	
Revenue(s) Description:	Estimated Revenue
	\$0.00

SECTION 6: SIGNATURE (To be signed by Local Government Applicant)
I certify that the area covered by the proposed operational fuel treatment: (1) is not scheduled for development; (2) is not scheduled for sale; and (3) is within the jurisdiction of the local government (or appropriate approvals are in place)
Signature: <i>Fiona Dercole</i>
Name & Title: Fiona Dercole, Section Manager Public Safety

In addition to the Application Form, the following separate attachments are required to be submitted as part of your application:

- Maps and photos that clearly identify the area(s) that are the subject of the application

- If not UBCM funded, a copy of the completed CWPP for the proposed treatment area
- If not UBCM funded, a copy of the completed prescription for the proposed treatment area

Supporting Photos and Maps for the District of North Vancouver's Operational Fuel Treatment Funding Application



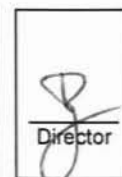
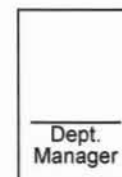
Figure 1. Dead and dying trees and relatively recent fire sign in the proposed treatment area.



Figure 2. Redcedar ingrowth forms abundant ladder fuels and snow press has elevated surface fuels in some parts of the proposed treatment area.

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The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COUNCIL

June 27, 2011

File: 12.6300/50

Tracking Number: RCA -

AUTHOR: Fiona Dercole, Section Manager Public Safety

SUBJECT: Update on implementation status of Community Wildfire Protection Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive this report, approve the implementation plan in principle and refer items with a financial impact to the budget process.

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Council on the status of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and provide an implementation plan to complete the recommendations.

SUMMARY:

Several District Divisions, along with external stakeholders, have been working collaboratively since 2007 to implement the recommendations within the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Most action items are now either complete or well underway. Substantial progress has been made in emergency planning, policy development, public communication initiatives and fuel treatment projects. The District capitalized on joint funding opportunities such as Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) grants. Two of the remaining recommendations require allocation of funds over a multi-year timeframe.

BACKGROUND:

The CWPP was developed through a cost-share funding opportunity with UBCM. The plan contains an assessment of fuel types and assets exposed to wildfire hazard across the District, and a set of recommendations aimed at reducing wildfire risk to people, assets and the environment, with the focus on areas along the wildland-urban interface (WUI) zone. The CWPP considered several elements including communication and education, structure protection, training, emergency response, vegetation management and post-fire rehabilitation. The CWPP is aligned with the District's Natural Hazard Risk Management Framework and follows provincial best practices in forest management. In May 2007, District Council received the CWPP and directed Staff to develop an implementation plan.

Since 2007, the District has made significant progress in many areas, including:

- completed a fuel treatment pilot project to reduce ladder fuels in Grousewoods Park, adjacent to residential area. Ongoing monitoring is in place to assess the health of the forest
- completed operational fuel treatment for areas surrounding critical infrastructure, including five water towers and pump stations
- conducted a full scale multi-agency interface fire exercise to practice emergency response procedures
- purchased a sprinkler protection unit for enhanced structural protection
- completed a community-based evacuation plan for Indian Arm communities
- developed wildfire development permit areas (DPA) for inclusion in the new OCP (draft form only)
- continued to develop public education programs
- integrated planning with neighbouring jurisdictions to discuss shared activities/strategies and deliver consistent messaging to the public.
- ongoing participation in cross training between DNVFRS, neighbouring municipal fire departments, Metro Vancouver Watershed Protection and BC Forest Service crews.

EXISTING POLICY:

"Tree Work in the District Policy #13-5280/1" prescribes the procedures to conduct work on trees within the District. This policy also provides for thinning of immature trees for stand management which supports the fuel treatment prescriptions.

ANALYSIS:

1. Structure Protection

The Wildfire Development Permit Area (DPA) is one of the Natural Hazard DPAs. Draft DPA policies are now complete for inclusion as an amendment to the new Official Community Plan. The Wildfire DPA includes FireSmart measures in reference to construction practices, building materials, access, defensible space, and vegetation management on private property. Once the Wildfire DPA is adopted, Staff will hold information sessions with building and roofing contractors as educational opportunities.

There is an outstanding recommendation to analyze the water supply (flow and pressure) in the District and determine whether it is adequate for emergency response to an interface fire incident. This analysis could either be conducted in house (approximately 200 hours) or by a consultant. The review should consider water supply, water delivery volumes/pressure, and pumping capacity. The water towers and pump stations are now more resilient because the surrounding areas have been treated.

2. Vegetation (Fuel) Management

The CWPP identified 70 hectares (Ha) of high risk fuel types. Following the successful fuel management pilot project at Grousewoods and operational fuel management surrounding five District water towers and pump stations, 18 Ha have now been treated through cost-sharing opportunities with UBCM, and an additional 4 Ha are currently underway at Roche Point Park. Forest Ecosystem Mapping identified areas with a high

risk for windthrow; areas for future treatments have been prioritized where windthrow and wildfire hazards overlap. The District lacks the internal capacity to address the fuel treatment work and outside contractors are retained for operational fuel treatment work.

The province of BC recently committed an additional \$25 million over two years for ongoing fuel management initiatives, administered by UBCM through a cost-sharing agreement. The cost-sharing agreement varies depending on the size of the project, per calendar year. For projects up to \$100,000 the ratio is 90% UBCM; 10% District. For projects between \$101,000 and \$400,000 and fuel prescriptions, the ratio is 75% UBCM; 25% District. Applications have been prepared to be submitted for the 2011 funding opportunity. The proposed work is aimed at continuing to treat the remaining 48 Ha which would then provide the District with a contiguous shaded fuel break along the wildland-urban interface of the municipality.

3. Emergency Response

In the event of a wildland urban interface fire, the District currently has a cooperative and coordinated response plan with Metro Vancouver Watershed Protection (Metro), BC Coastal Fire and District of West Vancouver (DWV). Multiagency fire response command structures have been discussed and agreed upon through a series of tabletop and full scale exercises. Cross training occurs between DNVFRS, DWV, Metro and provincial crews to enable working seamlessly together toward a common goal. DNVFRS maintain a sprinkler protection unit and Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) response vehicle, available for mutual aid response if required. 2-3 additional CAFS response vehicles are available through DWV and Metro.

District Staff from a variety of departments participate in North Shore and regional working groups and meet regularly to share ideas, test communication protocols and ensure consistency with communication strategies.

4. Rehabilitation

Staff are in the early stages of developing a rehabilitation plan, based on priorities established in the recent *Forest Ecosystem Mapping and Framework for Ecosystem-based Management Report* (B.A. Blackwell, 2010).

5. Communication and Education

Renovations to Fire Station No. 3 are underway using FireSmart principles, making the station a FireSmart show home. Ongoing communications and education promote awareness of the interface fire risk to residents and businesses. Wildfire hazard maps are available on GeoWeb in the Hazards application, along with public access to the CWPP and FireSmart educational information.

Timing/Approval Process: The \$25 million provincial funds, administered by UBCM, are available for the next two years. There are two application deadlines for 2011 – July 22 and October 14.

Concurrence: Community Forester, Parks, District Fire & Rescue Services, Planning, Permits & Bylaws, Finance and the North Shore Emergency Management Office concur with this report.

Financial Impacts: Funds for the District's share of the 2011 project applications are included in Parks 2011 Forest Management and Recovery Program. Proposed 2012 projects (ongoing fuel treatment \$10,000; water supply inventory \$50,000) will be referred to the 2012 capital budget planning process.

Liability/Risk: Completion of recommendations outlined in the CWPP reduces liability by demonstrating an ongoing work plan toward wildfire risk reduction. Council's approval of the remaining implementation plan would further protect the municipality through policy, rather than operational planning.

Social Policy Implications: Understanding, communicating and managing wildfire risk is integrated with community values of recreation, environmental protection, public safety and sustainability.

Environmental Impact: The Grousewoods pilot project demonstrates the ecosystem restoration benefits and wildfire risk reduction in forests associated with fuel treatments. This will pay long-term dividends and reduce the possibility of environmental impacts associated with wildfire.

Public Input: The community indicated support of the Grousewoods pilot project, the water tower fuel treatments and the emergency exercise "Operation Dry Lightning". Residents are generally aware of natural hazards associated with living in a mountainous forested environment and are prepared to share in the stewardship of our natural assets. The public was consulted on five different occasions with regards to the proposed Wildfire Development Permit Areas. While generally supported, Staff are refining the DPA's based on community feedback and intend to hold a Council Workshop and public open house in the fall.

Conclusion:

Much work has been accomplished through collaboration, creativity, leveraging funding opportunities and community support. The District has demonstrated capacity to build resilience to protect people, critical infrastructure, environmental and recreational assets from wildfire. The remaining two action items, ongoing fuel treatment and critical water supply inventory, require additional consideration as part of the 2012 and 2013 budget processes.

Fiona Quade

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