

## Port updates

North Shore Community Liaison Committee meeting | October 20, 2020

### General updates

#### Breaking Bottlenecks podcast

- We've launched a podcast series called [Breaking Bottlenecks](#)
- Each episode focuses on how the port and operators together rely on innovation, communication and collaboration to "break" bottlenecks that can negatively impact supply chains
- Most recent episode talks about neighbours working together and features host Aaron Chapman as he digs into the neighbourly negotiations that preceded North Vancouver's Low-Level Road and Spirit Trail Project. Lisa Dooling, the Director of Community and Stakeholder Engagement at Neptune Terminals, Linda Buchanan, current Mayor of the City of North Vancouver, and the port authority's vice president of environment, community and government affairs, Duncan Wilson are all featured.

#### Mid-year stats

- Steady mid-year cargo volumes amid global pandemic reflect the Port of Vancouver's vital role in Canada's supply chain
- From January 1 to June 30, 2020, overall cargo through the port decreased by 1.1% from 72.4 to 71.7 million metric tonnes (MMT) over the same time last year. Despite an overall decrease in cargo moving through the port, new mid-year records were set for bulk and containerized grain, as well as total foreign tonnage and foreign exports
- Between January 1 and June 30, 2020, several sectors experienced declines as a result of weather conditions, trade challenges, cancelled sailings, railroad blockades and the global COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the sectors impacted were autos, down 34.1%, breakbulk, down 17.1%, and containers, down 7.7% from mid-year 2019 to 1.6 million 20-foot equivalents or TEUs
- Cruise season at the Port of Vancouver has been postponed until October 31, 2020, following direction from Transport Canada. The port authority will continue to follow direction from Transport Canada, and is refocusing efforts to plan for the 2021 cruise season
- Read the release [here](#) for full details

### Port authority-led / funded projects

#### Maplewood Marine Restoration Project

- Construction for the Maplewood Marine Restoration Project wrapped up earlier this year. During construction, nearly 230,000 cubic metres of sand was placed to restore and raise the Maplewood basin floor, which will support a variety of shellfish and crab and allow marine plants like eelgrass to establish. Eelgrass provides important refuge and nursery habitat for juvenile fish. Over 13,000 tonnes of rock was additionally placed to create a rock reef and other features which will support various kelp species and contribute to an increase in the diversity of fish and wildlife in the basin.

- The next step is an eelgrass transplanting pilot project that will be underway in the coming weeks. Harvesting locations will be decided through consultation with Indigenous groups, starting with detailed scuba dive surveys that are being conducted at two proposed eelgrass donor sites, Bedwell Bay and Roberts Bank.
- The area of transplanted eelgrass will depend on the final number and configuration of the pilot project test plots and will be based on ongoing engagement and discussion with Tsleil-Waututh Nation. We anticipate that 900 m<sup>2</sup> of the 15,900 m<sup>2</sup> Maplewood eelgrass bed will be transplanted this fall.
- This pilot project will increase the overall understanding of eelgrass transplanting for future restoration and offsetting opportunities. Collaboration with Indigenous groups involved in the Maplewood Marine Restoration Project will be important throughout the pilot project planning and implementation.

## Land Use Plan

### Land Use Plan proposed amendments | Public consultation

- Over the past year, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has acquired two sites in the Lower Mainland in the District of North Vancouver and in the City of Surrey. The port authority is also proposing to designate a previously undesignated port authority site in the City of Delta, and re-designate a portion of an existing port authority site in the City of Delta.
- We are required by the *Canada Marine Act* to add or re-designate these lands to our Land Use Plan by way of an amendment and give them a port authority land use designation. Public consultation on this year's proposed amendments took place between June 1 and August 1, 2020.
- We reviewed and considered all feedback received and plan on making a recommendation to the board of directors in the fall. A consultation summary report is now posted to [our website](#).
- Once a decision is made, a notice of decision will be advertised on newspapers. We will also issue public and stakeholder notification, and post updates on [our website](#).

## Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Program

- The ECHO Program's new voluntary ship slowdown trial for outbound ships at Swiftsure Bank, off the southwest coast of Vancouver Island, began on August 1 and will continue through October 31, 2020. This new research trial will evaluate the amount of voluntary participation and underwater noise reduction that can be achieved by slowing down in non-piloted waters. For the first four weeks of the voluntary slowdown, 87% of large commercial vessels were able to transit the slowdown area within 1 knot of speed through water targets showing excellent participation rates so far.
- The voluntary ship slowdown in Haro Strait and Boundary Pass began on July 1, 2020, after southern resident killer whales were confirmed by to be in Haro Strait by trusted observers. For the first 11 weeks of the slowdown, 92% of large commercial ships transiting through Haro Strait and Boundary Pass reported participation in the voluntary slowdown to reduce underwater noise.
- The voluntary lateral displacement in the Strait of Juan de Fuca began on June 1, 2020. The lateral displacement involves tug and barge operators adjusting their routes to move further away from key feeding areas for southern resident killer whales. The cumulative participation rate since the lateral displacement began on June 1 is 81%.
- All three voluntary initiatives are intended to reduce underwater noise for at-risk whales. More details on the 2020 initiatives are available at [portvancouver.com/echo](http://portvancouver.com/echo).

## Tenant-led/other projects

### Univar rail expansion with tent

- *Permit approved – Category B*
- In August 2020, a project permit was issued to Univar Canada (the Applicant) to install a new 120 meter rail storage track that will twin the existing track at the southern end of their lease area at 1545 Bay Street North Vancouver. The Applicant will also install a fabric tent with LED lighting to cover both tracks, facilitate

maintenance operations and provide weather protection. The project was a category B. Construction is proposed to take place in early fall 2020 for an anticipated one month duration.

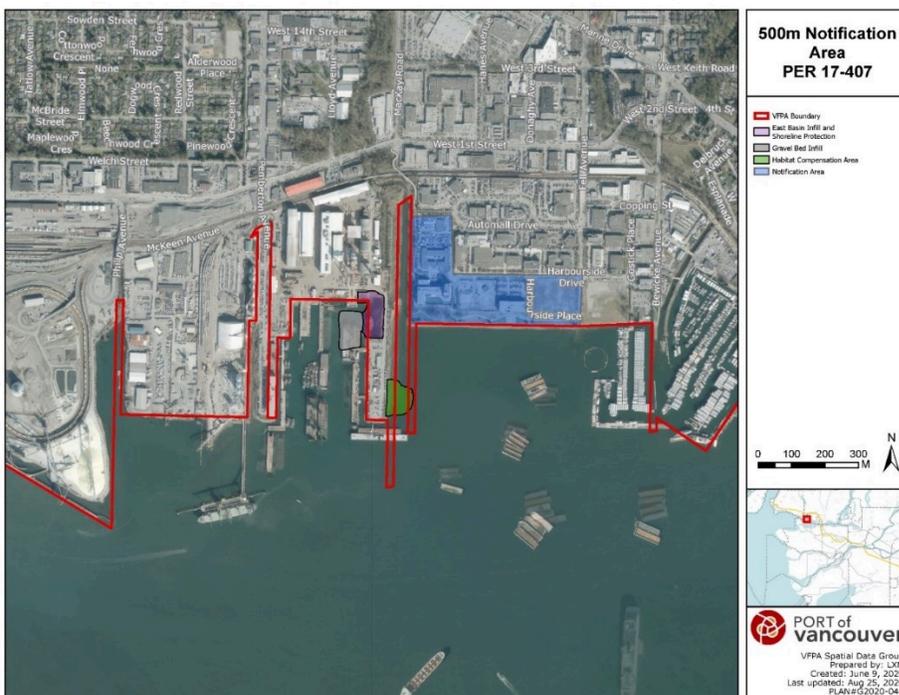
- For more information, visit our [website](#).

## Seaspan landscape, architectural and wayfinding improvements

- *Permit application under review – Category B*
- In October 2020, a project permit was issued to Seaspan ULC to complete the third and final phase of their parking lot and landscaping modifications at 50 Pemberton Ave., North Vancouver. Works are anticipated to take one year and would be during standard hours.

## Seaspan ship load-out gravel-bed and shoreline protection

- *Permit approved – Category C*
- Seaspan ULC will construct a ship load-out gravel bed and install shoreline protection in Burrard Inlet adjacent to their facility located at 10 Pemberton Avenue in North Vancouver. The gravel bed (7,500 m<sup>2</sup>) will be used to launch newly constructed Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Canadian Navy vessels. Vessels will be launched by submerging a careen to rest on the gravel bed, allowing the vessels to launch.
- Seaspan will also install slope protection using rip-rap (1,500 m<sup>2</sup>) as part of a proposed infill of the east basin at the site. The slope protection works are part of a broader project that also includes an infill of the east basin of the site. Those works are within District of North Vancouver lands and waters and is identified in purple below.
- The project will require marine habitat offsetting under a *Fisheries Act* Authorization. The proposed marine habitat is designed to enhance kelp and juvenile salmonid habitat at the estuary of MacKay Creek – which is identified in green below.
- A construction notification letter will be sent to the immediate community prior to work commencing.



## Neptune Terminals coal capacity project

- *Permit amendment issued – Category n/a*
- On January 23, 2013, a project permit was issued to Neptune Bulk Terminals (Canada) Ltd. to install additional coal handling equipment at their 1001 Low Level Road terminal
- The port authority has recently issued an authorization letter to Neptune Terminals to extend the authorization that allows them to construct outside of regular port authority construction hours for an additional 6 month period (from October 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021). This request is only associated with the Coal Capacity Project (12-066 and 12-066-1).
- A construction notice was distributed to nearby residences and businesses.
- For more information, visit our [website](#)
- The notice also contained details about an approved exemption to construction hours to allow for the offloading of the new berth 1 shiploader from the jumbo vessel transporting it from Vietnam. The vessel is scheduled to arrive on October 10 and take a week to offload the shiploader. Neptune is therefore required to work over Monday October 12 (Thanksgiving). Neptune advised that the unloading process is not expected to produce elevated construction noise levels that will concern surrounding residents.

## Neptune Terminals construction work outside regular work hours (various projects)

- *Permit amendment issued – various categories*
- Neptune Terminals has been issued a permit amendment for extended construction work hours to allow the management of various construction projects while also managing the daily operations of the terminal, utilizing working windows between train and marine traffic schedules and operational shutdowns in an effective manner
- Construction works are allowed for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (excluding statutory holidays) for six months (until September 30, 2020)
- The works are related to the following projects: Dredging to Deepen Berth 1 (PER No. 18-027), Neptune Cargill Overpass Extension (PER No. 17-131), Coal Capacity (PER No. 12-066) and West Quadrant Shiploader (PER No. 12-066-1)

## Neptune Terminals dredging to deepen berth 1

- *Permit application under review – Category B*
- In August 2020, Neptune Bulk Terminals (Canada) Ltd. submitted an amendment to project permit No. 18-027-1. The amendment would extend the permit (which is due to expire on October 31, 2020) to February 28, 2021. This extension will allow the Applicant to carry out remaining small percentage of dredging works unable to be completed during the previous least risk fish window due to construction and operational scheduling constraints. Work is proposed to be completed under existing management plans and permit conditions.
- As part of the Project and Environmental Review for the proposed project under the *Impact Assessment Act*, the proposed project was posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry with an opportunity for public comment between August 17 and September 16, 2020. The application is currently under review.
- For more information visit our [website](#)

## Neptune Terminals maintenance dredging at berth 2 and 3

- *Permit approved – Category B*
- In August 2020, a project permit was issued to conduct maintenance dredging at Berth 2 and 3 of its terminal. Dredging will be completed within the term of the permit and within the least risk window for Burrard Inlet.
- For more information visit our [website](#)

## **North shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Conveyance Project Extension Request**

- *Permit amendment approved – Category C*
- On August 13, 2020, an amendment, PER No. 17-090-03, was approved. The amendment approved an extension to the permit expiry date from December 30, 2020 to December 31, 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions and subsequent delays to the projects.

## **Trans Mountain Pipeline ULC | Westridge Marine Terminal Upgrade and Expansion Project**

- *Permit amendment approved – Designated*
- On September 17, 2020 an **approval** was given to Trans Mountain Pipeline ULC to conduct work outstand of regular work hours on two consecutive Sundays in either October or November 2020 (date to be communicated to the community in advance) in order for work to be undertaken on the Jet Fuel Line.
- This approval did not require a formal amendment process or posting to the IAA registry.
- Once the dates of work are confirmed, a construction notification will be sent to the surrounding community in both Burnaby and the District of North Vancouver.