



Meeting summary notes

East Vancouver Port Lands and Liaison Committee

Date	2021-04-07
Time	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Location	Online meeting
Chair	Naomi Horsford
Attendees	<p>Members Barb Fousek, BCA Harry Mah, BCA Kirsten Behler, City of Vancouver Mike LoVecchio, CP</p> <p>Regular participants Peter Idema, Viterra Mike LoVecchio, CP Kristen Romilly, Avant building</p> <p>Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Regan Elley, Planner Naomi Horsford, Manager, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations Alycia Majorkiewicz-Ata, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations Advisor</p> <p>Guests Dean Giles, General Manager, Columbia Containers Karen Neilson, Manager, Project Consultation, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Karen Rendek, Senior Planner, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</p>
Regrets	John Hawthorne, BCA

Agenda topic	Discussion/Action items
1. Presentations	
1.1 Vancouver Fraser Port Authority – Land Use Plan update by Karen Rendek	<p>Karen provided an overview of the port authority's updated Land Use Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Land Use Plan is one of the port authority's key guiding documents. It provides a framework to guide development decisions for the use of the lands and waters managed by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. There are seven planning areas based on geography and port-related activities. The plan also highlights current uses and expectations for future port growth, as well as recent investments in infrastructure, development and habitat. It also shows the location of major terminals and major off-dock facilities.

Agenda topic	Discussion/Action items
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are eight land and water designations, each with a specific intent and list of appropriate uses. • Any project considered on port lands or waters must be compatible with the Land Use Plan and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Letters Patent. • The 2020 Land Use Plan is an interactive pdf and is available on the port authority's website along with the land use planning area maps. <p>Discussion highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions were asked
<p>1.2 Columbia Containers container stacking by Dean Giles</p>	<p>Dean provided information about Columbia's Containers request to stack containers six high in the yard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia Containers has approached the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority with an operational change of stacking containers six high in their yards three and four, but not to exceed the maximum height guidelines as described in the EVPL Area Plan. This is a change in their current operations of stacking containers five high. • The operational change is required for and due to a multitude of reasons, including the involuntary reduction in the facility's footprint due to the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment project, steamship and terminals are forcing more containers to remain on site, land space constraints which ultimately means more congestion, less efficiency and thus more container movements and other reasons. • While the current EVPL Area plan allows for five, 9.5 feet containers to be stacked on top of one another, the plan's height guidelines also allow for heights up to 55 feet in Area 3. The height of stacking six, 8.5 feet containers is 51 feet and falls belows this guideline. • A view impact assessment was completed by Hemmera in November 2020 to assess potential visual impacts from designated viewpoints that would result from stacking empty containers from five to six containers high. • Images from eight viewpoints within the EVPL area were assessed – Burrard Park, Meditation Park, Portside View Park, 2500 Block Wall Street, Harbour View Park, 600 Block N. Pentiction Street, Commissioner Park and Dusty Greenwell Park. • Hemmera concluded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Views from the South have year-round trees and shrubbery providing mostly a vegetative screen – Views from the Easterly/Westerly have less vegetation and more open views but only a small percentage of the container property is visible – Container volumes vary by month and generally less than 75% of the East/West distance is covered by containers – Impacts to views from public viewpoints would be minimal – Water views will be partially reduced in some areas – Views of the North Shore/mountains will not be affected • As part of the port authority's decision making process, the committee is asked to provide feedback about Columbia Containers' proposed operational change to stack containers six high by end-of-day, Wednesday, April 21, 2021. <p>Discussion highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The height guideline as noted in the EVPL Plan would not be changed and would still be abided. • Concerns that the view point photos were taken in November 2020 and thus the images include corresponding foliage which is heavier than other times of

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	<p>the year. A comment was made that the angle at which the photos were taken also makes a difference when showcasing heights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parks names as labelled in the view impact assessment report are named according to the signage at the parks, with exception of two parks, which do not have signage. Concern shared that Columbia Containers continues to take away public views and that they continue to ask for more concessions <p>ACTION: As a follow-up to this meeting, and to help with the committee’s feedback regarding Columbia Container’s operations change request, the committee will be promptly sent the presentation and the view impact assessment report</p>
<p>2. New Business</p>	
<p>2.1 Early notification of the proposed Canadian Pacific (CP) East L Yard Expansion (also known as Commissioner Street Rail Expansion Project) by Mike LoVecchio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the EVPL Area Plan, Mike shared early notification of CP’s upcoming project application to add additional rail tracks which would run east along Commissioner Street towards Cascadia. Majority of the rail that will be added is within CP’s property with some overlapping sections on Port of Vancouver land, the later which is required to go through the port’s project and environmental review (PER) process. The project is in the preliminary review step of the port authority’s PER process and it will likely be classified as a category C review, and as a yellow (under the EVPL Area plan), given the project’s intended use. <p>The preliminary project description includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the Burrard Inlet Road and Rail Improvement Program, CP Rail is proposing to expand on their existing rail infrastructure in the Commissioner Street transportation corridor by adding an additional two tracks between Commissioner Street overpass in the east and Victoria Drive in the west. The Columbia Containers rail spur would also be adjusted and the road level crossing would be upgraded. A retaining wall would be added along the tracks at New Brighton Road. Anticipated schedule is February 2022 – December 2022. <p><i>A presentation will be provided once a formal application has been accepted.</i></p> <p>Discussion highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new rail tracks would not be placed closer to the bank; they would be on the inlet side of the existing rail.
<p>2.2 2020 year-in-review and survey results overview</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each year, the committee members are asked for their thoughts and feedback through an annual survey. Alycia provided an overview of the feedback received, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respondents feel that the committee continues to work well Appropriate port authority staff are attending meetings to provide updates to the group Meeting content is relevant and meetings address members concerns Meeting time is used well, seldom going off topic Successes shared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails sent with project information was appreciated Being able to connect with the City of Vancouver on other issues within the community Respectful meetings that allowed for sharing of differing viewpoints from members

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities shared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing the agenda and other meeting material with more advanced notice - Learning more about the port authority's PER process to be able to consider the community's long term plans - Reviewing the EVPL Area Plan time-to-time, to focus on roles and expectations - Finding opportunities to see perspectives from each other shoes – through use of videos and tours
2.1 Roundtable and port updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a meeting was held the week prior (March 30, 2021), there were <u>no new port updates</u> to share
2.2 Action item review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to note

Action items

Meeting Date	Action Item	Lead	Status
April 7, 2021	Email committee Columbia Container's presentation regarding their request to stack containers 6' high, as well as the view impact assessment report completed by Hemmera	Alycia, Port Authority	In progress
March 30, 2021	Email committee the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project presentation, webpage, the link to sign up for the project newsletter and a copy of the notification letter (if the amendment is approved)	Alycia, Port Authority	Completed
January 23, 2020	EVPL Members to participate on a South Shore tour	Naomi/Alycia, Port Authority	On hold until post COVID