

Maple Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee

Recommended Short Term High Priority EMS Implementation Items 2017-2020

EMS Strategy/Action Implementation Item Priority Short Term Items Recommended	Related and Overlapping EMS Strategies Highlighted Yellow Priority Items See P. 55 EMS Report	Rationale	Staff/ Resources Required and EAC Role/Responsibilities	Opportunities/ Considerations
Improve Environmental Communications & Marketing Strategies	C1b Refine communications processes C2a Update website as info hub C2b Environmental marketing & communications strategy C3a Expand environmental education and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gaps with respect to sharing info with public and community stakeholders on existing environmental programs, rationale, successes associated with these programs - Help create clear guidelines & road map for development users on how to work with existing environmental programs/tools - Continue to invest in strong stewardship ethic in community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Env Advisory Committee Lead - Environmental Staff assist - City Communications Dept. - Stewardship organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scoping report for Council's consideration. EAC members provide feedback for ongoing communications action items including the following: - Clarify requirements associated with permits and processes - Support environmental awareness and conservation opportunities - Marketing & outreach celebrating natural environment & local opportunities - Raise awareness about ongoing environmental programs, rationale, processes and successes across the community through social media & website campaigns
Update the Watercourse Protection Bylaw	B3a Update Watercourse Development Permit & Watercourse Protect Bylaw B4a Stormwater/Rainwater Bylaw update B9a Integrate monitoring & enforcement into processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates required to reflect current federal & provincial agency requirements - Improve efficiencies in process - Stronger Enforcement language required - Clarification required on setback variances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Municipal Environment Staff prepare report(s) - Env Advisory Committee (EAC) Advisory Role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OCP Amendment required - Public Consultation process likely required - Consistent with new legislative/regulatory requirements - Greater efficiencies cost savings for City
Develop Natural Asset Inventory and Natural Capital Evaluation Project Municipal "Green Infrastructure Strategy"	A1a Sustainable management plans at broad scale A3a Quantify values of natural Assets B2f Urban Forest Mgmt Plan B7a System for sustainable review B9a Integrate Monitoring into policies and processes B9b Use indicators and targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close existing gaps in municipal inventory on municipal forest assets, status of urban forests, condition/health of trees - Promote better understanding of why/how forest/trees and green infrastructure & natural assets are important to municipality and citizens from economic, social, & ecological perspectives - Quantitative/Qualitative assessment of benefits & services provided to community from natural assets and green infrastructure - Provide options for Council to consider with respect to next steps and link to existing strategic priorities and strategic objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Municipal Environment Staff - Information Tech & Parks Dept. - BCIT Forestry, Geomatics, Fish Wildlife Programs - Metro Van. Sustainability Grants - Potential BCIT Grant - EAC Advisory Role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scoping Report for Councils consideration - Inventory and Measurement Opportunities through BCIT & possibly MV - Develop Municipal Green Infrastructure Strategy for urban areas - Explore potential applications across City i.e. urban greenspaces & landscaping DP guidelines, climate action change impact resiliency, health & safety, economic/social vibrancy for urban infill areas & importance of natural infrastructure, financial analysis of benefits/costs associated with GI, shared resources and department tools, ecological health, performance targets & connections to nature for Maple Ridge
Update Natural Features Mapping with Provincial Aquifer Mapping	A1c Groundwater Mgmt B34 Update Natural Features DP mapping B5b New Natural Features DP map C3a Expand environ. education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness about sensitivity/importance of groundwater and vulnerable aquifer areas across the City - Update OCP mapping and NFDMP mapping to reflect most accurate Provincial designations and locations of vulnerable aquifers - Provide options for consideration with OCP amendments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MFLNRO - Municipal Environment Staff - EAC Advisory Role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates to Provincial Vulnerable Aquifer Mapping - Possible OCP Amendment & reference to groundwater conservation tools - Increase awareness of groundwater sensitivities and requirements - Increase awareness & tools regarding watershed management & health
Ecological Network Management Strategy – Prepare a Scoping Report on Issues, Options/Tools and Short Term Actions	A1a Sustainable Development Plans at broader municipal scale A2a Ecological Network Management Strategy A1d Collaborate on broad scale mgmt. plans for ecological health B1a Develop incentives and tools for nature protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify key priority habitat management areas & corridors that are critical to ecological health for City but are currently not protected by regulations or outside jurisdiction area - Evaluate potential strategies/tools/and possible fiscal incentives to assist the City in protecting or managing these sensitive conservation areas with land owners and other parties - Ongoing expansion of wildlife interface areas, forest edges, & need for best mgmt. practices/ education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environment Staff prepare report(s) to Council - EAC Advisory Role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scoping report for Councils consideration on the following: - To help understand the range of benefits and tools associated with ecological networks and environmental health including: - Municipal wildlife protection and management plans (hubs, corridors, connections and bio-diversity, endangered species, forest edges) - Inventory of natural assets and possible natural capital evaluation; - Watershed Mgmt. Plans. Explore potential partnerships with community forest stakeholders including Senior Agencies, woodlot managers, First Nations, recreational stakeholders to develop mutual watershed mgmt. objectives; - Potential urban forest management strategy. How can this help our community.
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Glossary of Terms – Acronyms

BCIT – British Columbia Institute of Technology

MV – Metro Vancouver Regional Gov.

SPR – Streamside Protection Regulations

EAC – Maple Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee

NFDMP – Natural Features Development Permit

WPDP – Watercourse Protection Development Permit

EMS – Environmental Management Strategy Report 2014

OCP – Official Community Plan Maple Ridge

SEI – Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory (federal/provincial standards)