

To: Fraser Valley Regional District Board

Date: 2020-11-10

From: Jaime Reilly, Director of Legislative Services and  
Pam Loat, Legislative Coordinator

File No: 3920-20

**Subject: Northside Garbage Service Areas Restructuring**

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### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Fraser Valley Regional District Board consider giving three readings to the bylaws cited as:

- Bylaw No. 1596, 2020 Electoral Area C Garbage Disposal Service Area Amendment: and
- Bylaw No. 1595, 2020 Electoral Areas F & G Garbage Disposal Service Area Conversion and Amendment

### STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

### BACKGROUND

There are currently two FVRD garbage disposal service areas functioning on the north side of the Fraser River:

1. *Regional District of Fraser Cheam (RDFC) Harrison Mills and Vicinity Garbage Collection and Disposal Specified Area Establishment Bylaw No. 46, 1974*, established the Harrison Mills and Vicinity Garbage Collection and Disposal service. It was subsequently converted into and established as a local service area by *Fraser Valley Regional District Harrison Mills and Vicinity Garbage Collection and Disposal Service Area Conversion Bylaw No. 208, 1997*. The service area includes the majority of Electoral Area C, but does not include the Lake Errock portion of Area C. There are two transfer stations in the service area, one in Hemlock Valley and the other in Harrison Mills.
2. The Dewdney Alouette Regional District (DARD) garbage disposal function was established by supplementary Letters Patent dated October 9, 1975. These supplementary Letters Patent established the service for DARD Electoral Areas B, C, D and E, which equate to the portion of Area G not including Sumas Mountain, the Lake Errock portion of Area C, and the South Eastern Portion of Area F. This function has not since been converted into a service area by bylaw. There is one transfer station within the area of service, which is the Sylvester Road Transfer Station.

The Harrison Mills and Vicinity Garbage Disposal Service Area has a remaining amount of approximately \$68,900 in its Capital Reserve Fund and \$86,700 in Appropriated Surplus. The DARD garbage disposal function has a remaining amount of approximately \$35,800 in its Capital Reserve Fund and \$9,000 in Appropriated Surplus.

## DISCUSSION

The Directors of Electoral Areas F, G and C have been meeting with FVRD staff to realign the service area boundaries of those garbage disposal services to correspond with current FVRD Electoral Area boundaries, reflect more closely on how residents use such services, and make the costs more equitable throughout the Electoral Areas.

The Sylvester Road Transfer Station is a considerable distance from Lake Errock, and therefore it is more reasonable for those properties to be included within the service that contains the Harrison Mills Transfer Station. *Bylaw No. 1595, 2020* excludes the Lake Errock Area from the service using the Sylvester Road Transfer Station and *Bylaw No. 1596, 2020* adds Lake Errock to the service using the Harrison Mills Transfer Station.

*Bylaw No. 1595, 2020* also amends the existing service area to include a larger portion of Area F. The northwestern portion remains excluded from the service under the reasonable assumption that those property owners would access garbage disposal services within Metro Vancouver due to their location. The resulting financial impact\* on properties, based on a residential assessment of \$300,000 is as follows:

- Properties already in the service area would see a decrease in taxation of \$0.45.
- There are residential properties in Electoral Area F which are proposed to be added to the service area. All properties in the amended service area would pay \$26.31.

*Bylaw No. 1596, 2020* would include the entirety of Electoral Area C and rename the service accordingly. The resulting financial impact\* on properties, based on a residential assessment of \$300,000 is as follows:

- In the Lake Errock portion, taxes would be increased by \$6.96.
- In the current Harrison Mills Service Area, taxes would be decreased by \$54.38.
- There are properties in Electoral Area C proposed to be added to the service area. All properties in the amended service area would pay \$33.72.

Staff are working towards realigning the service area boundaries for the 2021 taxation year. In order to meet those upcoming timelines, consultation with the property owners of Electoral Areas C, F and G are underway with respect to the proposed service area adjustments. Area-wide mailouts will allow for feedback to be considered by the Electoral Area Directors prior to the consideration of adopting these draft bylaws.

*\*The financial impacts are estimates of taxation scenarios based upon 2020 taxation levels. These estimates do not consider any 2021 new budgetary items.*

## **COST**

Costs associated with the mailout will be limited to staff time and postage.

## **CONCLUSION**

By amending the two garbage disposal service areas, taxation amounts will be made more equitable and will be lowered for the majority of property owners in Electoral Areas F, G and C. The changes will also more accurately reflect the usage of the transfer stations by residents.

## **COMMENTS BY:**

**Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering & Community Services:** Reviewed and supported.

**Kelly Lownsborough, Chief Financial Officer/ Director of Finance:** Reviewed and supported.

**Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer:** Reviewed and supported.