

KELOWNA

RDCO board highlights

*by Contributed - Story: 63212
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The following are highlights of the Regional District of Central Okanagan board meeting held Thursday, July 14, 2011.



Photo: Contributed

New Water System Reservoir - The Regional Board has authorized a contract for construction of a reservoir for the Upper Fintry, Shalal Road and Valley of the Sun subdivisions. The bid of \$736,166 excluding HST plus a \$73,617.70 contingency by Greyback Construction Limited was the lower of six qualified bids received. Construction on the 1.4-million litre reservoir for the new water system should be complete by this fall and will for the first time provide water service to more than 340 properties in the three subdivisions adjacent to north Westside Road in the Central Okanagan East Electoral Area.

Basin Water Board Program Supported - The Regional Board has reaffirmed endorsement of the Okanagan Basin Water Board Water Management Program. Since the program was initially endorsed in 2009 it has completed a \$3-million Water Supply and Demand Assessment, developed a Water Use Reporting Tool to track major water extractions from Okanagan lakes and streams, and developed a Groundwater Bylaws toolkit to help local governments protect their aquifers. The North Okanagan and Okanagan Similkameen regional districts will also be asked for their continued support. The Board will also send a letter to the Ministry of Environment reaffirming support for and the importance of the OBWB's milfoil control and harvesting program.

Kelowna Regional Transit Fare Increase - The Regional Board has approved negotiations between the City of Kelowna and University of British Columbia - Okanagan for a proposed rate increase for the U-Pass program. Any increase would require approval of UBC-O students and the University Board of Governors and would take effect on September 1st, 2012. After consideration by local municipal councils, the Regional Board will consider a general increase in transit fares and passes for the New Year. It's proposed that cash fares for convention transit and handyDART users rise January 1st by 25 cents while monthly passes would go up approximately 12 per cent or \$7.00 more for an adult pass. This would be the first increase in Kelowna Regional Transit fares September 2007.

Regional Growth Strategy - The Regional Board has authorized some expanded categories for further consideration in the overall Regional Growth Strategy review. After consultations with local governments, stakeholders and the public the Board has supported adding energy and greenhouse gas emissions, recreation space and sensitive areas, rural land protection and agriculture and lake and stream issues to the previously identified key areas of air, economic development, environment, housing, regional governance and service delivery, transportation and water resources in the Regional Growth Strategy review.

Kelowna Dirt Bike Club Lease Referral - The Regional Board has given conditional support to a referral application from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations by the Kelowna Dirt Bike Club. The Board supports a ten-year license renewal for the 12.15-hectare club

facility developed adjacent to Bear Creek Main Forest Service Road. The license includes a 60-day cancellation clause. The Regional Board has asked that the license include a condition requiring the Dirt Bike Club to report annually to the Board on activities and compliance with a Supreme Court consent order

Governance and Services Meeting - The Governance and Services Committee will meet Thursday, August 11th at 8:30 a.m. in the Woodhaven Board Room at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna. Residents are welcome to attend.

Regional Board Meetings

Regional District office – 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna (Woodhaven Board Room). Residents are welcome to attend.

- Monday, July 25 – 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 11 – after an 8:30 a.m. Governance & Services Committee meeting
- Monday, August 22 – 7:00 p.m.