



Agriculture Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 16, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Annacis Room, Delta City Hall

4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent, Delta, BC

Present: Councillor Alicia Guichon Chair
Councillor Rod Binder Vice-Chair
Jerry Keulen
Lydia Ryall
Mike Schneider*
Christine Terpsma
Nancy Chong
Paul van Westendorp

Regrets: Cory Gerrard

Resource Members: Christine Schmalz* DFWT Representative (*joined at 7:23 p.m.*)

Staff: Marcy Sangret Acting City Manager
Joanne Kleb Acting Director, Communications &
Engagement
Dan Cooper Director, Parks & Planning
Harvy Takhar Manager, Drainage & Natural Hazards
Celeste Barlow Staff Liaison and Planner
Jessica Gruchey Committee Clerk

*By Videoconference

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that this meeting took place on the shared, traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the scəwáθən (Tsawwassen), xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), and other Coast Salish Peoples. We extend our appreciation to these First Nations for the opportunity to hold this meeting here today.

AGENDA ENDORSEMENT

MOVED By L. Ryall,

SECONDED By N. Chong, THAT the October 16, 2025 Agriculture Advisory Committee agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the April 24, 2025 Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting

MOVED By C. Terpsma,

SECONDED By J. Keulen, THAT the Minutes of the April 24, 2025 Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PRESENTATIONS

2. **Farm Buildings Update**

Materials

- PowerPoint presentation titled “Farm Structures: Agricultural Advisory Committee Update” [On Table]

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, staff provided an update on farm buildings on agricultural land, including background information on the project, next steps, and staff recommendations for developing regulatory or procedural enhancements for farm structures.

C. Schmalz joined the meeting (7:23 p.m.)

Staff then provided an overview of the engagement process and discussed the proposed Farm Structures Workshop, which will take place prior to Agriculture Advisory Committee’s (AAC) endorsement and the submission of a report to Council.

MOVED By L. Ryall,

SECONDED By N. Chong, that the presentation regarding Farm Buildings Update be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **John Oliver Master Plan Update**

Materials

- PowerPoint presentation titled “John Oliver Park Master Plan”

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, staff provided an overview of the proposed John Oliver Master Plan Update, including context on the current site and the proposed enhancements. Staff concluded by outlining the next steps in the engagement process.

MOVED By L. Ryall,

SECONDED By N. Chong, that the presentation regarding John Oliver Master Plan Update be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. Kleb and D. Cooper departed the meeting (8:31 p.m.).

4. **Engineering Update**

Materials

- PowerPoint presentation titled “Engineering Update” [On Table]

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, staff provided an engineering update, which included: (i) an irrigation season recap, (ii) 2023 IAF grant projects, (iii) the 2024 IAF grant project, and (iv) an update on 2025 IAF grant projects.

Staff then spoke to other notable projects such as the Beharrell Pump Station Upgrade, gate automation at the Tamboline Road and Swenson floodboxes, and the Rural Road Improvement Program.

MOVED By N. Chong,

SECONDED By C. Terpsma, that the presentation regarding Engineering Update be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. Takhar departed the meeting (9:06 p.m.).

VERBAL UPDATES

5. **Fraser River Tunnel Project Agricultural Impact and Project Status Update**

Materials

- Report by the Corporate Services Department dated June 5, 2025 regarding Fraser River Tunnel Project: Environmental Assessment Update
- Extract of Minutes from the June 23, 2025 Regular Council meeting regarding Fraser River Tunnel Project: Environmental Assessment Update

Staff noted the project is still in the environmental assessment phase and that representatives from the Transportation Investment Corporation are scheduled to present at an upcoming Regular Council meeting. An update to the Committee regarding the project could be provided at a future meeting.

MOVED By C. Terpsma,

SECONDED By N. Chong, that verbal update regarding Fraser River Tunnel Project be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **Delta Fresh Project Status Update**

Staff provided an update on the Delta Fresh application and advised that the applicant is requesting an amendment to the previously conditionally approved application to allow for a broader definition of permitted land uses. Council has requested that the applicant present at a future Regular Council meeting.

MOVED By C. Terpsma,

SECONDED By P. van Westendorp, that verbal update regarding Delta Fresh Project Status Update be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STANDING ITEMS

7. **Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust (DFWT)**

Christine Schmalz, DFWT representative, advised that Day at the Farm took place in September with over 5,000 people in attendance, and noted that securing funding is becoming increasingly difficult. C. Schmalz also reported that cover crops are being planted across Delta, with acreage numbers similar to last year.

The Chair departed the meeting (9:13 p.m.).

The Chair returned to the meeting (9:15 p.m.).

8. **Metro Vancouver Agriculture Advisory Committee**

Lydia Ryall, Metro Vancouver AAC Committee representative, advised that at the June Metro Vancouver AAC meeting, there was discussion on agri-tech and burning protocols.

9. **Ministry of Agriculture and Food**

No update for this meeting.

10. **Project Pickle**

Mike Schneider advised that the Southlands teaching farm has been a success, and that several field trips are being planned in the coming weeks.

MOVED By L. Ryall,
SECONDED By P. van Westendorp, that Standing Items 7 to 10 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION ITEM

11. **Delta's Community Food Charter**

Staff provided a brief update on Delta's Community Food Charter and advised that Delta is a signatory along with other partners..

Materials

- Report by the Corporate Services Department dated June 3, 2025 regarding Delta Community Food Charter
- Extract of Minutes from the June 9, 2025 Regular Council meeting regarding Delta Community Food Charter
- Community Food Charter For Delta Brochure

M. Schneider departed the meeting (9:26 p.m.).

NEXT MEETING

December 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Delta City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED By J. Keulen,
SECONDED By P. van Westendorp, THAT the meeting adjourn (9:31 p.m.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Alicia Guichon
Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Jessica Gruchey
Committee Clerk