

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

**RE: STILL CREEK WATERSHED INTEGRATED STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT STUDY**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information.

R E P O R T

The Environment Committee, at its Open meeting held on 2003 December 09, received and adopted the *attached* report regarding the progress and development of the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan for the Still Creek Watershed. The Committee advised that a joint study by Burnaby, Vancouver and the GVRD was initiated in 2003 to work on the plan. The study is approximately 60% complete. A preliminary framework for the management plan incorporating the flood management, environmental protection and recreation enhancement components has been developed.

Public open houses and stakeholder workshops have been held to solicit input and comment on the management plan framework and the consultation process. A draft plan will be produced by Spring 2004 at which time it will be presented to the Environment Committee and Council for comment followed by a public consultation period.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

Councillor C. Redman
Member

COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING
- DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2003 12 01

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 31000-40 (Still Creek)

SUBJECT: STILL CREEK WATERSHED INTEGRATED STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT STUDY

PURPOSE: To inform the Committee and Council of the progress and development of the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan for the Still Creek Watershed.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Committee forward this report to Council for information.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In 1997, a Brunette Basin Task Group comprised of staff members from the cities of Vancouver, Burnaby, Coquitlam and New Westminster, GVRD, UBC, BCIT, Ministry of Water, Lands and Air Protection, Department of Fisheries and Sapperton Fish and Game Club was formed to develop watershed management strategies for the Brunette drainage basin and to coordinate watershed related activities amongst the municipalities, regulatory agencies and local stream stewardship groups.

Over the past six years, the Task Group has facilitated the development of the watershed management plans for the Brunette and Stoney Creek watersheds. As population and businesses continue to grow in the Brentwood Town Centre and the Still Creek corridor, Burnaby identified the need for a stormwater management study in the 2003 Capital Program to develop the appropriate flood management and environmental protection strategies for future developments in the Still Creek watershed. The Still Creek watershed is contained within both Vancouver and Burnaby and management of Still Creek falls under the jurisdiction of the GVRD. Consequently a joint study involving Burnaby, Vancouver and the GVRD was initiated in March 2003. Development and coordination of the study has been through the Brunette Basin Task Group.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee and Council on the progress of the joint study.

2.0 THE STILL CREEK INTEGRATED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - HEALTHY STREAMS OR PIPE DREAMS?

2.1 Background

The Still Creek watershed (Figure 1) covers approximately 30 square kilometres of land of which 65% is located in Burnaby and the remaining 35% in Vancouver. The headwater of Still Creek starts in Renfrew Ravine near the 29th Avenue Skytrain Station in Vancouver. The creek meanders through the Grandview/Boundary industrial area and flows into Burnaby. While much of Still Creek is day-lighted, it was heavily channelized during the period from 1960's to 1970's to improve its drainage conveyance capacity. Although the lands within the watershed are largely developed, there is an abundance of wildlife that co-exists with the human population. As redevelopment continues to take place in the watershed, it is imperative that the integrity of the existing ecosystems be protected and also that appropriate flood reduction strategies be implemented to achieve the sustainable growth objective.

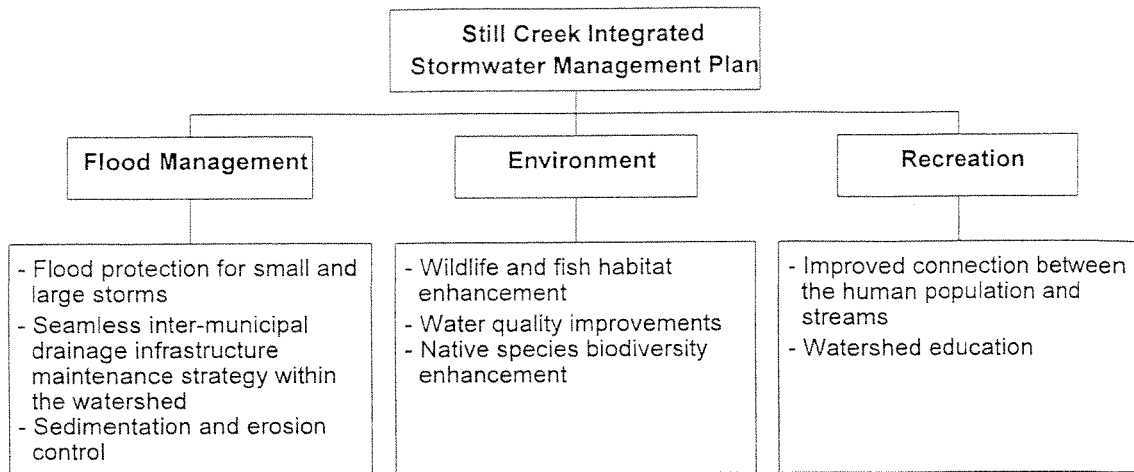
2.2 The Plan

Understanding the significant environmental and drainage issues in the watershed helps the development of the integrated stormwater management plan framework for the watershed. The joint study for the Still Creek watershed integrated stormwater management plan is currently underway and the work completed so far has identified three key themes:

- flood management,
- environmental protection,
- recreational enhancement.

A series of preliminary goals, strategies and possible action items have been identified for each theme and are included in Attachment "A"*. These strategies and possible action items will be subject to further screening and analysis with respect to financial, environmental, land use and engineering factors. The analysis will be performed at a conceptual design level to help assess the feasibility and advisability of each strategy and option. A summary of the key components of the management plan framework is given as follows:

* PROVIDED UNDER SEPARATE COVER



2.3 Public Consultation

Since the initiation of the project in March 2003, there have been a total of four public open house and stakeholder meetings to introduce the study to the public and to seek input on the preliminary strategies, options and possible action items. Further public open house meetings will be held in Spring 2004 to report on the option evaluation results.

2.4 Study Schedule

Based on the progress of the study program, it is anticipated that the draft plan will be completed in Spring 2004. The draft plan will then be presented to Council and the public for further comment and input prior to it being finalized.

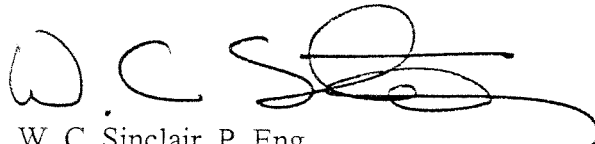
3.0 CONCLUSION

The Still Creek watershed is one of the most developed urban watersheds in the region yet it is also home to a diverse population of wildlife and fish species. With the continuing population growth in the watershed, a management plan integrating flood management and environmental protection principles must be developed to accommodate development while preserving the environment and improving flood protection along the Still Creek corridor.

Still Creek has a long history of flooding and water quality concerns. A joint study by Burnaby, Vancouver and the GVRD was initiated in 2003 to develop an integrated stormwater management plan for the Still Creek watershed. The study is approximately 60% complete. A preliminary framework for the management plan incorporating the flood management, environmental protection and recreation enhancement components has been developed.

Public open houses and stakeholder workshops have been held to solicit input and comment on the management plan framework and the consultation process. A draft plan will be produced by Spring 2004 at which time it will be presented to the Committee and Council for comment followed by a public consultation period. The goal of the joint study is to develop short and long term action plans to address the flooding and environmental protection issues in the watershed. The results of the study will be used in shaping the future and vision of a balanced management plan for the watershed.

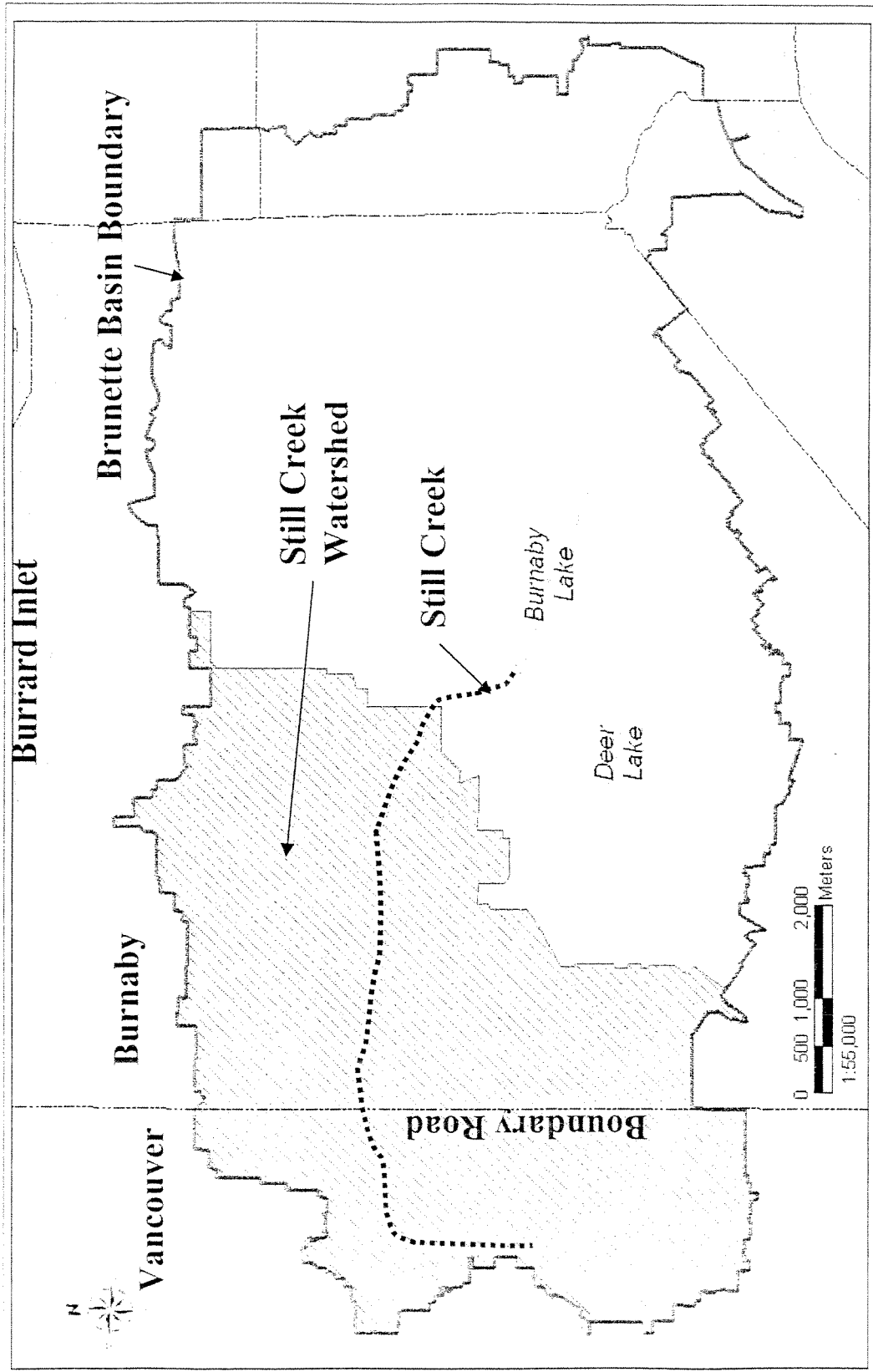
This interim project progress report is provided for Council's information.



W. C. Sinclair, P. Eng.
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

LSC:dh
Attachment

cc: City Manager
Director Planning & Building
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services



Brunette Basin Watershed

FIGURE 1 – STILL CREEK WATERSHED

APPENDIX A

**STILL CREEK WATERSHED INTEGRATED
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STUDY**

**DRAFT GOALS, STRATEGIES
AND ACTION ITEMS**

(For discussion only, subject to further evaluation and review)

Section A:	Flood Management
Section B:	Environment
Section C:	Recreation

(Provided under separate cover)

