

COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: WATERWAYS OF BURNABY - HERITAGE CREEK NAME PROJECT
SELECTION OF NEW CREEK NAMES**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

Burnaby City Council, at its Closed meeting held on 2012 September 10, received and adopted the *attached* report from the Community Heritage Commission proposing new creek names for 39 unnamed waterways in Burrard Inlet Watershed, Central Valley Watershed and Fraser River Watershed. The new names will provide enhanced recognition and profile for these valuable environmental features of the City.

A newly revised *Waterways of Burnaby* map poster will be printed and made available for the public as part of the 2012 World Rivers Day activities being planned for at the BCIT Burnaby Campus on Wednesday, 2012 September 26.

This report is provided for public information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Jordan
Chair

Councillor N. Volkow
Vice Chair

Councillor R. Chang
Member

Copied to:	City Manager Director Planning & Building
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**SUBJECT: WATERWAYS OF BURNABY - HERITAGE CREEK NAME PROJECT
SELECTION OF NEW CREEK NAMES**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council adopt the proposed heritage creek names as outlined in this report as the official new names for these waterways.
2. THAT staff be authorized to revise the Waterways of Burnaby map poster to incorporate the new creek names for distribution at the City's World Rivers Day event on September 26, 2012.
3. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for their information.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

At its 2012 March 12 meeting, Council approved a report from the Community Heritage Commission recommending a final phase of Burnaby's "Heritage Creek Name Project" and the production of an updated *Waterways of Burnaby* map poster as part of the City's 2012 Environment Week and World Rivers Day programs.

The Community Heritage Commission and Environment Committee through a joint project has provided Burnaby's citizens with the opportunity to participate in this initiative by submitting nominations for new creek names for 39 unnamed waterways throughout the City. This project is an integral part of the City's ongoing environmental sustainability and heritage programs to better promote Burnaby's waterways and their unique history, location and environmental values. This report provides an overview of the 2012 Heritage Creek Name Project and the recommended new creek names for the consideration and approval of Council.

Copied to:	City Manager Deputy City Managers (2) Director Planning and Building Acting Director Engineering Director Parks, Rec. & Cult. Services Chief Librarian
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2.0 2012 HERITAGE CREEK NAME PROJECT

Following Council's approval of a new phase of the Heritage Creek Name Project on 2012 March 12, City staff initiated and completed the public process for the nomination and selection of new creek names. An updated *Waterways of Burnaby* map poster was made available to the public on a dedicated project webpage of the City's website. An on-line interactive map with a description of each unnamed creek with an electronic nomination form was also developed and implemented. Printed copies of the new map poster were made available to the public during Burnaby Environment Week at civic events and included distribution through City Hall, public libraries, community centres and schools. A total of 110 public nominations were submitted to the Heritage Creek Name Project between June 3 – August 31, 2012.

In order for a creek name nomination to be considered, it was required to meet the following criteria:

Does the nominated creek name uniquely describe and celebrate either:

- *the location or character of the creek;*
- *the history of the creek and/or the neighbourhood;*
- *the ecosystem sustained by the creek (including unique fish, wildlife or plants); and/or*
- *a person instrumental in preserving this creek and/or the environment of Burnaby.*

An ad hoc sub-committee, consisting of members of the Community Heritage Commission and Environment Committee, reviewed all qualified submitted creek name nominations together with additional information that referenced each creek's unique environment and history. The following names form the final recommended creek names for consideration and approval.

BURRARD INLET WATERSHED (see Attachment 1)

BI-1 Gull Creek

This watercourse flows north from Montrose Park into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: Gull bird populations are found in the foreshore area here.

BI-2 Tunnel Creek

This watercourse flows north from Montrose Park into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: This creek is located adjacent to the City's historic water distribution system opened in 1911 with a water tunnel under Burrard Inlet connected to the Seymour Reservoir.

BI-3 Crabtown Creek

This watercourse flows north from Montrose Park into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: To commemorate the people who lived along an area of Burnaby's Burrard Inlet shoreline in a village called Crabtown from the 1920s to 1957.

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From: Community Heritage Commission
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BI-4 Starfish Creek

This watercourse is adjacent to the Chevron Buffer Zone and flows north into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: The foreshore area in Burrard Inlet includes the Purple Ochre Sea Star (starfish).

BI-5 Mill Creek

This watercourse is adjacent to the Chevron Buffer Zone and flows north into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: Cedar trees around this creek were logged at the turn of the century and sent to mills including the nearby Burrard Lumber Company for shingle and lumber production.

BI-6 Huckleberry Creek

This watercourse is adjacent to Barnet Marine Park and flows north into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: The area includes many Huckleberry shrubs native to Burnaby and important to wildlife habitat on Burnaby Mountain and Burrard Inlet.

BI-7 Takaya Creek

This watercourse is located in the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area and flows north along the City's boundary with Port Moody into Burrard Inlet.

Rationale: The word Takaya means 'wolf' in the language of the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation of Burrard Inlet, who through their legends consider themselves the "Children of Takaya".

CENTRAL VALLEY WATERSHED (see Attachments 2 & 3)

CV-1 Corvus Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Still Creek between Willingdon Avenue and Westminster Avenue.

Rationale: This creek is located near one of Metro Vancouver's largest roost sites for the Northwestern Crow, which has the Latin species name of Corvus caurinus.

CV-2 Willow Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Still Creek between Willingdon Avenue and Westminster Avenue.

Rationale: Willow shrubs are found along the banks of Still Creek in this area.

CV-3 Cutthroat Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows south into Still Creek between Willingdon Avenue and Westminster Avenue.

Rationale: Cutthroat Trout have been identified historically in the watershed.

CV-4 Stickleback Creek

This watercourse flows south into Still Creek adjacent to Westminster Avenue.

Rationale: The Stickleback fish species have been identified in the watershed.

CV-5 Elk Creek

This watercourse flows south into Still Creek between Westminster Avenue and Douglas Road.

Rationale: Elk were numerous in Burnaby's Central Valley prior to 1900.

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CV-6 Cranberry Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Still Creek between Douglas Road and Kensington Avenue.

Rationale: Native cranberry shrubs grew in abundance in the peat bogs surrounding Burnaby Lake and were harvested by First Nations.

CV-7 Black Bear Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Still Creek between Douglas Road and Kensington Avenue.

Rationale: Black Bears were abundant in the area until the 1920s and have recently returned to Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park.

CV-8 Dragonfly Creek

This watercourse flows north into Still Creek adjacent to Kensington Avenue.

Rationale: Dragonfly species are found throughout in the Burnaby Lake/Still Creek area. This creek name would recognize one of the many invertebrates of this ecosystem.

CV-9 Spartan Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows south into Still Creek between Kensington Avenue and Sperling Avenue.

Rationale: The Spartan Oil Well Company located their unsuccessful operation near this creek in 1922 to explore tar and oil deposits found in the peat bog at this location.

CV-10 Pole Line Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Still Creek adjacent to Sperling Avenue.

Rationale: This creek is a historic ditch built to drain Pole Line Road built in 1905 for the power transmission line from Buntzen Lake Power Plant. The road was renamed to Sperling Avenue in 1912.

CV-11 Bog Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows east into Still Creek east of Sperling Avenue.

Rationale: This name recognizes the large peat bog ecosystem surrounding Burnaby Lake/Still Creek.

CV-12 Phillips Creek

This watercourse flows south into Burnaby Lake adjacent to Phillips Avenue.

Rationale: Named for Phillips Avenue which follows this creek which was named after Lozells pioneer George Phillips.

CV-13 Lozells Creek

This watercourse flows south into Burnaby Lake adjacent to Lozells Avenue.

Rationale: Named for Lozells Avenue which follows this creek. Lozells is the historic name of this district established in 1908 and named by the pioneer Ward family formerly of Lozells Parish, Birmingham, England.

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CV-14A Salmonberry Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: The creek is located adjacent to areas of native Salmonberry shrubs (*Rubus ursinus*).

CV-14B Sculpin Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: Prickly Sculpin fish have been identified historically in the Brunette River.

CV-15 Rudolph Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: Named to recognize Elmer Rudolph, who has been instrumental as part of the Sapperton Fish and Game Club in reviving and protecting the Brunette River. He is a 1996 Burnaby Environmental Award recipient.

CV-16 Trolley Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: To commemorate the historic Burnaby Lake interurban trolley line which was operated by the BC Electric Railway Company from 1911-1953 and where this creek in part follows its now abandoned rail-bed.

CV-17 Ancient Grove Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: To commemorate the old growth forest (100 to 200 years old) of Red Cedar, Sitka Spruce, and Western Hemlock species in the conservation area.

CV-18 Kingfisher Creek

This watercourse flows north into the Brunette River between Cariboo Road and North Road.
Rationale: Belted Kingfisher birds have been observed in the area.

CV-19 Coldicutt Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north through Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park into the Brunette River east of the Stormont Interchange.
Rationale: Historically known as Coldicutt Creek, this name was derived from Coldicutt Street which recognized Burnaby pioneer Thomas D. Coldicutt who moved to East Burnaby in 1908 and served as Burnaby Councillor from 1910-1911.

CV-20 Lawson Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north to Burnaby Lake adjacent to Highway 1.
Rationale: Named to recognize Doreen Lawson who served as Burnaby Councillor for 23 years and who championed the preservation of Burnaby Lake and the City's watercourses.

CV-21 Skunk Cabbage Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north to Burnaby Lake adjacent to Highway 1.
Rationale: The Skunk Cabbage plant is found throughout this area and Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park.

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CV-22 Rayside Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north to Burnaby Lake adjacent to Highway 1.

Rationale: This creek is located near Rayside Street, and the old location of Rayside station of the Burnaby Lake interurban trolley line. Rayside was named in 1911 after Arthur G. Ray and Samuel S. Ray, pioneers of the Burnaby Lake District.

CV-23 Thomas Creek

This watercourse with multiple ditched tributaries adjacent to Thomas Street and Sperling Avenue flow east to Burnaby Lake.

Rationale: Named after the historic Thomas Street which this waterway forms a major drainage ditch.

CV-24 Turtle Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows north into Deer Lake.

Rationale: Several turtle species are found throughout Deer Lake Park.

CV-25 Angelo Creek

This fish-bearing watercourse flows southeast to Deer Lake.

Rationale: Named to recognize Burnaby resident Mark Angelo who is an Order of Canada recipient and founder of World Rivers Day. As the Chair of the Rivers Institute of the BC Institute of Technology, he has been instrumental in initiating and promoting many watercourse restoration projects in Burnaby's Central Valley.

FRASER RIVER WATERSHED (see Attachment 4)

It is noted that the remaining unnamed waterways in the Fraser River Watershed are composed of ditches or 'sloughs' constructed for the purpose of drainage and ecosystem enhancement. As such, these unique and valuable waterways have been named using the term 'slough' - which better defines these waterways as being located in the City's tidal marsh area of the North Arm of the Fraser River.

FR-1 Byrne Slough

This watercourse flows south into the Fraser River.

Rationale: This historic waterway is the last remaining section of the old Byrne Road ditch constructed for transportation of logs in the 1890s. Byrne Road was named after Pat and Peter Byrne, brothers from Ireland, with Peter serving as Burnaby Councillor from 1894-1905 and Reeve from 1906-1910.

FR-2 Tillicum Slough

This ditched watercourse flows south into the Fraser River.

Rationale: This creek was the mouth of an old drainage channel at the foot of Tillicum Street. Tillicum is a "Chinook Jargon" term meaning 'people'. Chinook Jargon was the historic trade language of the Fraser River and Pacific Northwest and incorporates the language of the Salish First Nations.

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FR-3 Swing Bridge Slough

This ditched watercourse flows south into the Fraser River.

Rationale: This watercourse runs parallel to the western side of the CNR Railroad tracks and the steel swing bridge constructed in 1930.

FR-4 Sanctuary Slough

This ditched watercourse flows south into the Fraser River.

Rationale: Suggested as the area forms a peaceful respite from the urban setting and also a sanctuary for fish and wildlife.

FR-5 Salmon Slough

This watercourse is a series of tidal marsh channels connect to the Fraser River.

Rationale: This slough area provides a natural ecosystem created for fish habitat restoration including salmon enhancement channels.

FR-6 Sturgeon Slough

This ditched watercourse flows south into Fraser River.

Rationale: White Sturgeon fish are found in the lower Fraser River and are a prominent ‘at-risk’ species.

3.0 CONCLUSION

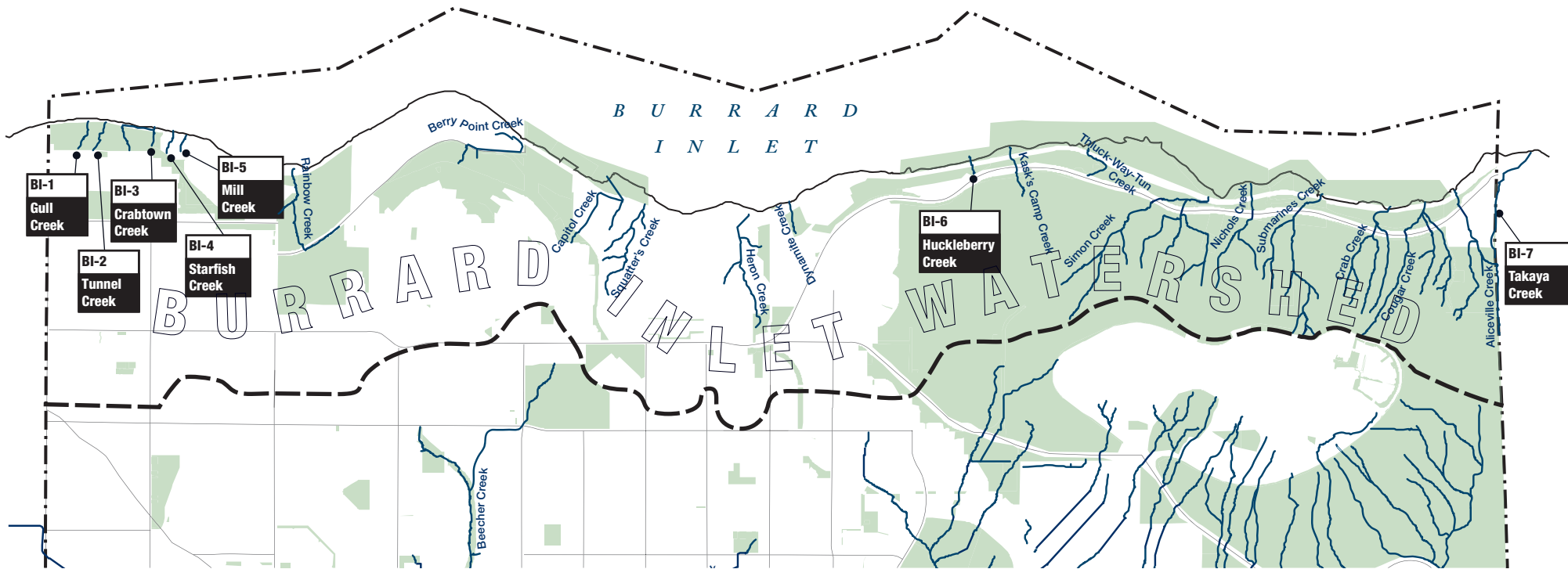
The identification of the City’s waterways with a uniquely historic or community creek name has been demonstrated to be of outstanding benefit for local environmental awareness and knowledge. As outlined in this report, Council approval is sought for the adoption of 39 new waterway names that will provide enhanced recognition and profile for these valuable environmental features of the City. Following approval, a revised *Waterways of Burnaby* map poster will be printed and made available for the public as part of the City’s 2012 World Rivers Day events.

Respectfully submitted,

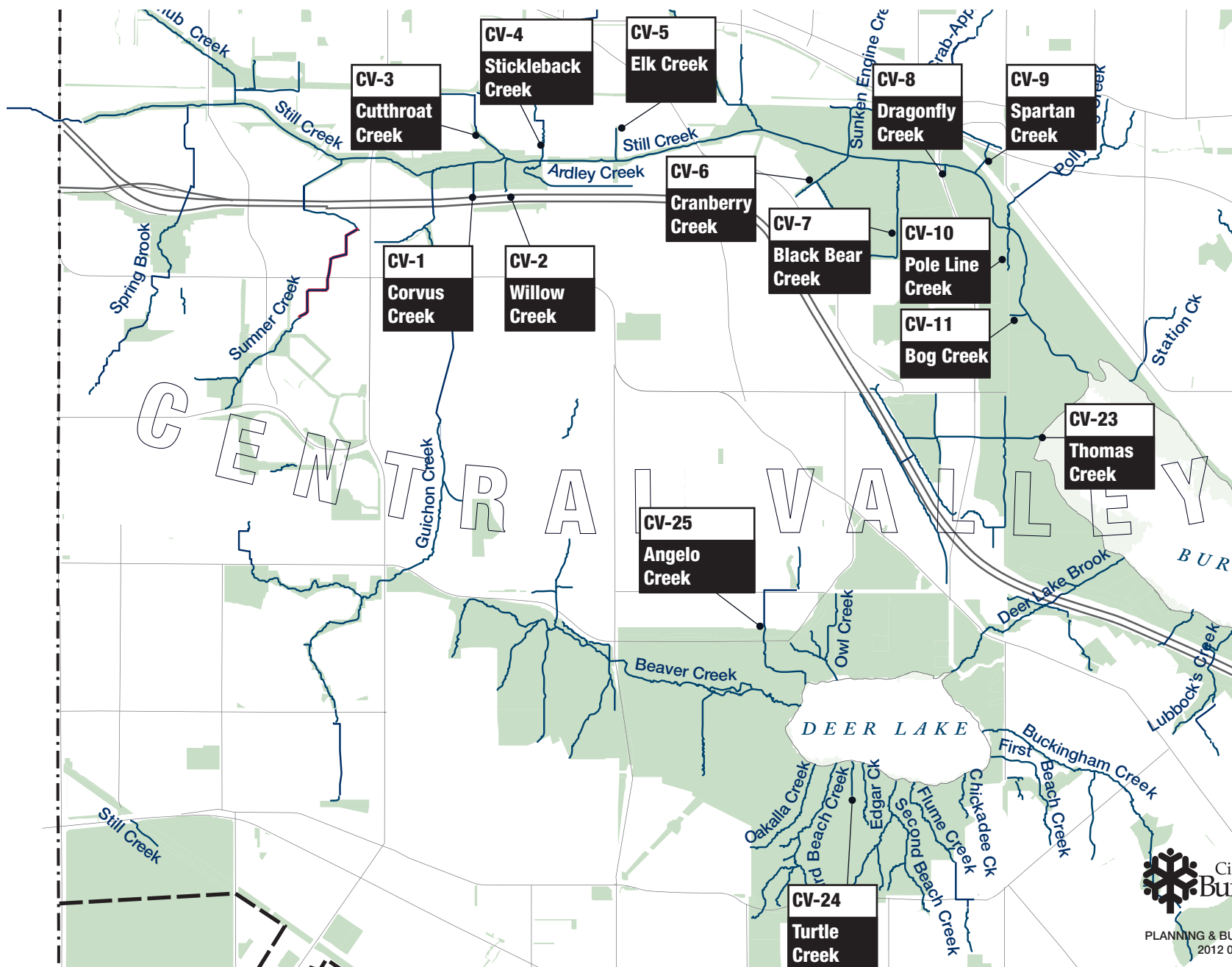
Councillor C. Jordan
Chair

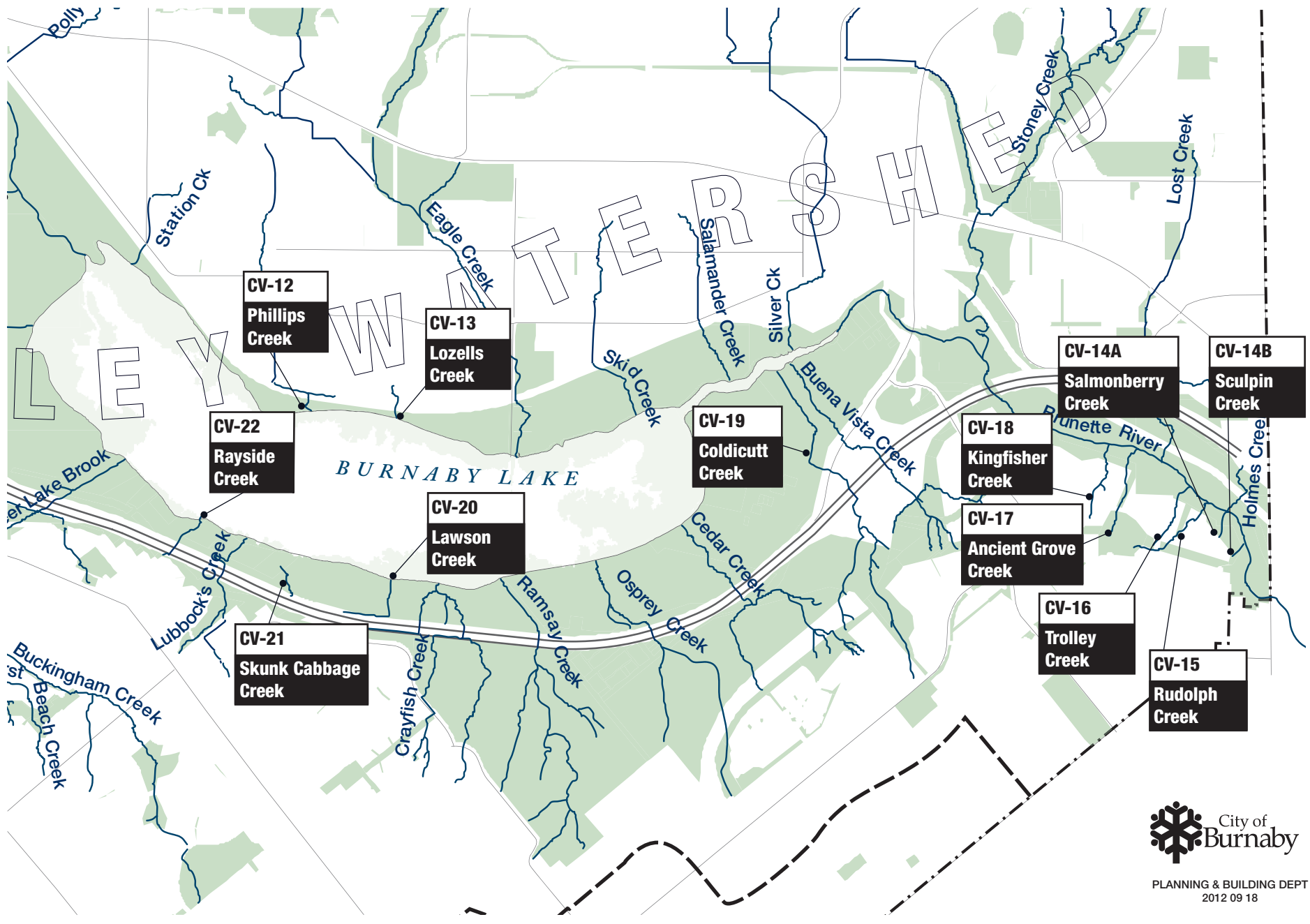
Councillor N. Volkow
Vice Chair

Councillor R. Chang
Member

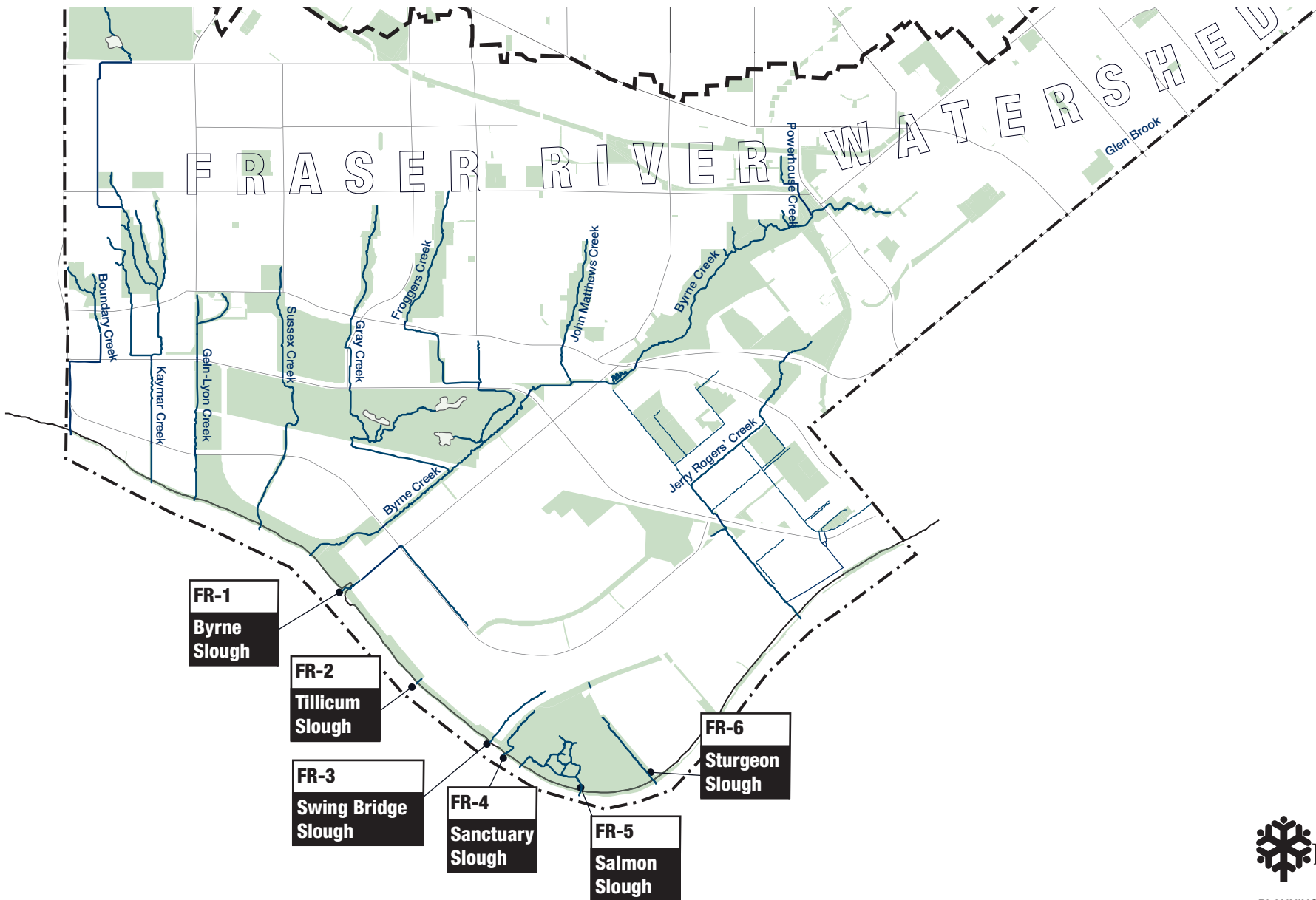


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