

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

9. Vancouver Blueway Cleanup

Submitted by: Councillor Wiebe

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is a Clean Shoreline Community supporting a number of volunteer cleanups leading to 13,781 kgs of litter being removed since 2017;
2. The City of Vancouver's Waterfront Initiative for major natural waterways engages First Nations, industry, senior levels of government and adjacent municipalities, and the community to focus on establishing and implementing a series of Quick Starts including those focused on measures to make high use waterways in Trout Lake and False Creek safely accessible by swimmers;
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20170530/documents/motionb1.pdf>
3. In 2019, Council approved the formalization of the False Creek to the Fraser River Blueway which included outlining appropriate resourcing and coordination of staff, including exploring the establishment of a Blueways Enhancement Fund;
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20190514/documents/motionb3.pdf>
4. In late 2021, the City of Vancouver will embark on an innovative planning and design challenge, called The Sea2City Design Challenge, that will create a vision to guide urban development and ecological revitalization in False Creek and along the Fraser River Foreshore;
5. In 2021, the Vancouver Plastic Cleanup Coalition was formed to use state of the art technology and citizen science to help cleanup Vancouver Blueways. The coalition includes non-profit organizations and hosts with a currently membership of the Peter Wall Charitable Foundation, Dentist on Demand, Great Lakes Plastic Cleanup, Pollution Probe, Skookum Yacht Services, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Sea Village Marina, Maritime Market Marina Ltd., and the U of T Trash Team;
6. Vancouver Plastic Cleanup, Seabin Project (<https://seabinproject.com>) is a three-phase Seabin installation plan, starting with three, and working up to a total of 12 Seabins in the next three years. This initiative uses state of the art technology to quickly remove plastics in Vancouver's Blueways. The first three Seabins are targeted to be installed on Granville Island and is currently operating successfully in Victoria, Sidney and Sooke BC;
7. The Vancouver Plastic Program connects people to the water's edge and leverages that network of data to restore Vancouver's Blueways. It would

be supported by the Community Based Water Monitoring Hub out of Granville Island operated by the charity Swim Drink Fish;

8. Indigenous Guardian Programs help Indigenous Nations honour the cultural responsibility to care for lands and waters. Guardians are trained experts who manage protected areas, restore animals and plants, test water quality and monitor programs;
9. The City of Vancouver in partnership with the Park Board is advancing a Seabin pilot through the City's Aquatic Environments Action Plan, which included the False Creek Water Quality Improvement Initiative, the City (via REFM-Environmental Service) and the Park Board to work collaboratively to install a Seabin in False Creek for the 2021 summer season.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council endorse the Vancouver Plastic Cleanup, Seabin Project and ask staff to report back on the feasibility for the City of Vancouver becoming a host location and coalition partner;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to report back on new initiatives to support volunteer clean-ups and Indigenous Guardian Programs to Council in 2022, as part of the annual Aquatic Environmental Action Plan report.

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