

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

TO: Donna Mikkelson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Cheryl Waugh, Transportation Services Coordinator

SUBJECT: Transportation Services Report - February 28, 2013

- Recommendation:
- A) That a letter be sent to Minister Norm Letnick, Minister of Agriculture, advising that the Central Coast Regional District supports the Township of Langley’s request for an amendment to the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulations.
 - B) That a three year contract for 2013, 2014 and 2015 for seasonal grounds maintenance at the Bella Coola Airport be awarded
 - C) That the Transportation Services Report dated February 28, 2013 be received.

Bella Coola Airport

The Township of Langley is asking for written support for the Township’s recent request for an amendment to the *Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation*, B.C. Reg. 171/2002 (the “Regulation”).

The Township wishes to expand the existing Langley Airport by adding an expansion lot and a park. The expansion is required to increase the airport’s hangar capacity. The land targeted for the expansion is owned by the Township, however, the land is within an Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and is subject to the provisions of the Agricultural Land Commission Act. The Regulation governs the permitted farm and non-farm uses on ALR land. While an unpaved airstrip or helipad is permitted by the Regulation on ALR land, no other airport or aerodrome use is permitted. Therefore, the Township may not as of right expand its airport operations into land that it owns within the ALR. This is a problem that applies to a number of airports in B.C., including Bella Coola.

According to the Township of Langley, in order to allow communities and their airport operators greater ability to respond to changing economic circumstances and opportunities for growth, the restrictions imposed by the Regulation must be overcome. Rather than do this on a case-by-case basis through the current mechanism of the ALC, the approach of amending the Regulation allows and even playing field for all air facility operators, provides clarity and certainty to investors and eliminates the expense and delay associated with the regulatory process.

It is recommended that written support, or support in principle, be given to the Township of Langley for their request for an amendment to the ALR Regulation.

Tenders are being called for summer grounds maintenance at the airport. As before, it is recommended that this be a three-year contract.

Board Meeting
MAR 14 2013
 CCRD ITEM C(2)

A local consulting firm was hired to assist with writing a prescription for a proposed tree removal and brushing project at the airport. I met with Hans Granander of Frontier Resource Management Ltd early in February to walk the site and discuss the expected outcomes. This project was generated from previous discussions with airport stakeholders and was identified at the ad hoc meeting held on January 30th. The project involves removal of a small grove of trees adjacent to the plane parking/tie-down area and reducing the height of a row of young alders growing next to the dike at the east end of the runway. A call for tenders was put out and three bids were received. It will be recommended that a contract award be made at the March 14th board meeting. *See separate agenda item.*

Runway line painting is planned for 2014, however, it was thought there may be opportunity to reschedule this project by aligning with the Ministry of Transportation and their road marking contractor in 2013 or 2015. A referral to their contractor resulted in a message that they do not take on secondary work beyond the road marking.

Bella Bella Airport is undertaking runway line painting this year and we have been in contact regarding any possible savings to be had by aligning with their contractor. Otherwise, this project will remain as a priority for 2014 and will be advertised accordingly next year.

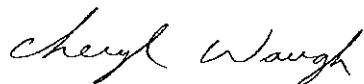
A runway incursion was reported by one of the charter airline operators. A local resident was walking his dog on airport property and chose to cross the runway at midfield at the same time a small aircraft was on final approach for landing. After failing to connect by phone, the CCRD sent a letter to the resident explaining that safety is first and foremost for both the public and those who operate air services and that crossing the runway at an active airport is dangerous and strictly prohibited. A reply was received by email and the resident states he will desist from such activities from now on.

NAV Canada will be performing wind tower upgrades and have requested that the CCRD office be used as a shipping point for a new lightning rod and components.

One of the upstairs restroom door locks malfunctioned, accidentally and temporarily trapping a NAV Canada employee. Fortunately, her shouts for help were heard by a Pacific Coastal employce on the lower level. He was able to remove the door by disengaging the pins on the hinge jamb. The door has been rehung and the passage set has been replaced. Thank you Stuart!

Denny Island Airport

Although the Denny Island Airport Commission has not met recently, the chair updated verbally that gravel has been moved for use at the gun range, brushing has been done at the far end of the airport and a gravel pad laid down in preparation for the installation of a shed by the Denny Island Recreation Commission. Approximately 12 yards of gravel remain. All labour and equipment used for the gun range facility was voluntary.



Transportation Services Coordinator