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Community Update on addressing Anmore Green Estates Septic Field Failure

Coquitlam, BC (May 05, 2021) – This update is intended to provide information on activities since the last update on Anmore Green Estates (AGE) septic field, dated January 14, 2021.

We are pleased to advise that SD43 has been informed that the Anmore Green Estates Strata had voted to proceed with the Facilitator's proposed agreements to move forward with the funding and plans to connect to the sewer on SD43 lands.

Unfortunately, AGE is not in compliance with the Ministry of Environment's November 2, 2020 order which required AGE to complete the sewer connection by April 2021.

On January 4, 2021, the Ministry of Environment issued a warning letter to AGE advising that they were not in compliance with their sewer discharge permit as they had not filed a plan and schedule as to how they would fulfill their obligations to connect to sewer by the April 5, 2021 requirement. AGE subsequently completed and submitted the report on February 4, 2021 which reflects a 20-week construction schedule.

Further on January 5, the Ministry issued an administrative penalty referral letter as AGE had failed to maintain the fencing, as required in response to the Ministry's May 8, 2020 warning letter, as AGE had removed the fencing and the Ministry was forced to install fencing and signage. Additionally, it was noted that AGE had failed to maintain the monthly required monitoring (and testing) and also had failed to submit sampling data to the Ministry within the required period.

We understand that the Ministry of Environment on March 8th, 2021 issued an Administrative penalty (\$1000) for non-compliance with the Pollution Abatement Order requirement to conduct monthly sampling and submitting the results to the Ministry within five days of receiving the results for the preceding month's sampling.

We were also informed by the Ministry of Environment staff that on April 2, AGE requested an extension to the permit requirement that the sewer connection be completed by April 5. The Ministry has not yet ruled on this request.

Despite these matters, SD43, the Village of Anmore, and City of Port Moody continued to develop, and discuss the required draft agreements to persist in moving this project forward. AGE has, just this past week, agreed to become involved in discussing and finalizing the agreements. Key components for these agreements are completed schedules, which include the final detail design and legal surveys for the Statutory Right of Way (SROW) that is to be provided by AGE.

SD43 staff are working through a supplement agreement with Porty Moody staff that relates to the sewer connection between Heritage Woods Secondary and David Avenue that is currently the responsibility of the school district. As an outcome of the AGE sewer connect, agreements regarding the maintenance responsibility and access through a right of way are also required.

On an unrelated but positive note, SD43 Staff would like to thank the Eagle Mountain school community for their input and engagement in the creation of the natural outdoor play space that was recently completed. This has been a welcome addition for our students and by all reports has been overwhelmingly positively received.

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