

## West Southlands Site Visit

### DRAFT SITE VISIT NOTES

Date: January 21, 2022

Time: 10:30am - 11:30am

Location: West Southlands (49<sup>th</sup> Ave and Dunbar St)

### Attendees

- Navratna Sharma (NS) – City of Vancouver
- Jeannie Lee (JL) – City of Vancouver
- Amir Taleghani (AT) – City of Vancouver
- Mary Tataryn (MT) - West Southlands Residents Association (WSRA)
- Troy Iwanik (TI) – WSRA

### Notes:

#### General Flooding and Ponding Issues:

- City of Vancouver Engineering staff met Mary Tataryn and Troy Iwanik from the West Southlands area to discuss flooding issues in the neighbourhood and the November 2021 storm event.
- The intersection of Collingwood Street and W 49<sup>th</sup> Ave is a low point with significant ponding during rain events.
  - o WSRA has been requested traffic calming to the City.
  - o During heavy rainfall events, the catchbasin sumps (CBs) along W49th Avenue are unable to drain the runoff from the road.
    - The CBs may require some flushing/maintenance.
    - Existing ditches and culverts may need inspection and maintenance.
    - Gravity drainage in West Southlands is dependent on tide and river levels in the Fraser River.
  - o The CBs along W 50<sup>th</sup> Ave, west of Dunbar St., were recently flushed and cleared of debris by CoV Sewer Operations
    - Mary and Troy noted that there is less ponding during typical rain events at these locations after the cleaning.
  - o Runoff that ponds on the north side of W 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue (west of Dunbar Street) has trouble draining across the road.
    - CBs may required maintenance. Long-term solution may include regrading of the road.
  - o Maintenance and monitoring of CBs may be needed more frequently in the West Southlands area to reduce ponding on the road during typical rain events.
    - **Action Item:** Flood Management team to forward information to Street/Sewer Operations and confirm schedule for road/ditch and CB maintenance in this area

- CoV noted that a drainage study for the Southlands Area was completed in 2020.
  - Recommendations from the study include the investigating the use of bio-retention areas to provide sufficient controlled storage in current nuisance ponding locations, re-grading the road with additional swales/ditches, and installing new storm-sewer mains.

**November 2021 Storm Event:**

- Mary and Troy summarized the November 2021 storm event
  - Runoff from the Musqueam Park and Wallace Ditch overtopped onto W 48<sup>th</sup> Ave, W 49<sup>th</sup> Ave, and W 50<sup>th</sup> Ave on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2021. Several lots were flooded.
  - The sanitary pump station failed due to a power outage for the neighbourhood.
  - The CoV team noted that the Dunbar and Wallace St. tide gates automatically close during high tides. This prevents river water from entering the West Southlands drainage system.
  - **Action Item:** Mary to provide pictures from the storm event.
- CoV is currently working on the Wallace St. Ditch Plan project to better understand the drainage in this area, and develop future drainage plans for the Wallace St. Ditch.