



NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM
 Memorial Hall, 290 Esplanade Avenue,
 Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER	
Meeting called to order by Mayor Talen.	
2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
Acknowledgement of Sts'ailes traditional territory.	
3. PUBLIC HEARING (if required)	
4. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS	
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
7. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES	
(a) THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2026 be adopted.	Page 1
(b) THAT the Special Pre-Closed Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2026 be adopted.	Page 9
8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
9. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS	
(a) Daniel Maldoff, Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. Re: Waterfront Dike Upgrade Update	Page 11
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>THAT Council direct staff and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. to submit all necessary environmental permit applications required for the Waterfront Dike Upgrade Project and complete detailed design with the intent to tender the project; and</p> <p>THAT Council direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals for construction to take place outside of peak tourism season.</p>	

10. CORRESPONDENCE	
(a) Letter dated April 27, 2026 from the Resort Community Collaborative to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, and Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. Re: Look West Strategy and Tourism Action Plan	Page 29
(b) Email dated May 4, 2026 from Battered Women's Support Services Re: Safe Mother's Day and Public Safety in Your Municipality	Page 31
(c) Email dated May 8, 2026 from City of Abbotsford to the Minister of Finance Re: Provincial Sales Tax Expansion	Page 35
(d) Email dated May 12, 2026 from UBCM Re: Update on UBCM's Advocacy on the Heritage Conservation Act	Page 37
11. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE	
12. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS	
13. REPORTS FROM MAYOR	
14. REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS	
15. REPORTS FROM STAFF	
(a) Report of Corporate Officer dated May 19, 2026 Re: 2026 UBCM Convention Provincial Appointments	Page 41
Recommendations:	
1. THAT staff be directed to request meetings with Cabinet Ministers at the 2026 UBCM Convention as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister of Citizen's Services regarding a funding stream for responding to FOI requests; • Minister of Forests regarding the BC Timber Sales Operating Plan consultation process and the importance of FireSmart funding; • Minister of Health regarding funding and recruiting for the Village Health Centre; • Minister of Infrastructure regarding funding and timeline for a new elementary school; • Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation regarding modern treaties; • Minister of Transportation and Transit regarding e-unicycle and e-hover board regulation and increased enforcement/education regarding the e-scooter pilot program; and • Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship regarding hot springs source oversight. 	

2. THAT staff be directed to request meetings with Ministry staff should the requested meetings with the Cabinet Ministers not be granted.

16. BYLAWS

17. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Cenotaph at Memorial Hall (Councillor Vidal)

Recommendation:

WHEREAS the permanent installation of a cenotaph provides a place of remembrance, reflection and gathering space to honor the service and sacrifice of members of the Canadian Armed Forces;

AND WHEREAS Memorial Hall is a central and historically significant location within our community which is well-suited to serve as a site of remembrance;

AND WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32 plays a vital role in supporting veterans, their families and has a respected role in leading local commemorative services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to investigate the purchase and erecting of a cenotaph outside of Memorial Hall and engage with Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32 to seek input and guidance on appropriate design and protocols and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff report back to Council with recommendations including a proposed project budget and timeline.

(b) Impact of Forestry Activities (Mayor Talen)

Recommendation:

WHEREAS the April 20, 2026 Regular Council Meeting did not result in Council taking any action in relation to item 17 c);

AND WHEREAS the Village has interests that should be considered and protected arising from forestry activity near the Village and in the Harrison Lake watershed;

AND WHEREAS the Village wrote BC Timber Sales on April 27, 2026, seeking information on how forestry activities alter: wildfire risk, water quality in Harrison Lake, the risk of flooding in the Village, and asserting that the Village must have a role in maintaining and protecting the ascetic view qualities from the Village;

AND WHEREAS the Village should take additional steps to advance these interests in future meetings with Provincial authorities;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT at a future Committee of the Whole Meeting:

1. Council discuss concerns that might arise from forestry activities near the Village of Harrison Hot Springs and how the Village should engage Provincial authorities on forestry activities near the Village that might affect:
 - a) Risks associated from wildfires;
 - b) The water quality of Harrison Lake;
 - c) The risk of flooding in the Village;
 - d) The view, and ascetic qualities of the forest and mountains as seen from the Village;

2. Council consider whether, and how to engage neighbouring communities, including the District of Kent and Sts'ailes, on these matters.

18. NOTICES OF MOTION

19. QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO THE AGENDA

20. ADJOURNMENT



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

DATE: Monday, May 4, 2026
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Memorial Hall
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Fred Talen
Councillor Leo Facio
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor Michie Vidal
Councillor Mark Schweinbenz

COUNCIL ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer, Tyson Koch
Chief Financial Officer/Deputy CAO, Scott Schultz
Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham
Communications and Community Engagement
Coordinator, Kalie Wiechmann
Planning Consultant, Ken Cossey (Via Zoom)
Corporate Clerk, Tyler Kafi

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Talen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Talen acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. PUBLIC HEARING (If required)

None.

4. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-01

6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- (a) Mayor Talen declared a non-pecuniary conflict regarding item 10(e) – Email dated April 25, 2026 and 16(b) – Report of Planning Consultant regarding C2 Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.1244, 2026 (889 Hot Springs Road). Prior to being elected to office, he signed a letter of support regarding the proposed development at 889 Hot Springs Road. Mayor Talen advised that he would recuse himself from the meeting when these items come before Council.

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- (a) Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2026
(b) Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2026

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the minutes be adopted.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-02

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

9. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS

- (a) Michael De Jong & Jeff Wilson, Bridal Veil Mountain Resort
Re: Bridal Veil Mountain Resort Progress Update

The delegates provided Council with an update on the status of the Bridal Veil Mountain Resort Project, which has received stage 1 approval by the Province and will be proceeding to a formal proposal stage.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter dated April 13, 2026 from the City of Langford to Premier David Eby
Re: Permanent Daylight-Saving Time and the Impacts on Safe Routes to School
- (b) Email dated April 15, 2026 from Agassiz Harrison Historical Society
Re: Request for Letter of Support
- (c) Email dated April 21, 2026 from Gary Webster
Re: Clarification on Council Decision – Flood & Wildfire Motion
- (d) Email dated April 21, 2026 from Moose Hide Campaign
Re: Support Moose Hide Campaign

- (e) Email dated April 25, 2026 from Gary Webster
Re: 889 Hot Springs Road – Zoning Clarification
- (f) Email dated April 29, 2026 from Cathy Christiansen
Re: Responsible Garbage Bylaw

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT all correspondence be received.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-03

11. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT staff send a letter of support to the Agassiz Harrison Historical Society regarding their application for the Community Gaming Grant.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-04

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT the Village support the City of Langford's resolution to the UBCM regarding permanent daylight savings time.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-05

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Mayor Talen

THAT the Village support the Moose Hide campaign by turning lights golden yellow in a show of support.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-06

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT staff be directed to research bylaws and tools to manage wildlife in the Village.

Amendment moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the motion be amended to add that staff be directed to include wildlife and waste management messaging with the 2026 property tax notices educating residents about wildlife.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-07

Council voted on the original motion as amended.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-08

12. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Council Congratulated Councillor Vidal on her recent election as LMLGA Executive Board President.

Councillor Facio

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director) – No Report
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report
- Attended the LMLGA Conference on April 29 – May 1, 2026
- Attended the Earth Day in May event on May 2, 2026

Councillor Vidal

- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee – No Report
- Agassiz-Harrison Healthy Communities – No Report
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee – No Report
- Attended the LMLGA Conference on April 29 – May 1, 2026

Councillor Jackson

- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board – No Report
- Tourism Harrison – No Report
- Reported on the Communities in Bloom Committee meeting on April 21, 2026
- Attended the Community Connections Café on April 24, 2026 at the Village Health Centre
- Attended the LMLGA Conference on April 29 – May 1, 2026

Councillor Schweinbenz

- Agassiz-Harrison Historical Society – No Report
- Community Futures North Fraser Board of Directors – No Report
- Reported on the Earth Day in May event on May 2, 2026
- Attended the LMLGA Conference on April 29 – May 1, 2026

13. REPORTS FROM MAYOR

- Spoke on the use of bicycles along the lagoon pathway
- Attended the LMLGA Conference on April 29 – May 1, 2026
- Attended the Earth Day in May event on May 2, 2026
- Attended the Rotary 50/50 District Conference on May 2, 2026

14. REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

- (a) Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2026
- (b) Age-Friendly Committee Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2026
- (c) Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2026
- (d) Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2026

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT all committee minutes be received for information.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-09

15. REPORTS FROM STAFF

None.

16. BYLAWS

- (a) 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1238, 2026

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1238, 2026 be adopted.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-10

- (b) Report of Planning Consultant dated May 4, 2026
Re: C2 Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1244, 2026 (889 Hot Springs Road)

Mayor Talen recused himself from the meeting due to the above stated conflict of interest and exited council chambers at 6:57 pm. Deputy Mayor Vidal assumed the chair.

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1244, 2026 be introduced and given first reading.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-11

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1244, 2026 be given second reading.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-12

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT staff be directed to schedule a Public Hearing.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-13

Mayor Talen returned to council chambers at 7:10 p.m. and resumed the chair.

17. NEW BUSINESS

None.

18. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) Notice of Motion from Councillor Vidal
Re: Cenotaph at Memorial Hall

WHEREAS the permanent installation of a cenotaph provides a place of remembrance, reflection and gathering space to honor the service and sacrifice of members of the Canadian Armed Forces;

AND WHEREAS Memorial Hall is a central and historically significant location within our community which is well-suited to serve as a site of remembrance;

AND WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32 plays a vital role in supporting veterans, their families and has a respected role in leading local commemorative services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to investigate the purchase and erecting of a cenotaph outside of Memorial Hall and engage with Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32 to seek input and guidance on appropriate design and protocols and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff report back to Council with recommendations including a proposed project budget and timeline.

- (b) Notice of Motion from Mayor Talen
Re: Impact of Forestry Activities

WHEREAS the April 20, 2026 Regular Council Meeting did not result in Council taking any action in relation to item 17 c);

AND WHEREAS the Village has interests that should be considered and protected arising from forestry activity near the Village and in the Harrison Lake watershed;

AND WHEREAS the Village wrote BC Timber Sales on April 27, 2026, seeking information on how forestry activities alter: wildfire risk, water quality in Harrison Lake, the risk of flooding in the Village, and asserting that the Village must have a role in maintaining and protecting the aesthetic view qualities from the Village;

AND WHEREAS the Village should take additional steps to advance these interests in future meetings with Provincial authorities;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT at a future Committee of the Whole Meeting:

1. Council discuss concerns that might arise from forestry activities near the Village of Harrison Hot Springs and how the Village should engage Provincial authorities on forestry activities near the Village that might affect:
 - a) Risks associated from wildfires;
 - b) The water quality of Harrison Lake;
 - c) The risk of flooding in the Village;
 - d) The view, and ascetic qualities of the forest and mountains as seen from the Village;
2. Council consider whether, and how to engage neighbouring communities, including the District of Kent and Sts'ailes, on these matters.

19. QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO THE AGENDA

Questions from the public were entertained.

20. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

CARRIED
RC-2026-05-14

Fred Talen
Mayor

Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

DRAFT

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Special Pre-Closed Council Meeting
Minutes**

DATE: Tuesday, May 5, 2026
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Fred Talen
Councillor Leo Facio
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor Mark Schweinbenz
Councillor Michie Vidal

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer, Tyson Koch
Chief Financial Officer/DCAO, Scott Schultz
Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Talen called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Talen acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT pursuant to Sections 90 and 92 of the Community Charter, this Special Meeting of Council be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to the following:

- Section 90(1)(k) - negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality; and
- Section 90(2)(b)(ii) – the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and another local government or between another local government and a third party.

CARRIED
SC-2026-05-01

Adjourned to Special Closed Council Meeting at 2:02 p.m.

Fred Talen
Mayor

Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

DRAFT

Harrison Hot Springs Waterfront Flood Mitigation

Update to Council

May 19, 2026

Introductions Project Team

Presenter:

Daniel Maldoff, MEng, PEng
Hydrotechnical Engineer, **NHC**

Project Team:



Northwest Hydraulic Consultants
Hydrotechnical engineering
(Prime Consultant)



Space2place
Landscape architecture



Thurber Engineering
Geotechnical engineering



Legacy Environmental
Environmental/permitting

Presentation Outline

1. Project overview
2. Dike design update
3. Next steps



Project Overview Components

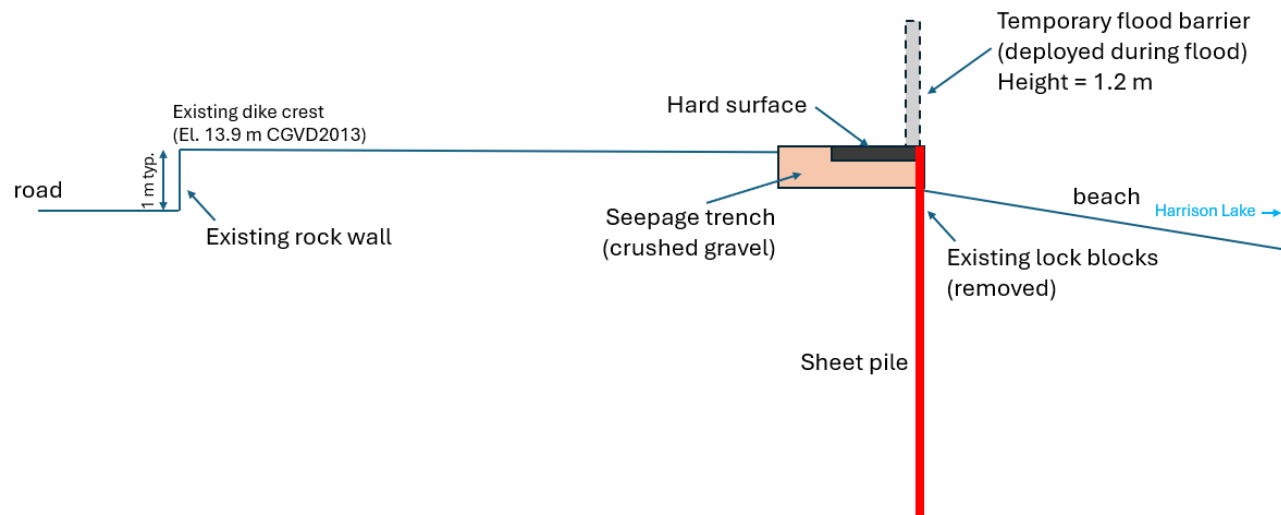
Wastewater Treatment Plant Road and Shoreline (Zones 1 and 2) – 0.6 km length

Waterfront Dike (Zones 3, 4, 5, and 6) – 1.5 km length



December 19, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting

- Discussed design objectives and rationale – specifically, dike seepage conditions
- Presented updated dike design approach, based on community feedback.
 - **Below-grade dike improvements, no permanent dike raise**



Summary: Design Approach

- **Objectives:**

- Improve resilience of existing dike and shoreline
- Facilitate flood response
- Maintain existing viewscales

- **Wastewater Treatment Plant Road and Shoreline** (Zones 1 and 2)

- Improve erosion protection
- Raise embankment around wastewater treatment plant to El. 15.1 m
- Upgrade road for access during and after the design flood

- **Waterfront Dike** (Zones 3, 4, 5, and 6)

- Mitigation of below-grade seepage concerns
- Flood response using deployable flood barrier

Project Updates since Dec 2025 COW Meeting

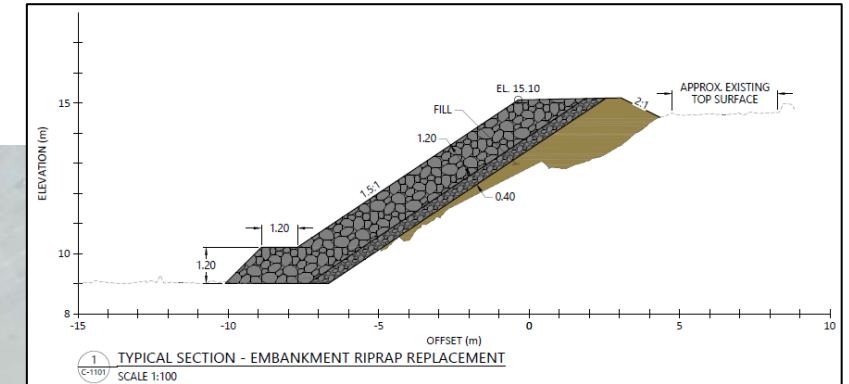
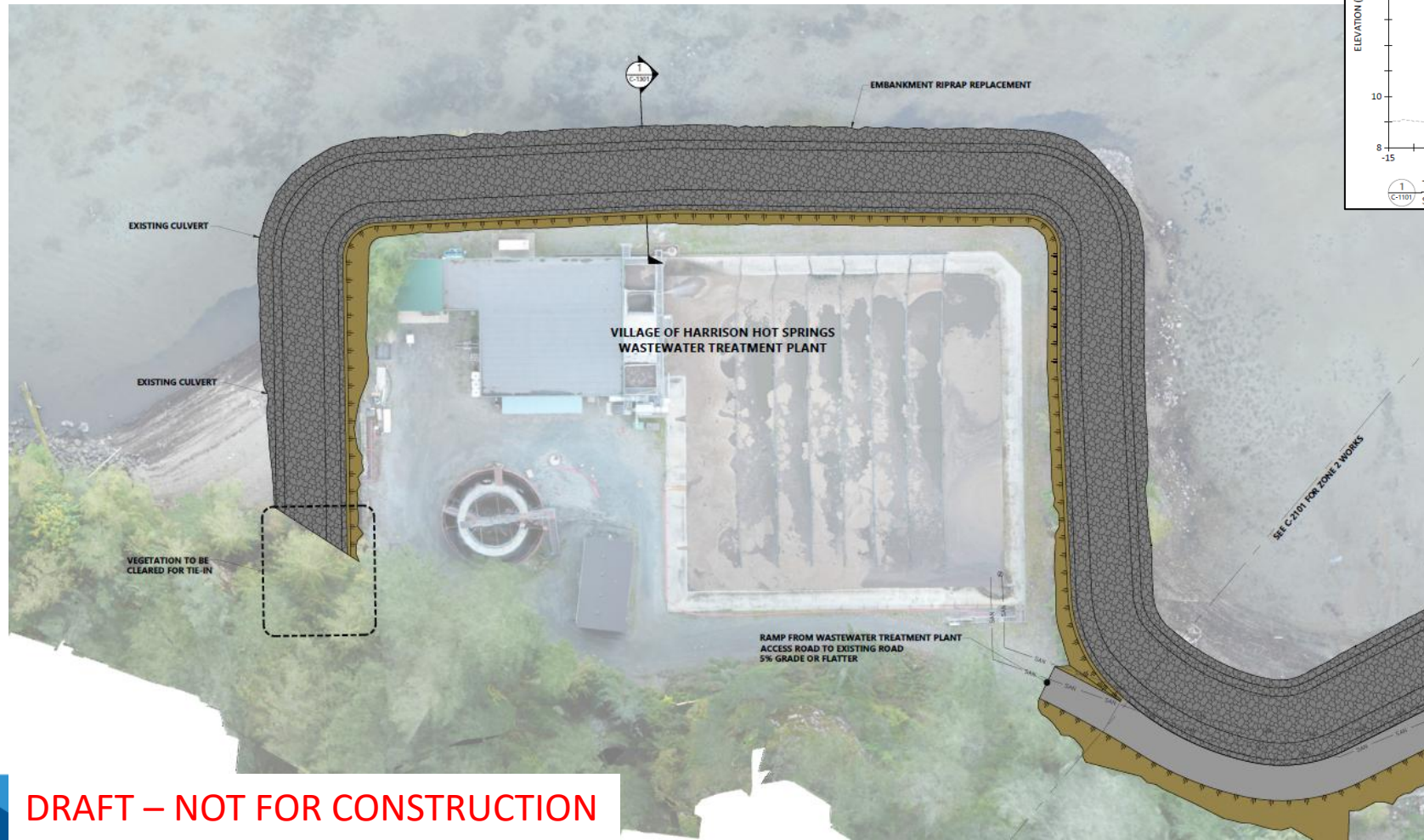


- **Additional analyses + discussions with Provincial Inspector of Dikes**
 - Confirmed suitability of proposed design approach
- **Design refinement and Issued-for-Permitting drawings (in progress)**
 - Progressed implementation of conceptual design
- **Environmental permit review (in progress)**
 - Completed preliminary review of permitting requirements and timelines

Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 1 – Wastewater treatment plant shoreline

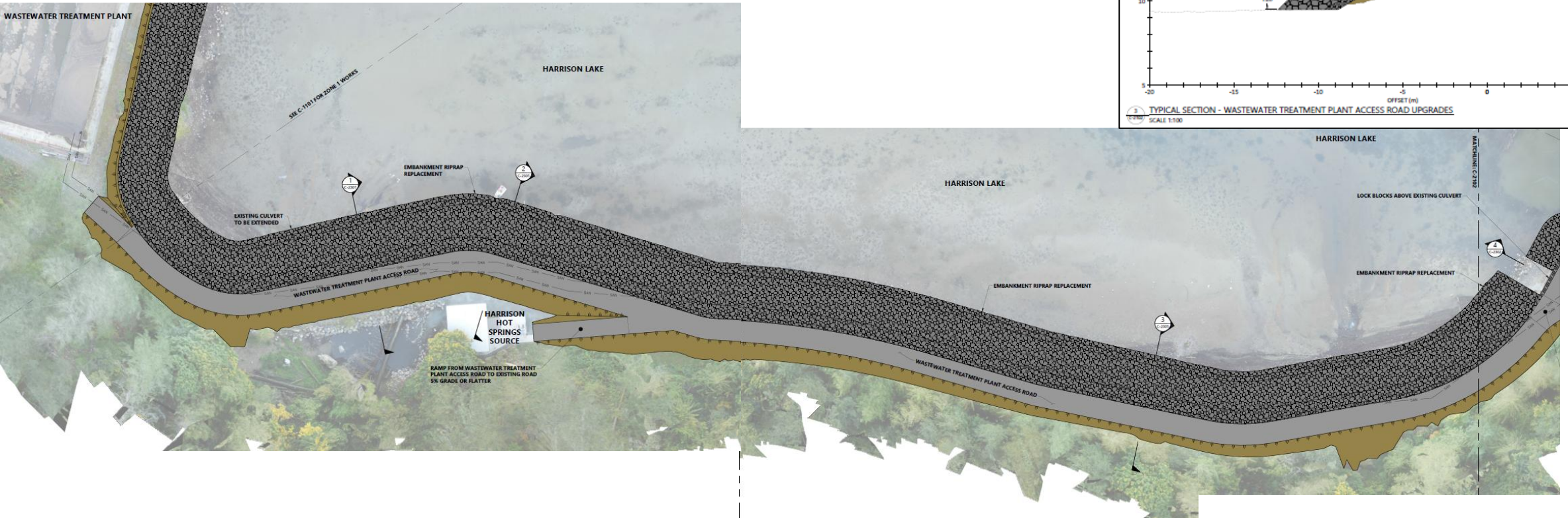
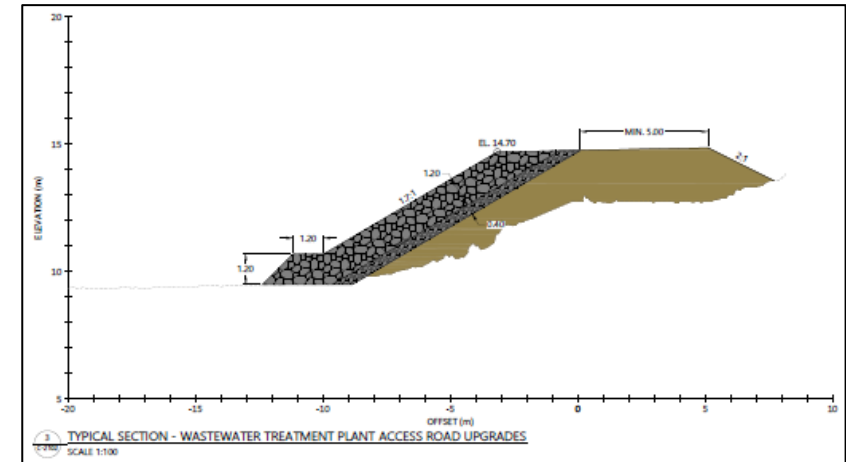
- Raise embankment around wastewater treatment plant
- Upgrade bank riprap



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 2 – Wastewater treatment plant access road

- Raise access road and upgrade bank riprap
- Maintain existing natural hot springs ponded area

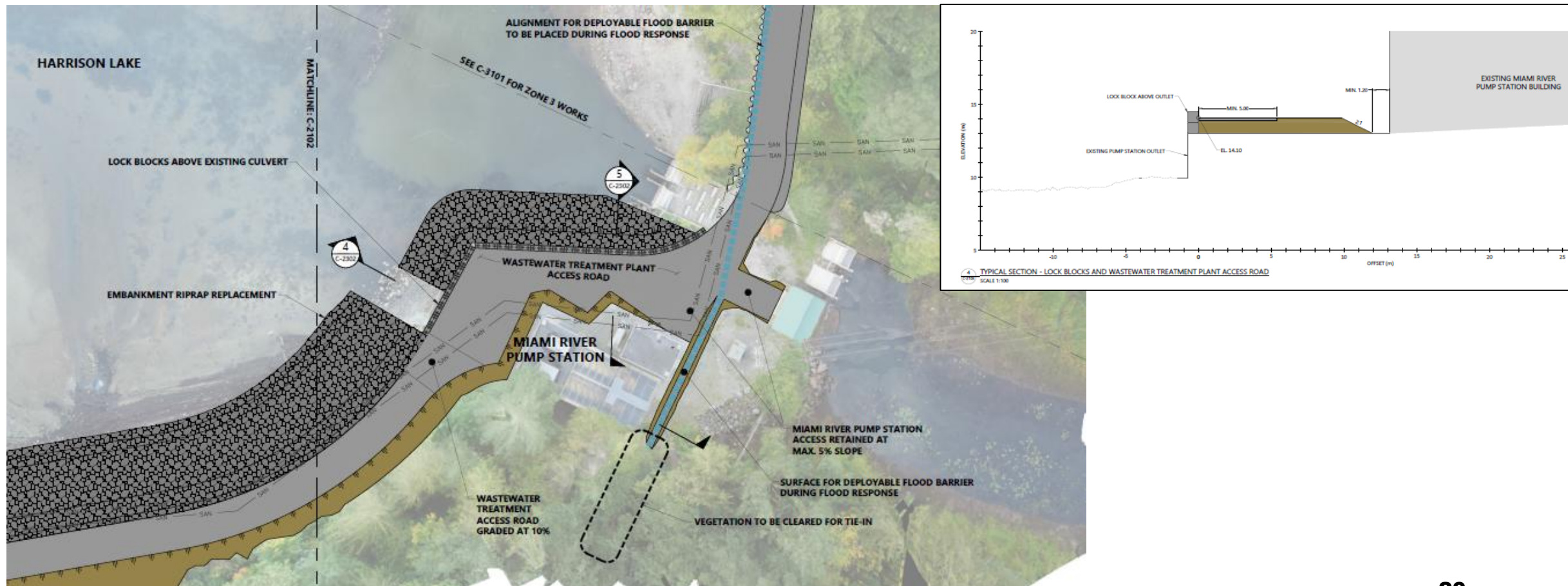


DRAFT – NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 2-3 transition – Miami River Pump Station

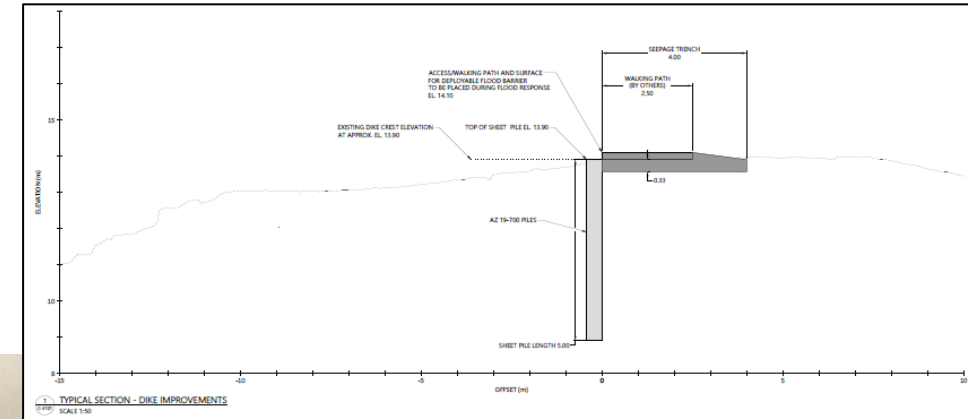
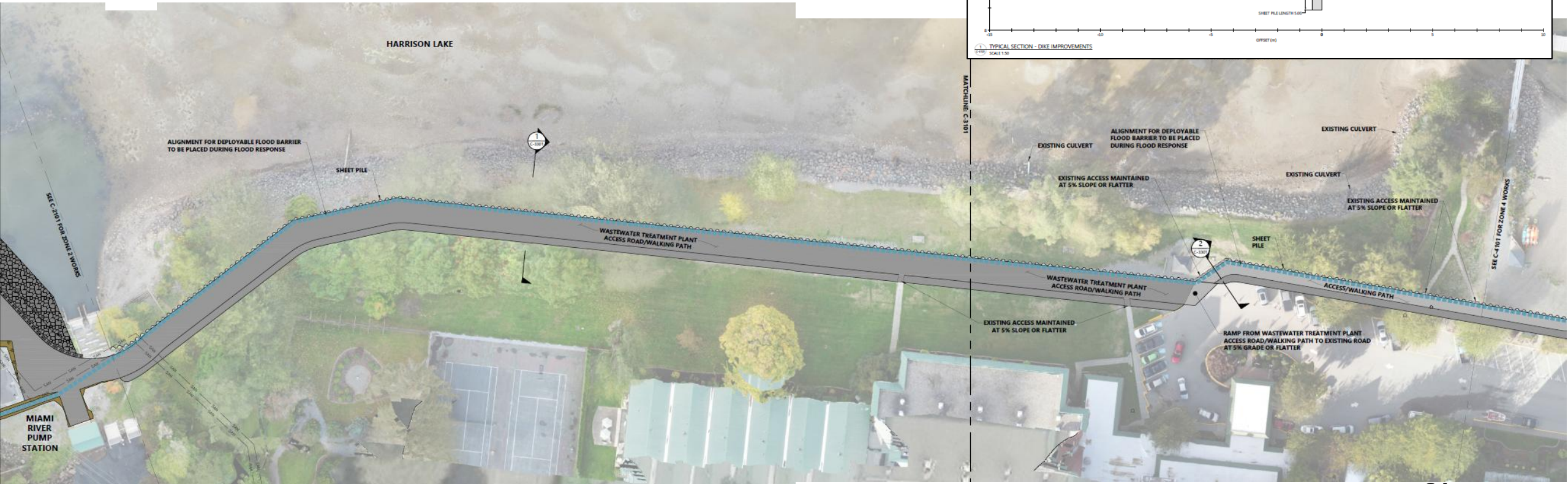
- Raise access road (lock block wall above existing outlets) and upgrade bank riprap
- Transition to dike improvements (below-grade sheet pile)



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 3 – Dike fronting Hot Springs Resort

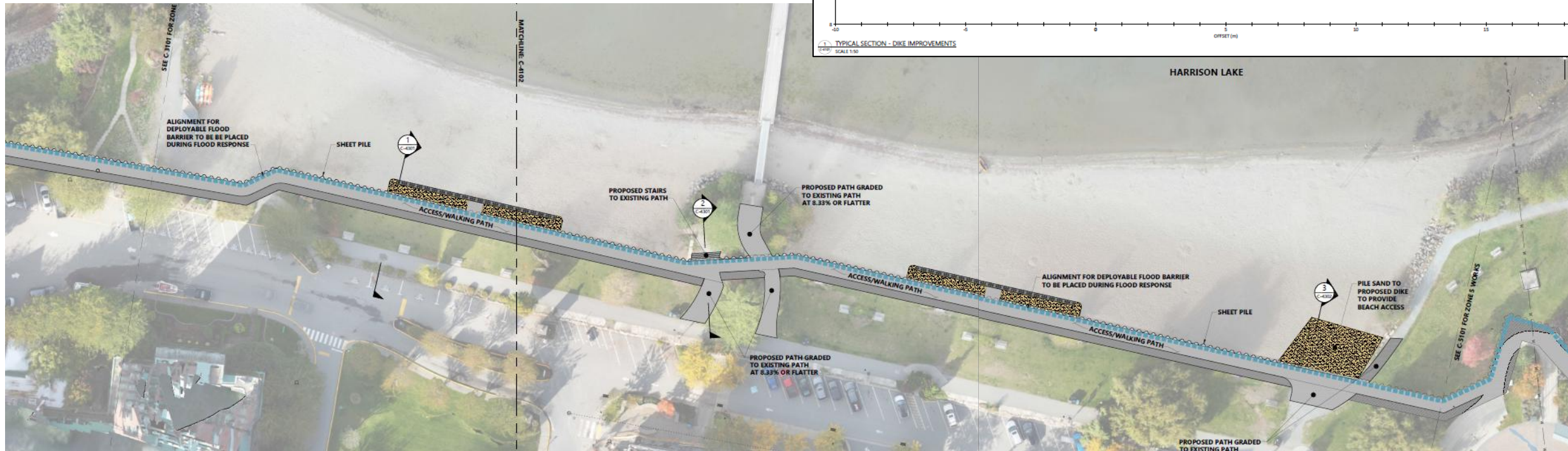
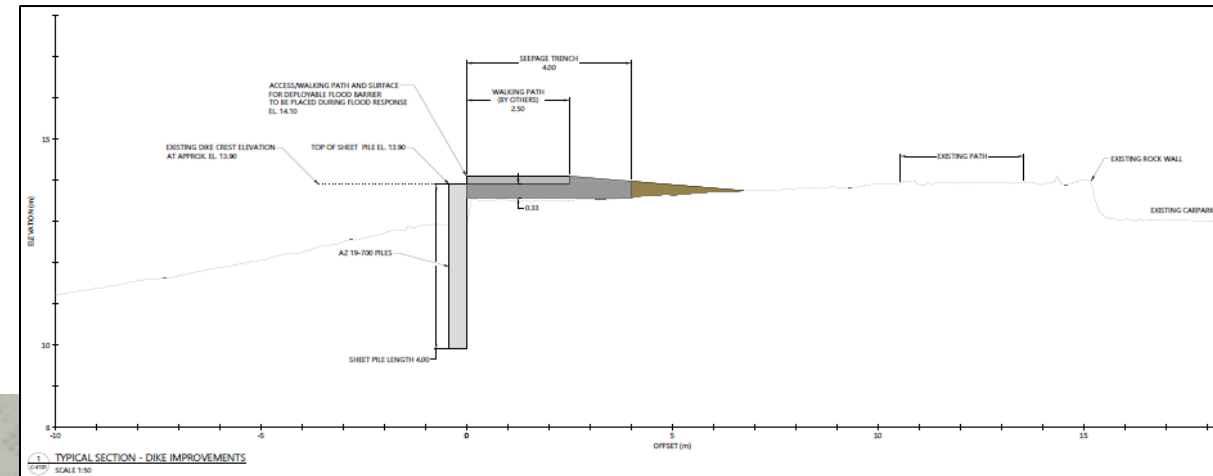
- Below-grade sheet pile seepage cutoff along existing earthfill dike crest
- Uniform, level surface for deployable diking



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 4 – Dike fronting commercial area

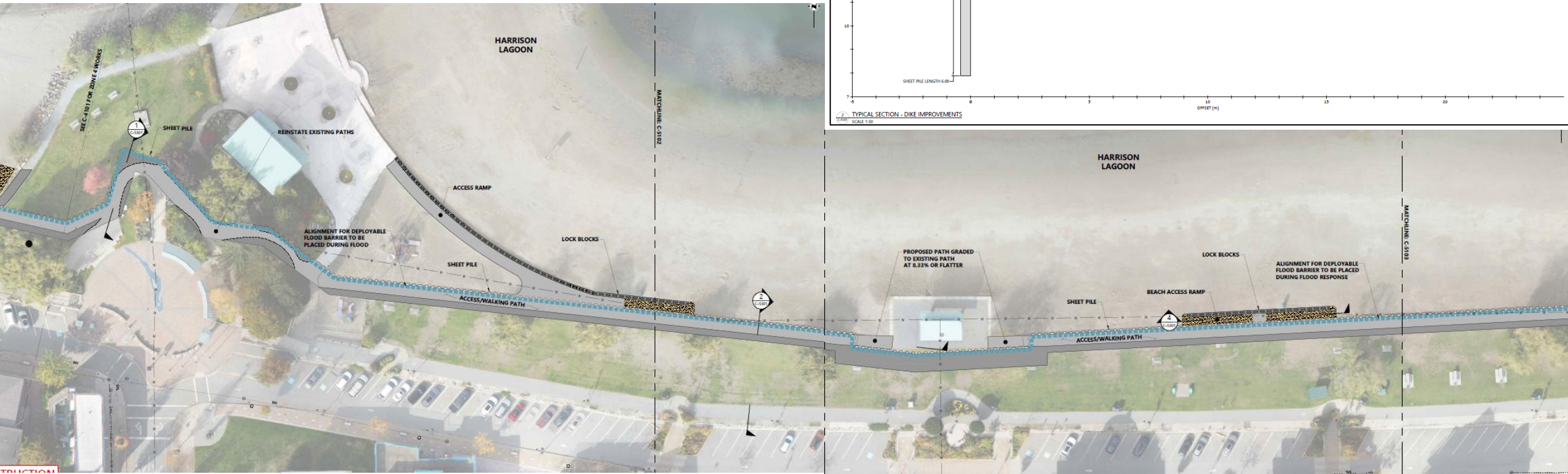
- Below-grade sheet pile seepage cutoff at location of existing lock block wall along beach
- Uniform, level surface for deployable diking



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 5 – Dike along lagoon (1/2)

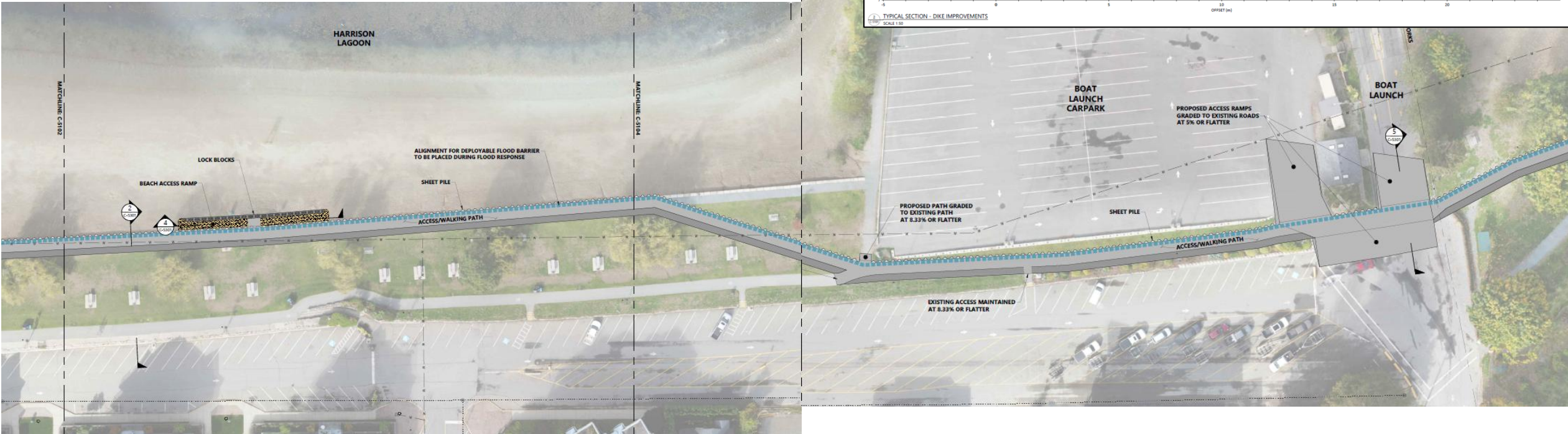
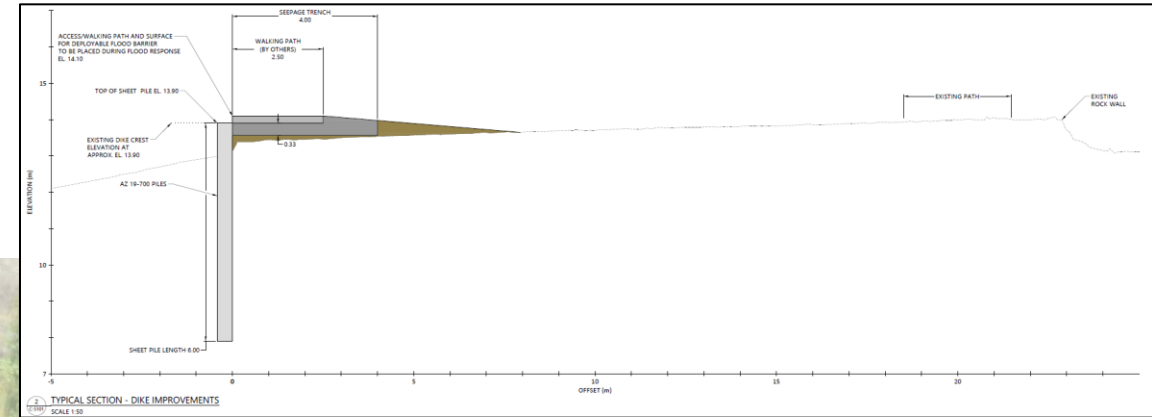
- Below-grade sheet pile seepage cutoff at location of existing lock block wall along beach
- Uniform, level surface for deployable diking



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 5 – Dike along lagoon (2/2)

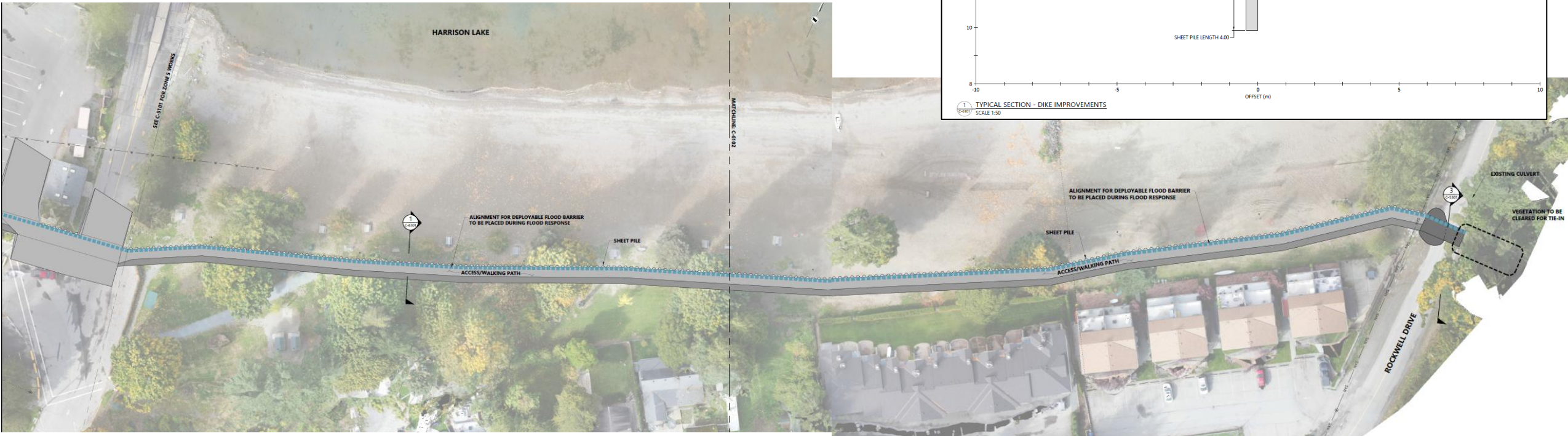
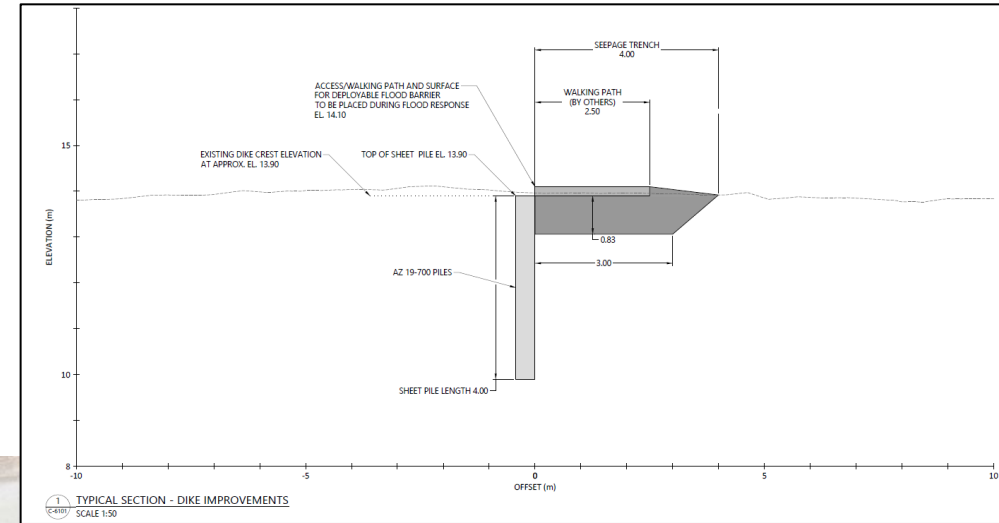
- Below-grade sheet pile seepage cutoff at location of existing lock block wall along beach
- Uniform, level surface for deployable diking



Design Overview (Preliminary)

Zone 6 – Dike along Rendall Park

- Below-grade sheet pile seepage cutoff along existing earthfill dike crest
- Uniform, level surface for deployable diking



Next Steps

- **Submit environmental permit applications**

- Federal and provincial in-stream work permits required
 - Approval timelines typically 12 months +

- **Complete detailed design**

- **Tendering and construction**

- Target fall 2026 construction for non-in-stream works
- Target fall 2027 construction for in-stream works

Thank you

Questions and Discussion

Honourable Minister Bailey

Minister for Finance
PO Box 9048 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Honourable Minister Boyle

Minister for Housing and Municipal Affairs
PO Box 9236 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9J1
HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Honourable Minister Kang

Minister for Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
PO Box 9082 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
TACS.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Bailey, Minister Boyle and Minister Kang,

April 27, 2026

On behalf of the Resort Community Collaborative (RCC), we are writing to express our collective support for the Look West Strategy and the Ministry of Tourism's recently released Tourism Sector Action Plan. We are convinced establishing new funding tools for tourism infrastructure, through the work of the cross-government Advisory Committee and alongside the RCC, is vital to delivering the tourism growth envisioned in Look West. We request that you give your staff direction to quickly finish this work.

We are encouraged by the Action Plan's focus on **Enabling Growth** and its in-print emphasis on modernizing tourism-related funding frameworks. We welcome the Action Plan's emphasis on collaboration and the Ministry's recognition that enabling sustainable growth requires coordinated action across all levels of government. To that end, the Province of BC and the RCC must complete this work together and urgently. Flexible, transparent, and locally responsive funding tools are essential for addressing local infrastructure and service delivery pressures, supporting destination management, and responding to the impacts associated with increased—and welcome—visitation. Targeted investment in established resort communities, already equipped with tourism accommodation and infrastructure, represents a tariff-proof, export-ready, high-yield engine for provincial economic growth.

The vision cannot be realized without appropriate funding mechanisms and support for these investments. With the required tools we can deliver significant tourism growth.

We look forward to ongoing work with your Ministries and participating in the development of practical, place-based solutions that support both thriving tourism destinations and resilient communities.

Yours sincerely, and on behalf of the Resort Community Collaborative.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JAC', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back to the right.

Mayor Jack Crompton, Resort Municipality of Whistler

Mayor Nic Milligan, City of Fernie

Mayor Ron Oszust, Town of Golden

Mayor Fred Talen, Village of Harrison Hot Springs

Mayor Al Miller, District of Invermere

Mayor Don McCormick, City of Kimberley

Mayor Sue McKortoff, Town of Osoyoos

Mayor Mike Gray, Village of Radium Hot Springs

Mayor Gary Sulz, City of Revelstoke

Mayor Andy Morel, City of Roseland

Mayor Rob O'Toole, Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality

Mayor Dan Law, District of Tofino

Mayor Marilyn McEwen, District of Ucluelet

Mayor Owen Torgerson, Village of Valemount

Amanda Graham

Subject: Safe Mother's Day and Public Safety in Your Municipality

From: Ending Violence & Advancing Equality <campaigncoordinator@bwss.org>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 8:23 AM

Cc: Angela Marie MacDougall <director@bwss.org>

Subject: Safe Mother's Day and Public Safety in Your Municipality

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Allow sender](#) | [Block sender](#)
| [Report](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to follow up on our previous outreach and meetings regarding gender-based violence and public safety in your municipality.

As Mother's Day approaches, many women are navigating separation, custody arrangements, and ongoing safety concerns. For some, this period brings increased risk, particularly where violence, coercive control, and post-separation abuse are present.

These conditions are already shaping safety across communities.

Recent killings of women in British Columbia, along with cases in other jurisdictions where children have been killed in the context of separation and custody disputes, reflect patterns that are already well understood. These deaths follow escalation, prior contact with systems, and missed opportunities for intervention.

Municipalities play a critical role in public safety through coordination with policing, housing, and community services. What happens next in these situations is shaped by decisions made at the local level.

We are asking your leadership to take the following steps:

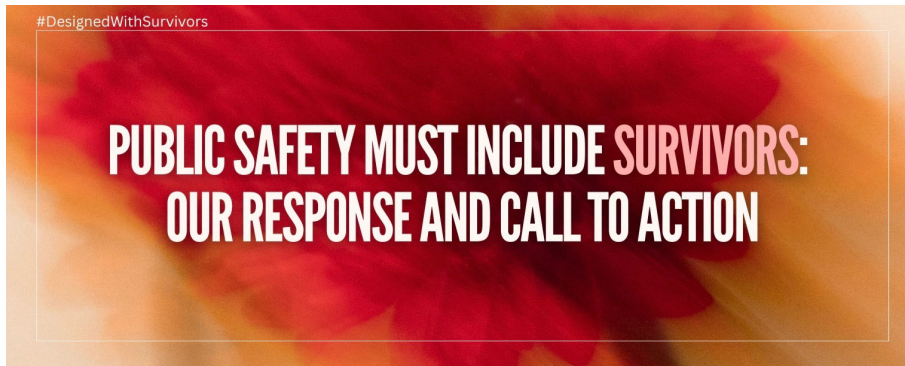
- Initiate public awareness on intimate partner violence prevention
- Publicly acknowledge the risks associated with gender-based violence, particularly during this time
- Demonstrate support for local frontline services through municipal channels, including funding, public statements, and coordination with community partners
- Confirm a meeting with Battered Women's Support Services to follow up on our previous discussions and next steps

This work builds on our ongoing engagement with municipalities across British Columbia to strengthen local responses to gender-based violence in particular intimate partner violence.

As part of our Safe Mother's Day public safety work, we will be sharing updates on municipal responses across the province.

We are requesting a response by **Friday, May 8, 2026**, to confirm next steps. We will follow up directly.

Yours sincerely,
Angela Marie MacDougall
Executive Director
Battered Women's Support Services



Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to follow up on our previous outreach and meetings regarding gender-based violence and public safety in your municipality.

As Mother's Day approaches, many women are navigating separation, custody arrangements, and ongoing safety concerns. For some, this period brings increased risk, particularly where violence, coercive control, and post-separation abuse are present. These conditions are already shaping safety across communities.

Recent killings of women in British Columbia, along with cases in other jurisdictions where children have been killed in the context of separation and custody disputes, reflect patterns that are already well understood. These deaths follow escalation, prior contact with systems, and missed opportunities for intervention.

Municipalities play a critical role in public safety through coordination with policing, housing, and community services. What happens next in these situations is shaped by decisions made at the local level.

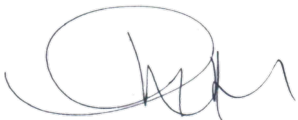
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Yours sincerely,
Angela Marie MacDougall



Executive Director
Battered Women's Support Services
(BWSS)



Mayor

Ross Siemens

Councillors

Les Barkman

Kelly Chahal

Patricia Driessen

Simon Gibson

Dave Loewen

Patricia Ross

Dave Sidhu

Mark Warkentin

May 8, 2026

File: 0530-003/0400-30

Via email - FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Brenda Bailey
Minister of Finance
Province of British Columbia

Dear Minister Bailey:

Re: Provincial Sales Tax Expansion

The City of Abbotsford has received a copy of your April 30, 2026 response to the Village of Zeballos regarding the expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST). We appreciate your explanation of the Government of BC's rationale, including the goal of broadening the tax base to better reflect the modern, service-oriented economy.

On behalf of Abbotsford City Council, I am writing to respectfully reinforce concerns raised by local governments across British Columbia regarding the application of PST to professional and related services, and to request further consideration of measures that would mitigate the impacts on municipalities.

As reflected in the City of Abbotsford's proposed 2026 UBCM resolution, local governments already face substantial fiscal pressures, including infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, and housing delivery, with limited revenue tools available. Applying PST to required professional services represents an internal cost shift within the public sector that constrains the ability of local governments to effectively deliver provincially mandated and essential community services. Professional services are crucial for municipal infrastructure delivery, regulatory compliance, and long-term capital planning.

While we acknowledge that the tax will apply to only a portion of certain service costs, the cumulative financial impact on local governments remains significant and creates upward pressure on project budgets and property taxation without improving service outcomes.

We also note the province's reference to broader tax policy alignment across jurisdictions and measures taken to reduce costs for businesses and local governments. While these measures are appreciated, they do not directly offset the specific and immediate financial impacts of the PST expansion on municipal capital and operating budgets.

Consistent with Abbotsford's UBCM resolution and the concerns raised by other communities such as the Village of Zeballos, we respectfully request that the province consider one of the following approaches:

1. Exempt local governments from the application of PST on professional and related services;
or
2. Implement a rebate or offset mechanism, similar to the GST model, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and mitigate impacts on affordability and infrastructure delivery.

We believe these approaches would maintain the broader tax objectives while recognizing the distinct role of local governments as public service providers operating within constrained fiscal frameworks.

The City of Abbotsford values its strong partnership with the Government of BC and remains committed to working collaboratively on solutions that support sustainable infrastructure investment, housing delivery, and community well-being. We would welcome the opportunity to engage further with you and your ministry to explore options that address these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ross Siemens
Mayor

- c. Hon. Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Bruce Banman, MLA Abbotsford South
Harman Bhangu, MLA Langley - Abbotsford
Reann Gasper, MLA Abbotsford-Mission
Heather Maahs, MLA Chilliwack North
Korky Neufeld, MLA Abbotsford West
Union of British Columbia Municipalities
British Columbia Regional Districts
Council members
Peter Sparanese, City Manager

Amanda Graham

Subject: Update on UBCM's Advocacy on the Heritage Conservation Act

From: UBCM <ubcm@ubcm.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 9:32 AM

To: Tyson Koch <tkoch@harrisonhotsprings.ca>

Subject: Update on UBCM's Advocacy on the Heritage Conservation Act

This sender is trusted.

Please distribute accordingly. View the document [here](#).



May 12, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council; Chair and Board; Chief and Council

CC: Chief Administrative Officers

FROM: Councillor Cori Ramsay
President, Union of BC Municipalities

RE: **Provincial efforts to renew the *Heritage Conservation Act***

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to you to provide an update on the Union of B.C. Municipalities' (UBCM) advocacy for a balanced, transparent process to renew the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) and provide some thoughts on what is likely to come next.

Where we are now

Last week UBCM **joined** with the Urban Development Institute, Mining Association of BC, Association for Mineral Exploration and the Independent Contractors Business Association to draw renewed attention to the Province's handling of the consultation process to update the HCA. I was glad to see the response from journalists to our message, with coverage in the **Vancouver Sun**, **Lodestar Media**, **Black Press** and others.

We know that our members – local governments and First Nations – recognize the need to update the current Act. The current legislation underwrites procedures that are administratively burdensome, slow and unresponsive. There is also ample evidence that archaeological protocols have led to significant costs for infrastructure projects, residential development and industrial construction.

As noted in our news release, UBCM refused the Province's invitation to sign a non-disclosure agreement to review drafting instructions for its proposed HCA legislation. In UBCM's opinion, the Province has not done the policy work necessary to be providing directions for drafting legislation at this time. What is needed now is thoughtful policy discussion among all interested parties, that would, in time, lead to a new set of drafting instructions.

This is not a new request from UBCM. When we first spoke out against the Province's approach to legislative renewal of the HCA last September, UBCM urged the Province to gather First Nations, local governments, archaeologists and industry in a process to jointly work out solutions that balance interests and have been ground truthed by practitioners.

Many of our members have substantial concerns with the policy papers that the Province has made available since August. We have heard consistently from our members that the provincial plans lack significant detail in critical areas; introduce unclear terminology; propose solutions (such as 'Heritage Management Plans') that are unworkable; and propose permitting solutions that are untested and unproven.

When UBCM met with Minister Parmar last week, I reiterated again that the Province should be bringing interested parties together into working group – not to review the current three-column document – but to tackle the complex policy questions that have not been addressed to date. While the discussion was frank and direct, I was not left with the impression that the Province was prepared to alter its course.

Next steps

We anticipate that the Province will begin a process to look for individual local government and First Nation member endorsements for their current plan, and that requests will be made for our members to sign non-disclosure agreements.

Each local government and First Nation should, of course, make its own decision whether to sign. If your community is approached, I hope you will consider UBCM's request for a joint working group to facilitate open, transparent discussion focused on solutions.

Last spring during her speech to UBCM's area associations, then-president Trish Mandewo raised the issue of non-disclosure agreements and how they can block our members from having meaningful discussion both internally and externally about key legislative matters.

UBCM believes that we need a process where all parties can participate and contribute to solutions. The piecemeal approach that we have seen since last fall is not working, and the only way to rectify it is through the Province bringing all interested parties together to hear each other and work out solutions jointly. Such a process cannot happen if the Province continues to push its current legislative plan and shut down discussion through the use of non-disclosure agreements.

The HCA needs to change, and UBCM wants to support that change, but we need to know that the Province is listening and drawing upon the expertise of those who have hands on experience with the current legislative framework.

If you have any questions or comments about this memo, please contact me through the UBCM office. Also, if you are approached to sign an NDA by the Province, we would be interested to know, so please be in touch.

Sincerely,



Councillor Cori Ramsay

President, Union of BC Municipalities

Please distribute this memo to Mayor and Council; Chair and Board; Chief and Council

Union of BC Municipalities | 525 Government Street | Victoria, BC V8V 0A8 CA

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File No: 0390-20-04

Date: May 19, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
From: Amanda Graham, Corporate Officer
Subject: 2026 UBCM Convention Provincial Appointments

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT staff be directed to request meetings with Cabinet Ministers at the 2026 UBCM Convention as follows:
 - Minister of Citizen's Services regarding a funding stream for responding to FOI requests;
 - Minister of Forests regarding the BC Timber Sales Operating Plan consultation process and the importance of FireSmart funding;
 - Minister of Health regarding funding and recruiting for the Village Health Centre;
 - Minister of Infrastructure regarding funding and timeline for a new elementary school;
 - Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation regarding modern treaties;
 - Minister of Transportation and Transit regarding e-unicycle and e-hover board regulation and increased enforcement/education regarding the e-scooter pilot program; and
 - Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship regarding hot springs source oversight.
2. THAT staff be directed to request meetings with Ministry staff should the requested meetings with the Cabinet Ministers not be granted.

SUMMARY

To receive direction from Council regarding appointment requests for the 2026 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention.

BACKGROUND

The 2026 UBCM Convention will take place in Vancouver from September 14 to 18, 2026. The convention presents the opportunity for delegates to meet with the Premier, Cabinet Ministers and staff from Ministries Agencies, Commissions and Corporations (MACC). Council may wish to discuss topics of importance requiring provincial action or assistance and resolve that staff be directed to request appointments with the appropriate Ministers or, if unavailable, the appropriate Ministries, Agencies, Commissions and Corporations staff.

DISCUSSION

Appointment requests are now open. The deadline to request a meeting with the Premier and Cabinet Ministers is June 24, 2026. This year, meetings with MACC staff will be conducted virtually during the week prior to UBCM, September 8-11, 2026. The deadline for MACC staff meetings requests is August 5, 2026.

The Ministers and topics in the recommendation reflect prior UBCM meeting requests and Council discussions over the past year.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

2025-2026 Strategic Plan

Sustainable Development – To maintain Harrison Hot Springs as a place we call home.

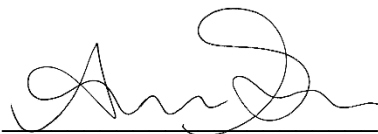
Healthy Livable Community – To promote and enhance a healthy lifestyle for all ages.

Environmental Protection – To restore and protect the environment for future generations.

Infrastructure Development – To provide for the needs of a growing community.

Public Safety – To ensure and enhance public safety.

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer

Reviewed by:



Tyson Koch
Chief Administrative Officer