

# Union Bay Improvement District Conversion Study

Newsletter #1

March 2020

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) has initiated a study of alternate governance options for the Union Bay Improvement District (UBID), specifically the potential conversion of existing UBID services (water, fire protection, and street lighting) to the CVRD. Urban Systems, a consulting firm with offices in Victoria and Courtenay, has been commissioned to undertake a technical, unbiased review of the options and engage stakeholders and the public in the process. The study has been funded in part by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The purpose of this study is to understand and communicate the financial implications, benefits and challenges, and the potential public concerns associated to a change of governance of UBID services to the current ratepayers, as well as to identify opportunities to enhance services under the current governance structure.

The study will include a detailed background review of existing services and a comprehensive analysis of two potential options for the CVRD and UBID to possibly move forward with:

**Option A:** Convert UBID's services to CVRD services.

**Option B:** Outline and make recommendations to improve UBID's governance and service delivery if UBID does not convert its services to CVRD.

The study will be conducted over the next 6 months based on the milestones dates to the right.

In addition to the technical analysis, public engagement and consultation will be a critical component to the study, as it is the ratepayers who will decide the path forward through the elector assent process.

For more information, please e-mail: [UBIDgovernance@urbansystems.ca](mailto:UBIDgovernance@urbansystems.ca)

MARCH - APRIL

BACKGROUND REVIEW  
AND STAKEHOLDER  
ENGAGEMENT

APRIL - MAY

ANALYSIS OF  
GOVERNANCE  
OPTIONS

JUNE

DRAFT REPORT

JUNE - JULY

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE  
AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT

AUGUST

FINAL REPORT