

File: 7200-20/Merville

August 27, 2020

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Dear resident or property owner:

Re: Merville Fire Protection Service Area Update

On August 25, 2020 the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board approved to move forward with an Alternative Approval Process (AAP) to help finance the construction and equipping of a new Greater Merville Fire Protection Service fire hall located at Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society (MARS). Receiving this letter advises you that you fall within the Merville Fire Protection Service Area.

Project Background

In 2016 the consultant's report recommended the development of an auxiliary fire hall, centrally located within the Greater Merville area could provide the following benefits to the community:

- Improved life-safety for residents within the Merville Fire Protection Service.
- Reduced insurance premiums if located within eight kilometers from responding fire hall.
- Dedicated medical first responder delivery for the community.

The CVRD has committed to construct, equip and operate a new auxiliary fire hall to be located at MARS.

Electoral Assent

The borrowing of funds to complete the project will require elector assent. That is: the residents and property owners of the Merville Fire Protection Service Area will have to give permission for the CVRD to borrow the funds for construction and equipment purchase for the new Merville fire hall.

At its August 25, 2020 meeting the CVRD Board endorsed an AAP as the mechanism to seek elector assent.

Prior to the AAP beginning later this year, you will receive another letter outlining the full details of the process. As well, you can remain up to date by signing up for notifications on our website for the Merville Fire Service Project www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/mervillefire.

Covid-19 Communication Requirements

Due to COVID 19 and Public Health Orders requiring physical distancing and gathering restrictions, the CVRD will be utilizing addressed letters, like this one, as well as providing updated information on the CVRD website at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/mervillefire.

The goal is to provide residents and property owners of the service area with the information they require to make an informed decision regarding the AAP question, while adhering to the Public Health Orders.

For more information please contact myself via telephone at 250-334-6044, via email at jbast@comoxvalleyrd.ca or via mail at 770 Harmston Avenue, Courtenay, BC V9N 0G8.

Sincerely,

J. Bast

James Bast
Manager of Fire Services
Community Services Branch

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