

**Public Meeting July 12, 2015
in Quilchena, BC
for the Proposed Fire Protection Service
Extension to
Harmon Estates**

Public Meeting July 12, 2016

Harmon Estates Proposed Fire Protection Service

- Introductions
Director Murray, Electoral Area “M”
Director Graham, Electoral Area “N”
- History
Ron Storie
- Risk – Insurance Provider
- Service Area / Service Structure / Intent
- Scope of Service
Merritt Fire Chief Dave Tomkinson
- Tax Impacts
Sukh Gill
- Petition Process/ Timing
Carolyn Black
- Questions
Directors Murray and Graham

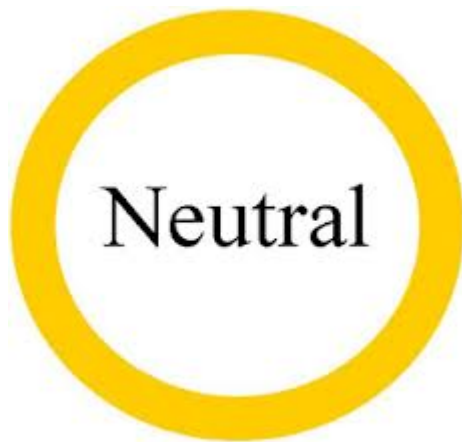


History

- One of your local Harmon Estate residents approached the TNRD about the proposed fire service
- A informal petition from local residents was circulated
- Merritt Council has confirmed they have capacity for this service extension



The TNRD is



Directors Murray and Graham have discussed their willingness to see this service move forward in the community should the residents choose it



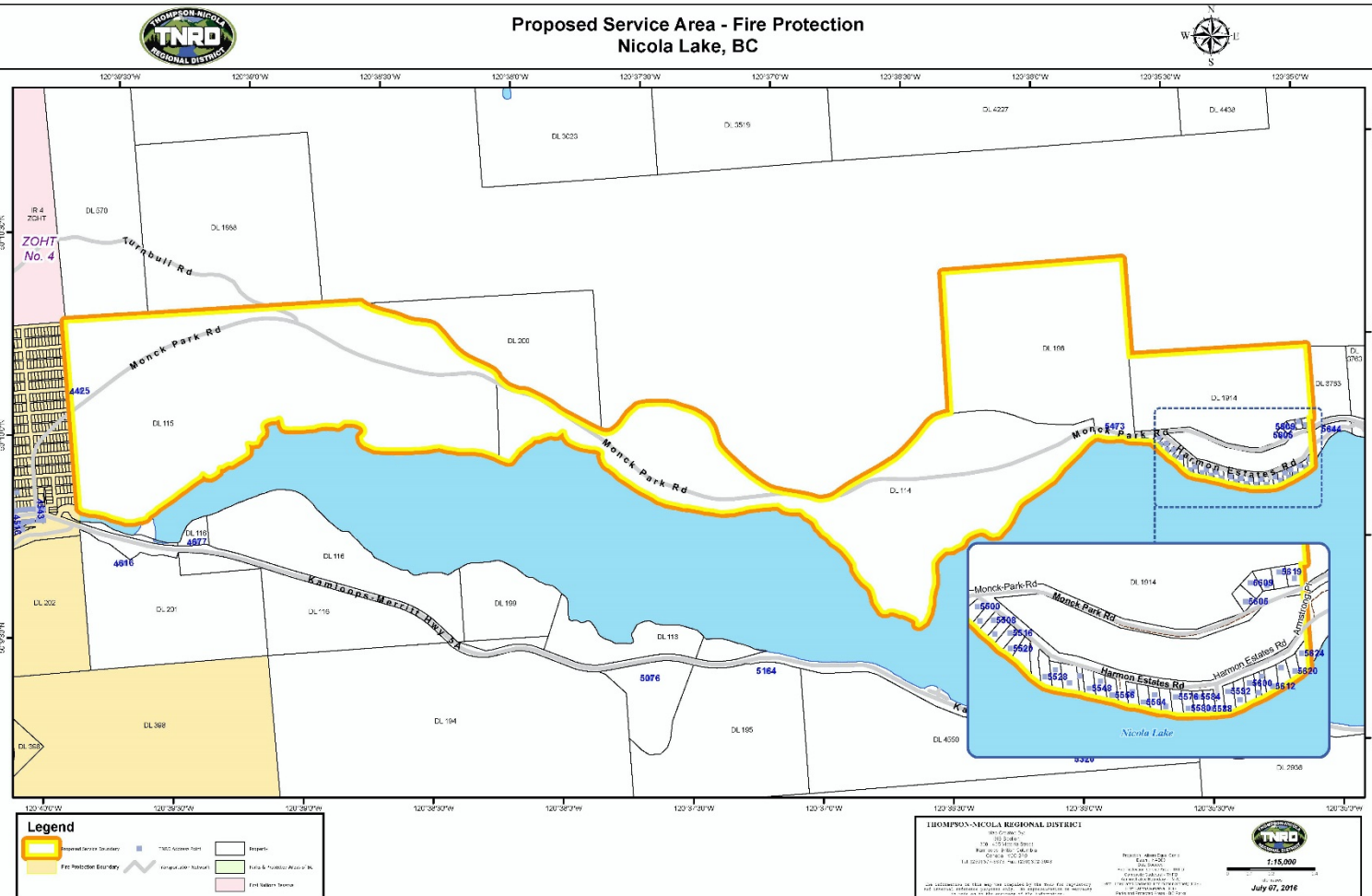
Risk – Insurance Provider

- Local government CANNOT provide assurance to residents with respect to a reduction in fire insurance premium costs -Phone your insurance broker to determine if it will reduce fire insurance premiums



Proposed Service Area

Area where fire protection services are provided



Service Structure

The Service Provider for the fire protection area will be Merritt Fire Rescue

- Taxation would be administered through TNRD





Intent

- The Merritt Fire Department, through the service establishment, will provide additional public safety to the community by fighting house fires and vehicle fires only

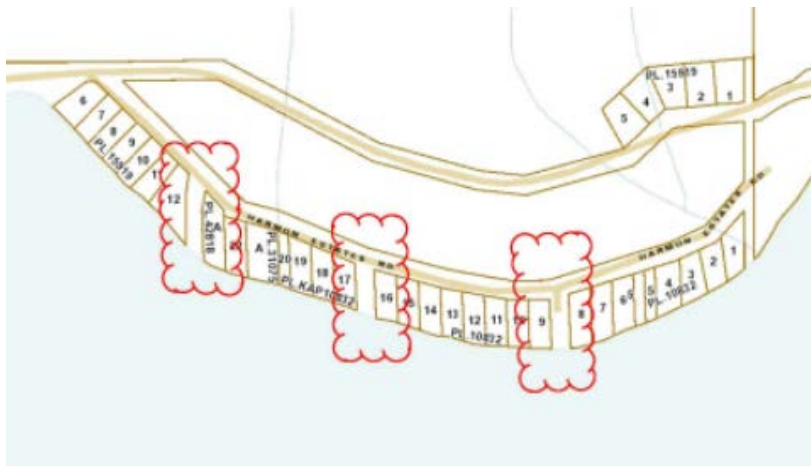
*Public
Safety*

Scope of Service



Scope of Service

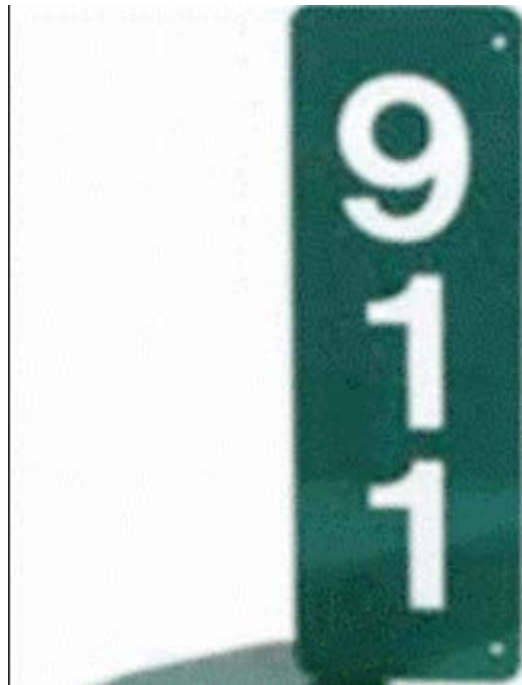
MOT Right of Way



- The Ministry of Transport Road Right of Way to Nicola Lake should be clear of chatels in order that the Merritt Fire Department Access Nicola Lake

Scope of Service

- 911 Addressing



- Residents will be asked to ensure they have their 911 address clearly posted and in a visible position

Scope of Service



- Wildfire Management Branch (WMB) will only engage in interface fires by setting up Structural Protection Units (SPU's) in a wildfire setting
- WMB doesn't fight structure fires
- WMB will pay for apparatus and firefighters if their equipment meets the standard and if firefighters have accredited training



Scope of Service



- BC Emergency Health Services will continue to provide the rural community with health care in emergencies
- Merritt's Fire Department does not provide First Responder Services outside of City of Merritt boundaries



Annual Cost

- Estimate additional costs for expanded boundaries to be approximately \$7,400 in 2017
- Current agreement with City of Merritt calls for annual fees to be indexed for inflation

Tax Impacts

Based on Entire Expanded Service Area	Current	Proposed
2017 Tax Requisition	\$129,500	\$136,900
Residential Rate	\$0.3994 per \$1,000 of assessment	\$0.4046 per \$1,000 of assessment
Average Class 1 Residential Assessment	\$ 208,386	\$ 214,860
Average Tax per Residence	\$83	\$87

Maximum rate in Bylaw is \$0.90/\$1,000 (blended, all classes)



Tax Impacts

RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE
based on \$136,900 Requisition

Per \$1,000

\$0.4046

Per \$100,000

\$40.46

RESIDENTIAL TAXES
based on Rate/\$1,000 and
\$214,860 Average Assessment (2016)

~ \$87.00



Tax Impacts

RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE

In Harmon Estates assessment is higher

- average is ~ \$403,543

Per \$1,000

\$0.4046

avg. H.E. new taxes

\$163.27

Home Owners Grant Information

- Applicable to principal residence
- If under 65, you pay minimum \$350 on first \$1,120 of property tax (i.e. grant of up to \$770)
- 65 and older, pay minimum tax of \$100 on first \$1,145 of property tax (i.e. grant of up to \$1,045)



Home Owners Grant Information

- There are one or two properties in the expansion area that will benefit from utilizing more HOG and either not see an increase in taxes payable or increase would be less
- Advantage ends at assessment of approx. \$187,000

APPROVAL PROCESS OPTIONS



- Referendum
- Petition
- Alternative Approval



PETITION

- Property (land) owners decide
- Sufficiency is obtained only if petitions signed by:
 1. a majority (50% or more) of the property owners in the proposed service area and
 2. the owners who sign must represent 50% or more of the net taxable assessed land and improvement values in the proposed service area



PETITION

- Two (2) owners of the property? Both parties must sign the petition.
- More than 2 owners of the property? A majority of the registered property owners must sign the petition.
- If the owner is a corporation, the petition must be signed by the duly authorized signatories.



PETITION RESULTS

If property owners approve through petition process:

- Service can commence on January 1, 2017
- Requisitioning of taxes begins in 2017

If property owners do not approve through petition process:

- Service does not proceed

TIMING

Date	Assuming Community Support and Successful Petition Process
July 12th	Public Information Meeting & community support
July 14 th	Board authorizes Petition process
July 18 th	Petition distribution commences
August 26 th	Deadline for Receipt of Petitions
Sept 22 nd	Board reviews bylaw – 3 readings
October 13 th	Board adopts bylaw
January 1 st	Service begins

STRAW POLL/SECRET BALLOT



- Gauges community support for carrying out a formal public assent process
- Ballots will be distributed by TNRD staff
- Mark either YES or NO and deposit in the ballot box
- TNRD staff will count the ballots and report results

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Questions?



Thompson-Nicola Regional District

