

CVRD South Region –  
Wastewater Management  
Shellfish Aquaculture Management  
Advisory Committee  
April 25, 2022

# Regional Sewer Service for CVRD South Region



**POOR CONDITIONS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS**



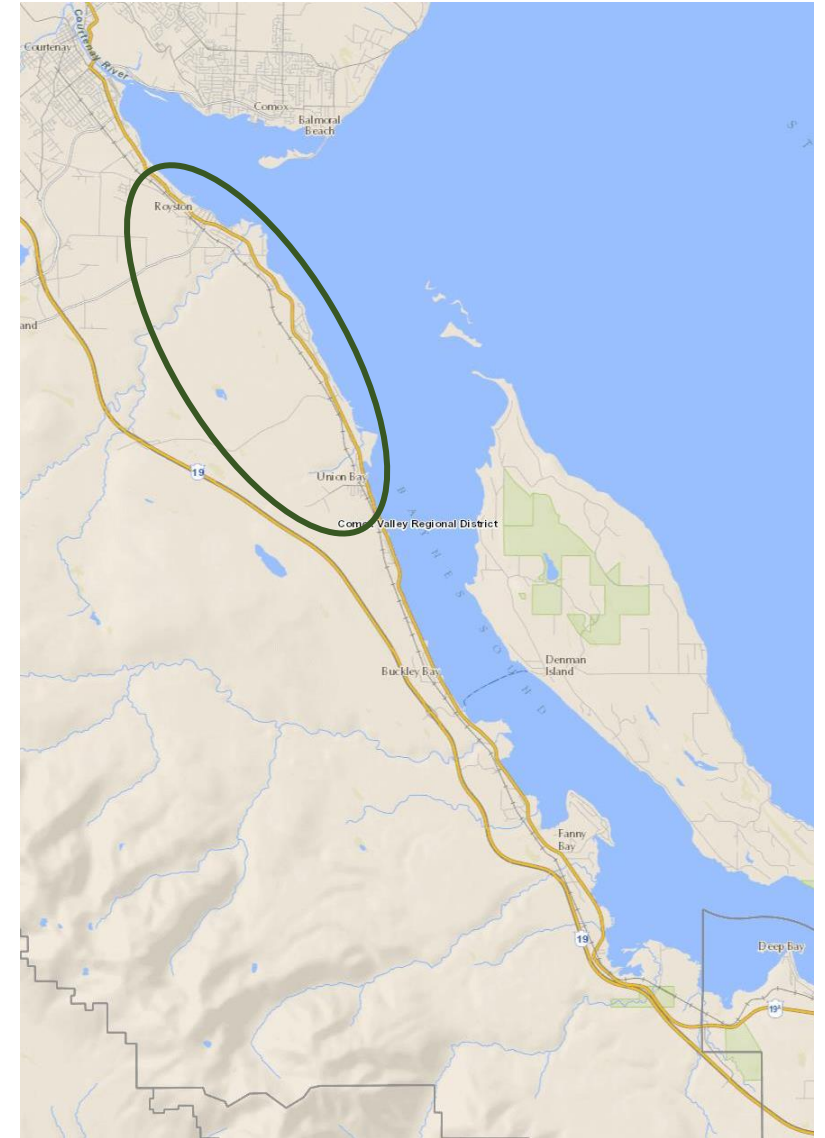
**RISK TO BAYNES SOUND**



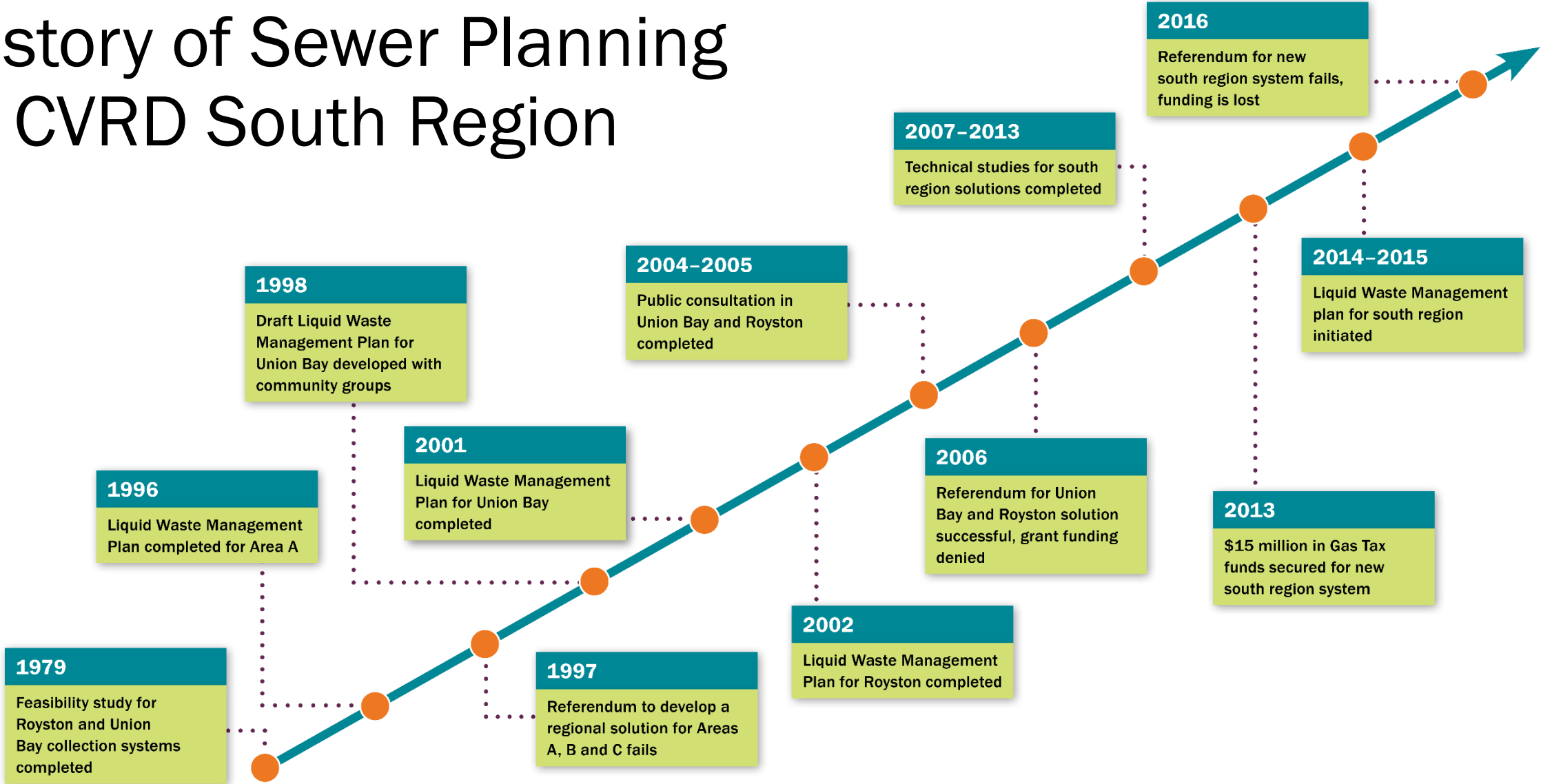
**AGING AND FAILING SYSTEMS**



**EXISTING POPULATION HUB**



# History of Sewer Planning in CVRD South Region



# Progress since 2016 referendum



## REVIEW (2018)

- Sewage Commission supports request by Electoral A to assess extension of services.
- Analysis includes technical, regulator and financial impacts of possible extension.



## DECISION (2020)

- After reviewing assessment, Sewage Commission agrees to receive wastewater from Royston, Union Bay and K'omoks First Nation south lands.

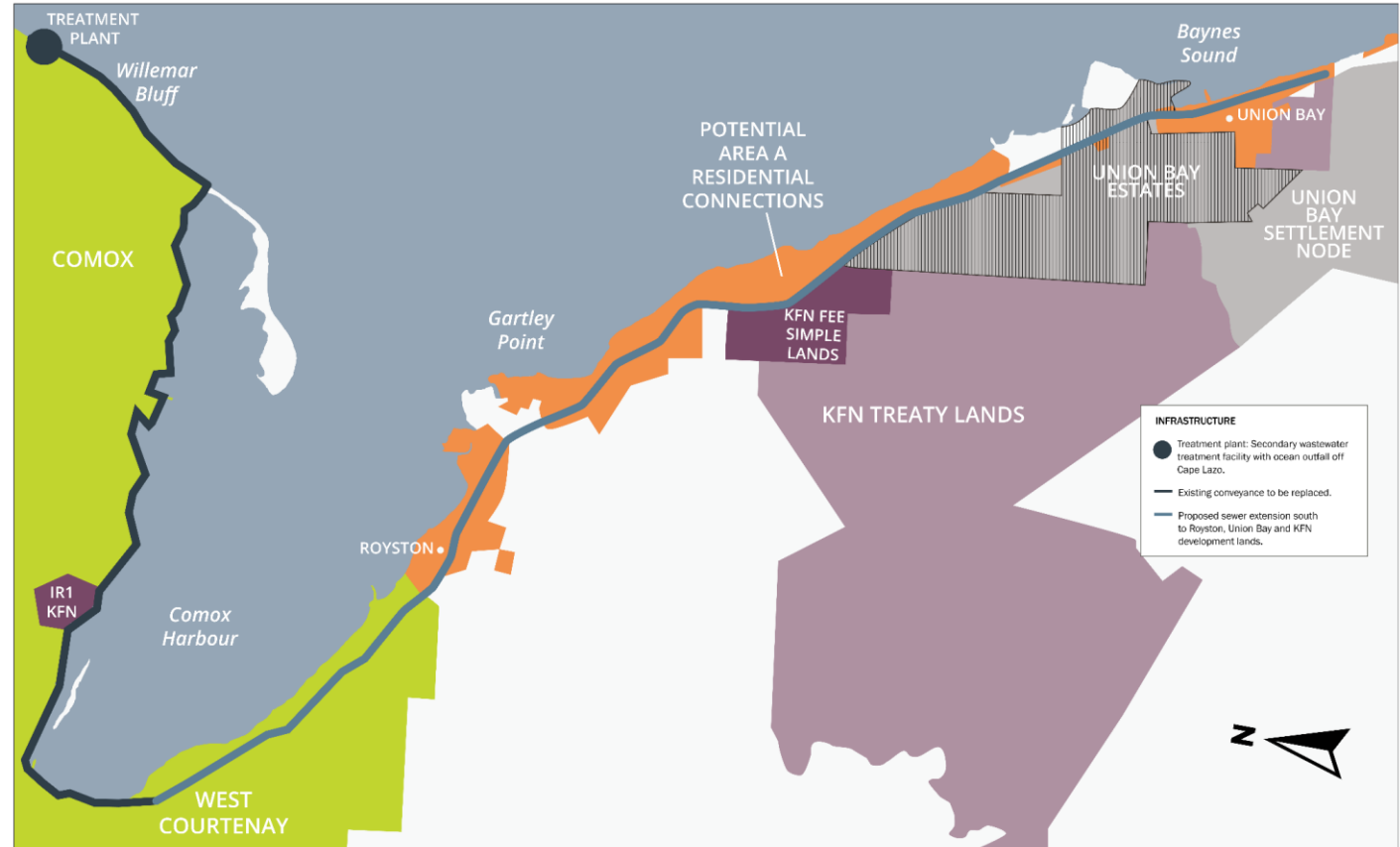


## GRANTS (2022)

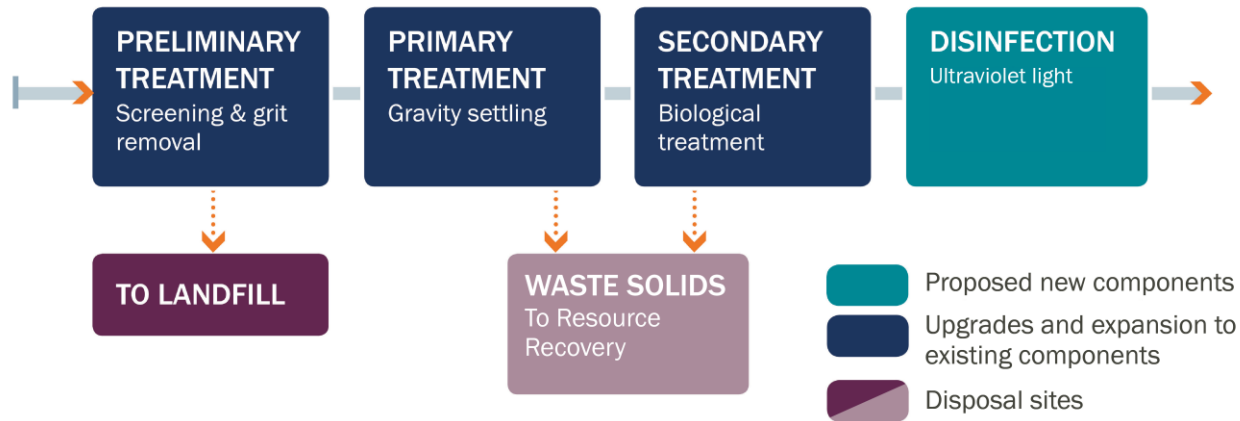
- CVRD partnered with K'omoks First Nation to submit a grant funding application, with support of Union Bay Estates in January 2022.
- Program criteria influences the concept and need for a phased approach.

# Sewer Extension South – Project Considerations

- Environmental health
- Technical feasibility
- Total project cost
- Grant funding limits, objectives
- Project partner contributions
- Affordability for residents
- Project Timing

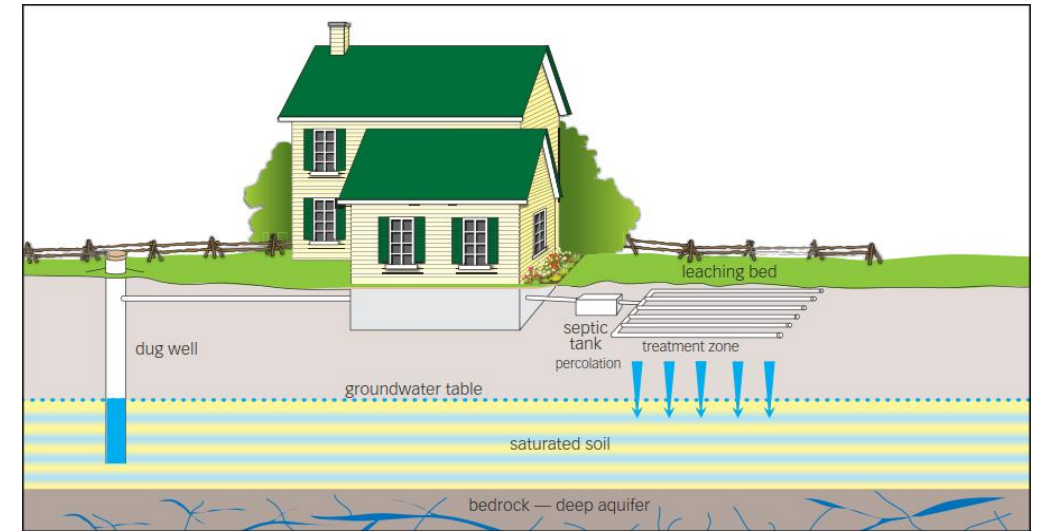


# Sewer vs. Septic



## SEWAGE TREATMENT:

- Existing municipal system exceeds regulatory requirements to discharge to ocean
- All wastewater goes through secondary treatment
- Plan to install UV disinfection
- 24/7 operation with qualified, professional operators

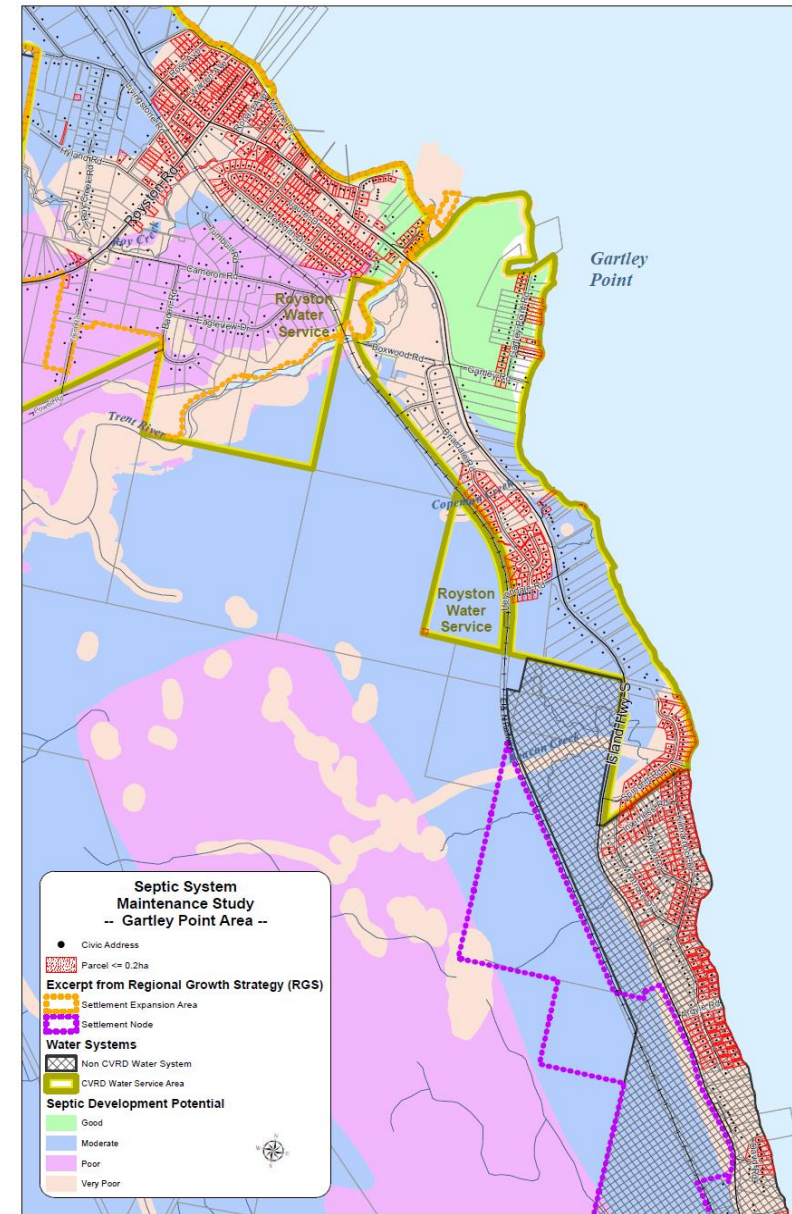


## SEPTIC SYSTEMS:

- Regular maintenance required
- Poorly maintained systems pose threat to environment and health
- Study work showed a 50 per cent failure rate for septic systems in the area
- Replacement is expensive: \$15,000-\$50,000
- Additional regulatory tools may be required to address issues in area

# Analysis of Septic System Records

- CVRD agreement with Island Health
  - Access to septic system records for Royston & Union Bay
- Analysis for Royston area:
  - 63% of systems over 25 years old
  - 29% of systems over 50 years old
- Analysis for Union Bay area:
  - 67% of systems over 25 years old
  - 45% of systems over 50 years old



# CVRD Septic Initiatives

## Homeowner education

- Program webpage
  - [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/septic](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/septic)
- Education workshops
- Future incentive program

## Study work

- Regulatory program options
- Environmental monitoring
- Island Health records for other areas





# What's Happening Next

## Sewer Servicing

- Further engineering/design
- Public Engagement – Spring/Summer 2022
- Elector Approval – Fall 2022

## Septic systems

- Continue education program
- Possible incentive program
- Consider land use zoning changes and further regulatory measures

