

ADDENDUM
REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
ROOM 1, BOWEN PARK COMPLEX
500 BOWEN ROAD
THURSDAY, 2015-MAR-19, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

ITEM	PAGES
9.(e) <u>Draft Beban Park Master Plan Update.</u>	
<u>Add the following delegations:</u>	
2. Lesley Coultish, Nanaimo Equestrian Association.	75.1-75.7
3. Peter McCaffery – Nanaimo Velodrome Proposal.	75.8
4. Karen Streeter & Stephen Kass, Vancouver Island Exhibition.	75.9
5. Jennifer McGarrigle, Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club.	75.10
6. Christopher Brown, Bowen Road Farmers Market.	75.11

DELEGATION REQUEST:

Lesley Coultish has requested an appearance before the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The requested date is: Mar 19, 2015.

The requested meeting is: PRC

Presenter's information

Address:

City: Nanaimo

Province: British Columbia

Postal Code:

Home Phone: (250)

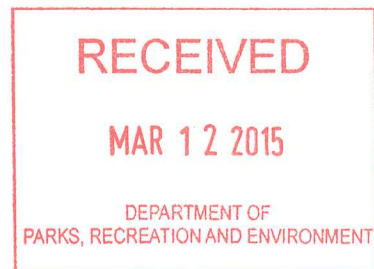
Email:

Bringing a presentation: Yes

Business Phone: (250)

Details of Presentation:

Further input into the Master Plan for Beban Park from Nanaimo Equestrian Association.





NEA

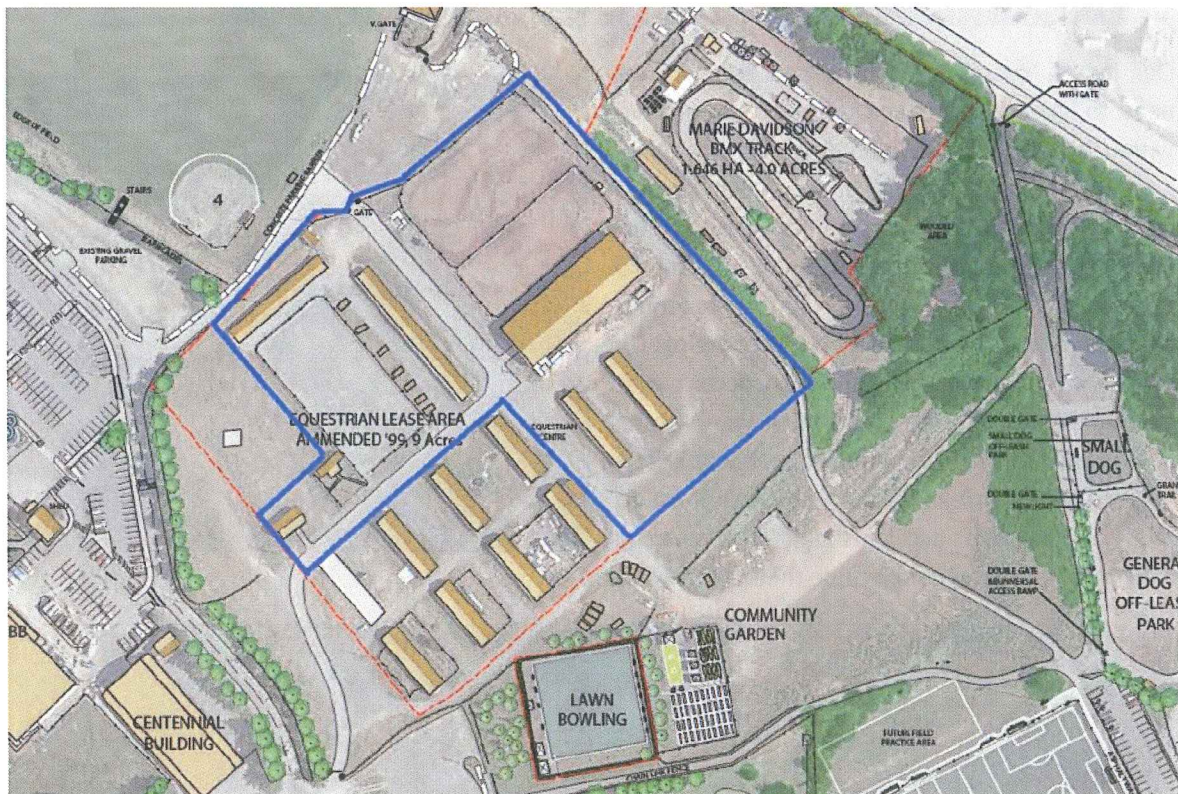
NANAIMO EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION

Overview

What is the Nanaimo Equestrian Association? Where are they located?

The Nanaimo Equestrian Association has been part of Beban Park for 30 years and is responsible for the Equestrian Grounds upkeep and facility maintenance, especially during large events, such as the recent BC Summer Games where we facilitated upgrades valued at \$30,000.

The facility consists of two wood fibre outdoor rings, one extra large outdoor sand ring, and one indoor sand ring. There is a newly updated clubhouse and announcer's room with PA system, washrooms, 118 covered stalls, onsite manure dumping and shavings area, large trailer parking space, and meeting area.



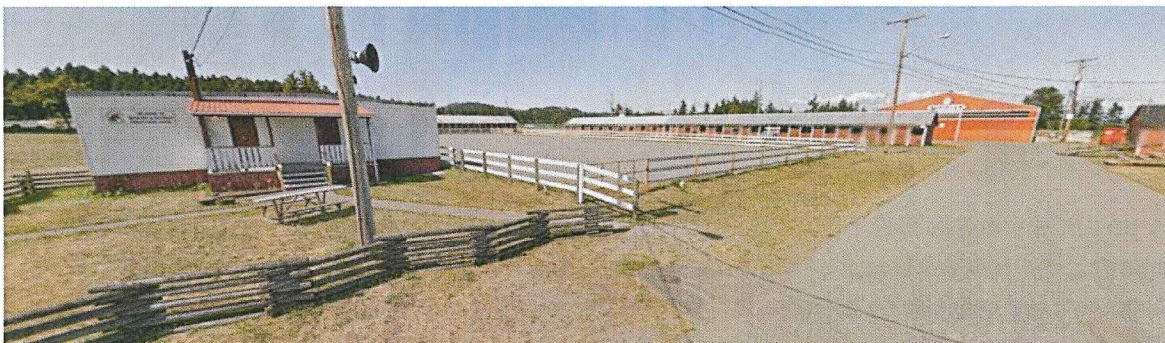
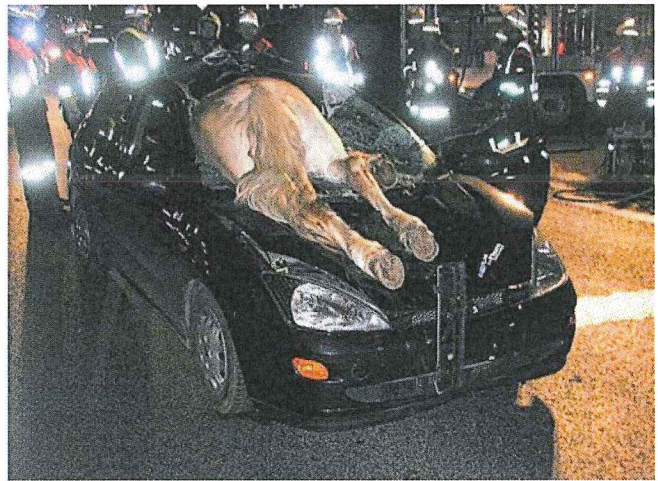
As part of the Beban Park Master Plan stakeholder interviews we expressed our ideas and concerns regarding the redevelopment of the Park but we would like to take a few minutes to reiterate those things that we consider to be more in line with the needs of not only equestrian users, but also any other users who might involve animals in their events.

1) Perimeter Fencing

The current draft suggests that horse barns be relocated along a proposed roadway known as the Beban Parkway. This would locate the barns away from the riding arenas. We would suggest that the opposite is needed; that the barns be located as closely as possible to the riding arenas.



Our largest concern is safety, and as such, we need to have all barns and riding arenas located within a fenced area. Fencing is NEA's primary goal for our 2015 improvements and is important not just for the safety of Beban Park users but for traffic along Bowen, Labieux, and Northfield Roads. It is remarkable to me that we have not had a serious incident due to a horse escaping. No one wants to see a 6 year old minor soccer player get run over by a horse and no one wants to be driving the vehicle that hits, and probably kills, a horse. Perimeter fencing is an absolute must to minimize possible accidents and the ensuing liability issues that would include the City of Nanaimo.





At the same time we also recognize that the current draft plan is trying to encourage pedestrian flow through the park so is trying to avoid fencing as they worry this will disrupt flow. NEA suggests chain link perimeter fencing with some form of people pass-through to ensure safety around animals, deter vehicle access, theft, and vandalism while still allowing unrestricted pedestrian flow through the equestrian grounds.

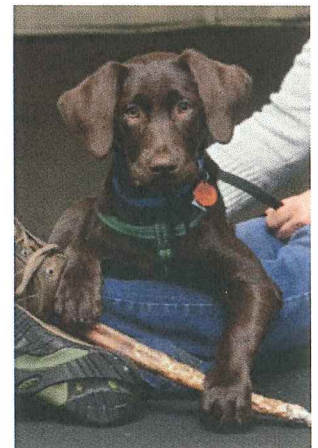
2) Encourage Multi-Use



NEA recognizes that the equestrian grounds are part of a larger park and that all areas of the park should be available for a variety of uses. To encourage this, NEA would like to remove Barn 2, currently the oldest horse stalls and those most in



need of repair. We would like to replace it with a covered picnic shelter that could be used year round as a farmers market or by any other groups wanting access to a covered outdoor area, while still having the capability to hold portable stalls for large animal events as required.



NEA has identified improvement to the existing barns as our second priority after fencing and hope to be able to begin in 2016 with the proposed replacement of Barn 2 and an addition to the exterior of the Agriplex to accommodate the loss of those 44 stalls.





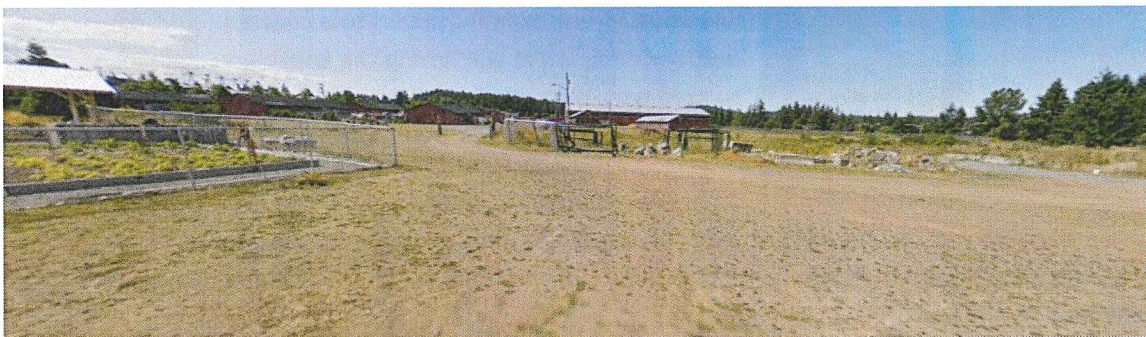
NEA envisions a second indoor space in what are now the Hog fuel rings. This space would have a breezeway to connect it to the existing Agriplex similar to the Chilliwack Heritage Park/Expo Centre. The second indoor would allow for larger events of all types which Nanaimo has previously had to turn down, usually sending these exhibitors and tourists to Nanoose to use Arbutus Meadows.

Events such as the RCMP Ride, the Island Outdoor RV show, and the Island Classic Hunter/Jumper show are examples of larger events Nanaimo has lost because of a lack of a suitable facility. The proposed indoor would have built in stadium seating, built in sound systems, provision for a concession area, provisions to cover the floor for multi-purpose events, and handicap access and washroom facilities.



3) Access to Beban Park and the Equestrian Grounds

The current draft plan makes provision for the Beban Parkway which would link Bowen Road to Labieux Road. NEA feels this idea will divide the park rather than making it a more cohesive unit. Besides the obvious cost savings, not building the Beban Parkway would allow the Community Gardens to remain in their current location, saving the cost of relocation of both the facility and the required infrastructure, and would provide space for the proposed greenhouses adjacent to the gardens. This would allow NEA to retain the forty stalls and storage area located in Barns 3 and 4 and retain the grassy area which is currently used for truck and trailer parking during equestrian events, as part of the race track during cycling events, as overflow parking during dog shows and other large events, as a place for large machinery and tractor pulls during the VIEX, and as a camping area during animal related events.



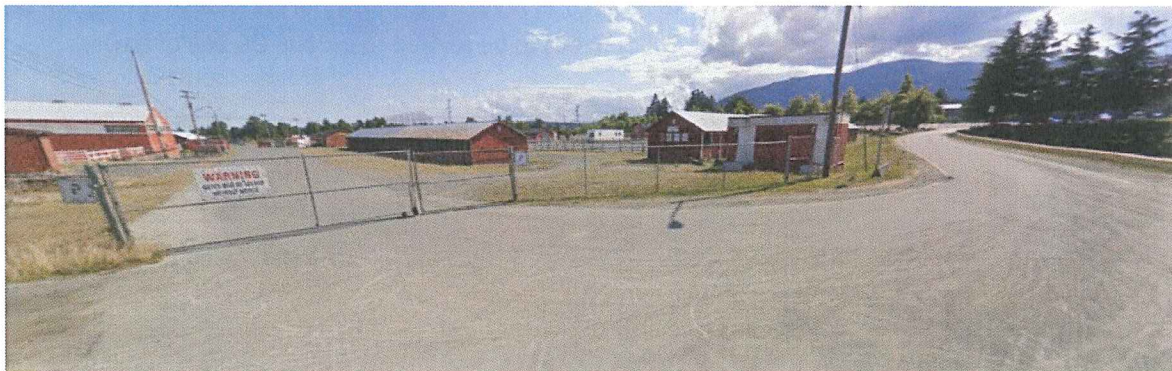
In lieu of the Beban Parkway, NEA suggests simply improving and expanding current access points to the park and Equestrian grounds. This would include:

- Widening and paving the access from Labieux Road to provide better access to both the Off leash Park, the Community Gardens/Greenhouses and the Equestrian grounds. Use of Labieux road by horse trailers would make leaving Beban Park a much safer proposition as the north end of Labieux is a lighted intersection, making a left hand turn onto Bowen road easier and safer.

- Removing the blue city gate and improving the paved access to the Equestrian Grounds and the proposed new VIEX building.



- Widening the access road to the Minor Soccer Park to a 2-lane road. This would require the relocation of washrooms for the Equestrian grounds. If this were to happen, NEA suggests washrooms closer to the Community Gardens to accommodate the Off-leash park and Garden users.



4) Camping Hookups

NEA would like have RV hook ups installed in the grassy area next to Barns 3 and 4. In 2012, the City of Nanaimo was accused of being in the business of camping and taking away business from local operators. As a result, the Camping Policy was revised to allow camping by self-contained units only. Lessee's were required to apply for camping permits for their events, administer the permits, collect the fees, and submit the fees to the City that they had previously kept to help fund grounds maintenance, thereby putting the City squarely in the business of Camping.

NEA exhibitors, VIEX exhibitors, and Dog show participants are not frequenting the grounds to camp for fun. They do not camp at Beban to enjoy the lovely view, the proximity to a local swimming hole, or quiet solitude in the evenings. Exhibitors are only spending the night on the grounds to ensure the safety of their very precious, and often very expensive, animals and equipment during events. I'm not sure what amenities are available for the dog show people, but I do know that not one single campground or RV Park in this area offers any facilities for horse camping. What's more, they have no intention of doing so. I know this because we asked.



Above shows Arbutus Meadows Equestrian Facility with free camping (no hookups)

Currently the City is charging fees that are comparable to Government campgrounds for tents and does not allow power or water hookup. The increasing cost of camping, currently at \$27.50/ night + tax and scheduled to increase to \$30 + tax by 2016, and the lack of hookups are making it increasingly difficult for any multi-day events involving animals to take place at Beban. NEA has already lost one multi-day equestrian event at a cost of \$4500 for a 3 day event, a second is in jeopardy and I know that the Nanaimo Kennel Club is considering relocating their multi-day show after 30 years at this location. If the City of Nanaimo does not want to be accused of being in the business of camping, they should allow the Lessees to establish camping rates and to retain that revenue towards the grounds that they are tasked with maintaining. At the very least, the Policy needs to be revised to include the use of Power.

Thank you for your time,

Lesley Coultish

President

Nanaimo Equestrian Association



75.7

DELEGATION REQUEST:

Peter McCaffery has requested an appearance before the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The requested date is Mar 19, 2015.

The requested meeting is: PRC

Presenter's information

Address:

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

Postal Code:

Home Phone: (250)

Email:

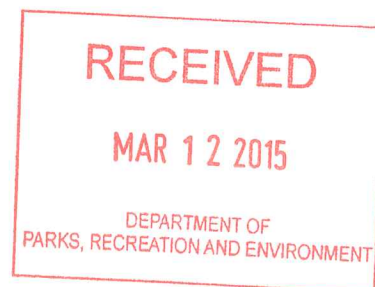
Bringing a presentation: Yes

Business Phone: (250)

Details of Presentation:

Update on Nanaimo Velodrome Proposal.

Details of 200 metre bicycle racing track plus suitable locations and multi-sport activities that can be accommodated.





REQUEST TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION

ON 2015 - March - 19
year month day

NAME OF PERSON MAKING PRESENTATION: KAREN STREETER & STEPHEN KASS

Print

ADDRESS: #4-2300 BOWEN RD, NANAIMO, BC V9T 3K7
street address City Province Postal Code

PHONE: 250-739-4470 250-758-3247 FAX: 250-758-3277
home business

NAME OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN ABOVE: _____

DETAILS OF PRESENTATION:

We will present the VLEX sponsor
thankyou plaque to the Commission.

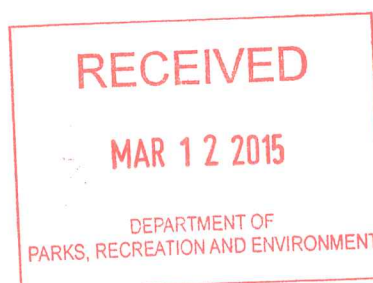
Also, we will be presenting our
letter of support for the Belcar
Park Master Plan.

PLEASE NOTE

- **Electronic presentations** must be provided on a CD, memory stick, or by e-mail no later than 9:00 a.m. the day of the Meeting.
- Please submit a written copy of your presentation to the Recording Secretary either at, or prior to, the Meeting.
- **Multiple speakers** on a single issue or topic shall be given 5 minutes each to make their presentations as per Section 18.6 of the Council Procedure Bylaw.

Parks and Recreation Commission
500 Bowen Road, Nanaimo BC V9R 1Z7

75.9



Phone: (250) 755-7511
Fax: (250) 753-7277
parks@nanaimo.ca

Jennifer McGarrigle has requested an appearance before the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The requested date is Mar 19, 2015.

The requested meeting is: Parks and Recreation Commission

Presenter's information

Address:

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

Postal Code:

Home Phone: (250)

Email: nanaimomountainbikeclub@gmail.com

Bringing a presentation: No

Business Phone: (250)

Details of Presentation:

An introduction to the Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club and our mandate and plans for the region; how the Club executive feels a Beban bike skills park fits into mountain biking in the community and why it's important.

Christopher Brown has requested an appearance before the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The requested date is Mar 19, 2015.

The requested meeting is: Parks and Recreation Commission

Presenter's information

Address:

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

Postal Code:

Home Phone: (250)

Email:

Bringing a presentation: No

Details of Presentation:

I will be speaking on behalf of the Bowen Road farmers market and will be talking about the civic benefits of creating a space for a year round farmers market and agricultural gathering place. I strongly believe that Beban Park should maintain its agricultural roots, and a year round farmers market venue is a great way to do so. I also feel that the local food movement is an undervalued yet amazing upcoming economic sector with tremendous potential for Nanaimo. As a local farmer myself, I've come to see that selling our product is one of our greatest challenges due to the lack of market space. The demand is there but we need to make it more accessible to customers. If we have the market space to sell, we will sell more food, hire more farmers, grow more food, and build local food security.

I also feel that a multi purpose agricultural hall could be built at Beban Park. The Hall could host the year round farmers market, food security social enterprises such as Nanaimo Foodshare and local food education not for profit organizations. We could also have a community seed bank, kitchen, refrigeration space, and demonstration gardens. As said previously, the local food movement is an underappreciated economic sector and if we had a space to work in we would thrive.

In my opinion, it's a civic duty of the city to promote food security. An agricultural hall would be so beneficial to Nanaimo.

Thank you!

See you Thursday.

75.11