

Pilot Program – Session Four, November 21, 2018



Downtown * Old City * Nob Hill * South End

Things we love about our neighbourhood:

- Walkability
- Waterfront
- Downtown
- Summer/Christmas markets
- Acceptance and inclusivity
- Diversity
- 'Small town' feeling
- Community and sense of belonging
- Looking after each other
- Heritage
- Creativity
- Sense of pride
- Community gardens
- Sharing
- Book shelves
- Nature
 - Lakes
 - Rivers
- Slower pace of life
- Mountains
- Parks
- Schools
- Festivals & Events

Issues/concerns about our neighbourhood:

- Affordability
- Homelessness
- Housing
- Over saturation of social services
- Safety
- Littering
- Garbage in alleys
- Lack of density
- Empty commercial space
- Industrial park in residential area
- Empty schools
- Theft

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- Highway going through the centre of the City
- Lack of community public spaces
- Lack of benches
- Revitalisation of downtown

Action Items:

- Present at a Council meeting
- Neighbourhood watches
- Steering committee to revisit the neighbourhood plan
- Neighbourhood Association
- Promoting community engagement & advertising neighbourhood
- Representation in city council
- Supporting local business
- Build neighbourhood pride
- Getting involved

Westwood Lake * Jingle Pot * College Park

Things we love about our neighbourhood:

- Safety
- Proximity to VIU
- Pub, restaurant in area
- Views
- Close to Westwood lake
 - Park
 - Fishing
- Eclectic housing
- Close to parkway - easy transportation
- Earthquake safe (bedrock)
- Continuity & Sense of community

Issues/concerns about our neighbourhood:

- Traffic
 - College Drive throughway & speed
- Lack of sidewalks in places
- Income suites
- Utility rates
- Lack of buses in College Heights
- Trail access blocked
 - Abandoned Okanagan place
- Westwood/Jingle Pot intersection

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Action Plans:

- Flashing sign – slow, blind corner
- Move mail box (Harwell Drive)
- Meeting between traffic safety depot and college heights association
- Speed bumps

Harewood * Fairview

Things I love about my neighbourhood:

- History and independence
- VIU
- Quiet streets and alleys
- People
- Colliery Dam Park and access to nature
- No smell of Harmac
- Transitional neighbourhood and new QF
- Affordable, walkable, variety of people

Issues/concerns about my neighbourhood:

- Preservation of Cat Stream & Waterways
- New development is changing character
- Increased traffic flow
 - An ever expanding VIU
- Parking
- Preservations of tributaries of Chase River
- Possibility of having a liaison person in present system
- Update to transportation plan
 - Improve safety
 - More sidewalks
 - Improve bussing
- Service quality is not matching the growth, ie. Policing & bylaws
- Unknown future of Department of National Defence land
- More consultation from city council with residents

Action Plans:

- Request funding from City for Harewood Neighbourhood Association (HNA)
- Invite Councillors to hear issues
- Communications from the City automatically get posted on HNA Facebook sites
- City funds neighbourhood associations to publish newsletters
- City can help forward emails/newsletters from neighbourhood associations to residents
- Improve/bring back communications department to support/enhance communication
- Fill out transit surveys and attend public meetings

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- Recruit volunteers to build awareness for community association

Departure Bay

Things we love about our neighbourhood:

- Departure Bay beach
- Quiet single family neighbourhood
- Nature and scenery
- Close to some major facilities
 - Beban
 - Downtown
 - Hospital
- Good balance of schools, residential houses, and businesses

Issues/concerns about our neighbourhood:

- Not a diverse community
- Not very walkable
- Public transportation
 - Uphill
 - Does not go into neighbourhoods
- Parking
- More services
 - Grocery stores
 - Dry cleaners
- More traffic congestion
- Respecting First Nation cultures

Action Items:

- Better contact lists for association members
- Closer communication between community associations and City Councillors
- Create a plan/vision to create a community village
- Create a parking plan
- City purchase residential properties to re-zone multifamily use
- Neighbour shuttle buses in local communities
 - Peak activities and events
- City allocated funds to individual community associations
 - Get association members to create in their own areas

Wellington

Things I love about my neighbourhood:

- Mix of old and new homes

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- Lots of trees
- Mix of underground and above ground services
- Central
- Easy transportation
- Ample shopping
- Community halls
- Farmers Markets
- Safety
- Lake Access
- Close to A.R.L
- New parks and trails

Issues/concerns about my neighbourhood:

- Long Lake nuisance activities - safety concerns
- Teenage party at north end of Long Lake
- Motor vehicle/traffic on long lake
- Non-walkable to public services
- Insufficient zoning
 - Not enough commercial
 - Too much industrial – (around Diver and Long Lake)
- Insufficient buses and routes at peak times
 - To University
 - To Schools
- No year-round farmer's markets

Action Plans:

- None noted

Newcastle * Brechin

Things I love about our neighbourhood:

- Location: on the waterfront;
 - close to town
 - Swy-a-lana Lagoon
 - Maffeo Sutton Park
 - Bowen Park
- Transportation: close to ferry terminal (pro and con attribute); good bus service
- Marinas
- Views
- Trees; wildlife including lots of deer
- Diversity of housing: mix of single family and apartments
- Walking on waterfront
- Access to amenities/ restaurants and some groceries at Terminal and Brooks Landing

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- Not crowded
- Safe and comfortable: quiet at night; women can walk alone at night; friendly
- New paved road on Terminal

Issues/concerns about our neighbourhood:

- Speeders on Terminal, Stewart and Townsite
- Temporary supportive house at "Newcastle Place" (250 Terminal Avenue)
 - concerns about actions of people who visit or who are "add ons" to those who live there such as break-ins; littering; needles in the neighbourhood
 - Fears that there will not be effective security particularly in first couple of months
- Newcastle/Brechin Neighbourhood Plan not being implemented
- Lack of affordable housing
- Parking for community events at Maffeo Sutton leaves no room for residents to park
- No longer a grocery store between downtown and Brooks Landing
- Dilapidated park playgrounds/ broken and malfunctioning equipment

Action items for top three issues:

Control of Speeders on Terminal, Stewart and Townsite

- Form a neighbourhood speed watch (RCMP may have a volunteer program for this)
- Add flashing lights to crosswalk at Townsite and Stewart
- Educate drivers re: protocol at crosswalks
- Install crosswalks on Terminal at Mt Benson and Rosehill as recommended in Neighbourhood Plan
- Coordinate enforcement of speeders/ crosswalks/ traffic calming on Stewart / Highway 1 between city and province
- Apply traffic calming principles of Nanaimo Master Transportation Plan to neighbourhood

Temporary supportive housing at Newcastle Place (250 Terminal)

- Need a timeline for upcoming actions as soon as possible which should include:
 - Immediate formation by Island Crisis Care Society (operator of housing) of Community Committee to include representatives from Newcastle neighbourhood (Pacifica Housing's Uplands Walk on Uplands Drive is a good model for a committee)
 - Establishment of a "good neighbour agreement" between neighbourhood and Island Crisis Care Society
 - Confirmation of security measures to be provided with either RCMP or private firm which may have an impact on 2019 Budget discussions coming up
- Newcastle residents to take it upon themselves to welcome new residents into the neighbourhood.

Implementation of Newcastle/ Brechin Neighbourhood Plan

- Newcastle Association to meet with planning staff to review the plan to determine what needs to be done, e.g. pedestrian crossings on Terminal and Stewart

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Hospital Area * Townsite

Things I love about my neighbourhood:

- Affordable and supportive housing
- Green spaces
- New developments – walkability
- Good public transit
- Diversity of the neighbourhood
- Access to amenities and facilities

Issues/concerns about my neighbourhood:

- Transit/congestion
- Lack of transit at peak times
- Hospital bus routes are not well thought out
- Transportation
- Increased traffic
- Safety
- Lack of low income housing

Active Items:

- Traffic light on Bowen Road
- Bowen/ Dufferin intersection
 - Advance lights going off of Bowen/Dufferin
- Look at traffic patterns associated with emergency response vehicles

Stephenson Point * Hammond Bay * Lost Lake

Things I love about my neighbourhood:

- Great neighbours
- Parks
- Communications
 - Neighbourhood walks
- History
- Open green spaces
- Access to Linley Valley
- Pacific Biological System
- Variety of houses
- Access to ocean
- Walking
 - Safe
 - Wildlife

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Issues/concerns about my neighbourhood:

- Traffic
 - Increasing along Hammond Bay
- Lack of functional continuous bike paths
- Deer on Hammond Bay Road
 - Traffic hazard
- Threatened wildlife corridors
- Pedestrian crossings
 - Not enough for walking safely
 - Lighted crosswalks
- "City not committing to Road Safety – Sidewalks etc. – being left to developers"

Active Items:

- Evacuation Plan for area
- Limited routes
- Start a petition
 - Improve Hammond Bay safety
 - Exit strategies for Emergencies - "Hammond Bay Road is our Life Line"
- Audit of current infrastructure along Hammond Bay
- Gather data for Hammond Bay Road improvements
 - From City Staff
 - Gain access of City Plan
- Advocate for change of City process for improvements

Dover * Parkwood

Things we love about our neighbourhood:

- Diversity of ages
 - Seniors and families
- Parkwood Park
 - Residents maintain and create events
 - Facebook page
 - Sharing food
- Dover
 - Transit
 - Biking
- Connectivity with walking
- Access to the beach

Issues/concerns about our neighbourhood:

- Vandalism
- Cleaning up other pets

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- Walking/cycling transit safety
- Traffic through Parkwood to Superstore
- Speeding traffic
- Speed limits
- More traffic
- More population
- Need more pedestrian routes
- Transients using neighbourhoods for access and living
- Empty shops, yet building more shops
- Needles
- Theft

Action Items:

- Create an Official Community Plan
 - Website
 - Discussions
 - Problem solving
 - Get restarted with association involvement
- Safety Plan
 - Emergency
 - Traffic
 - Vandals
 - Block watch
 - Digital Communities
 - Facebook, etc
- Easy and safe routes of bikes, walking, busses to schools, parks, recreation facilities
- Empty storefronts
 - Create activities in empty storefronts
 - Book sharing

Chase River

Things I like about my neighbourhood:

- Long-time residents
- Parks
- Amenities nearby
- Rural atmosphere
- Beautiful nature
- Halloween celebrations & trick or treating
- Community participation
- Clean

Issues/concerns about my neighbourhood:

- Transit system

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- Crime
- Development
 - Schools are full

Action Items:

- Working with City of Nanaimo
 - Social housing location via public consultation
- Community Centre
 - Grant proposal and update of Official Community Plan
- Involve City re: Traffic access