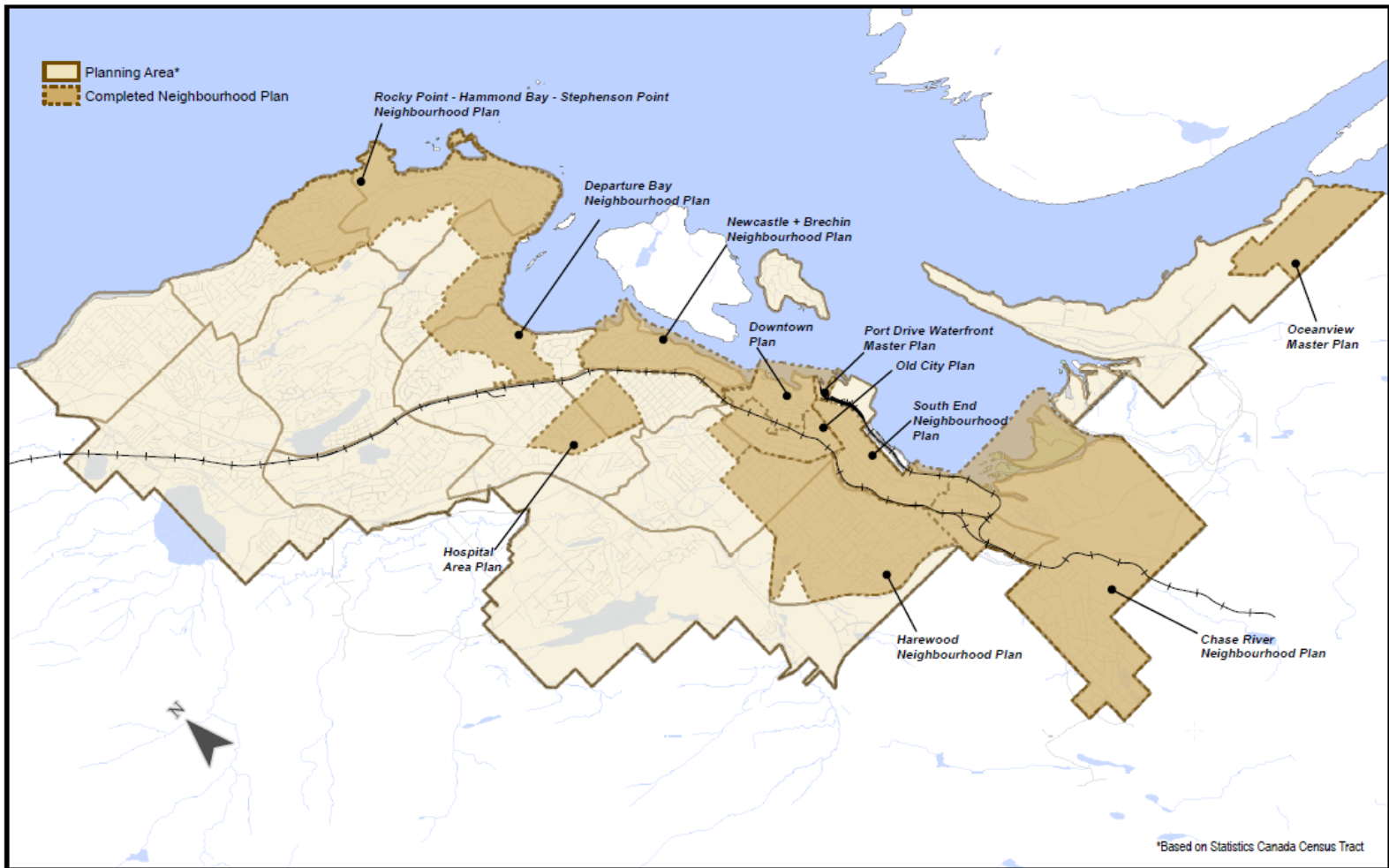


# Neighbourhood Association Status and Engagement

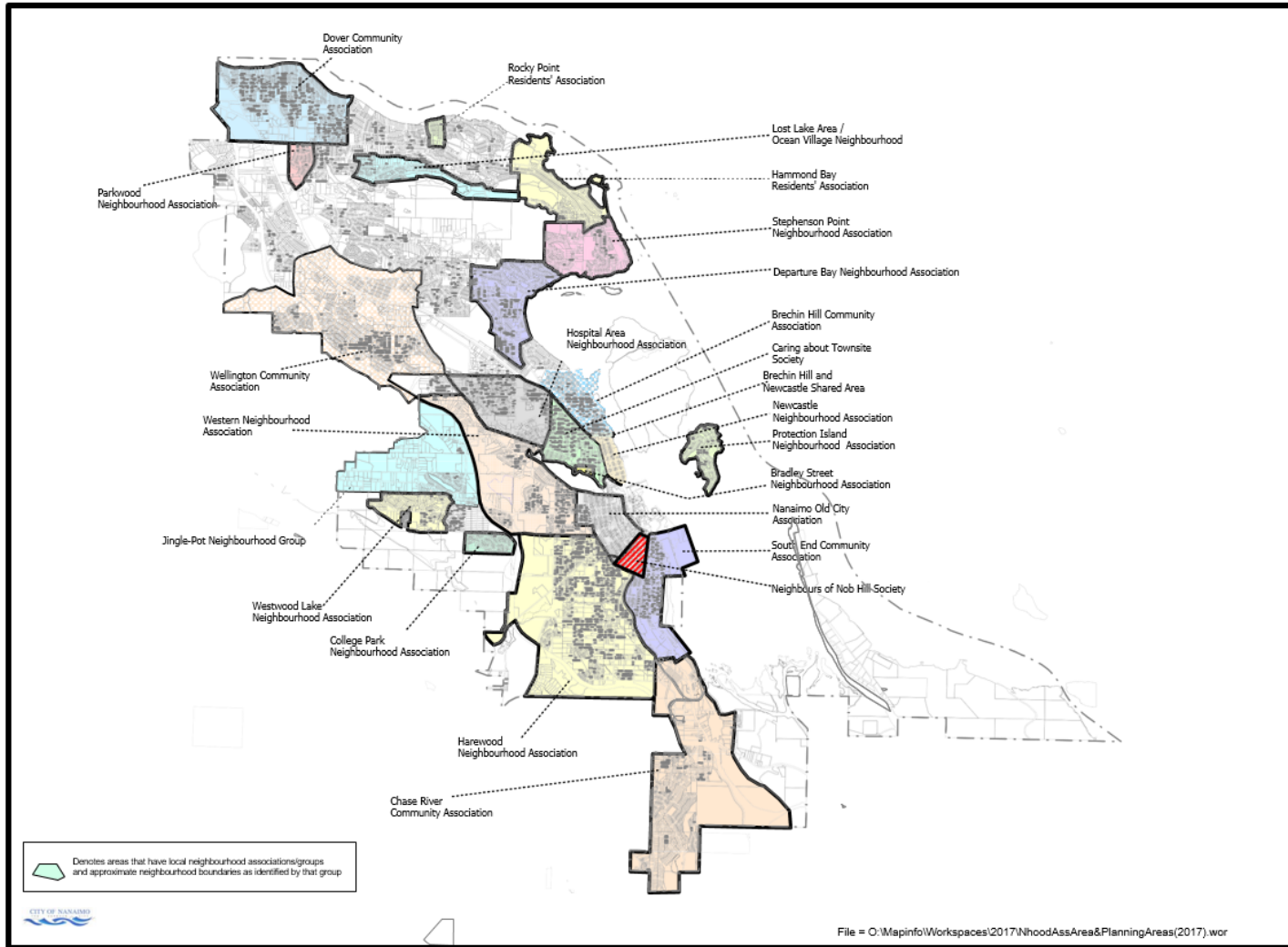
## Neighbourhood Policy Background

- Imagine Nanaimo (1992) – Support for Neighbourhoods as “Vital Building Blocks” in Vision Statement
- Plan Nanaimo (1994) and Ensuing Neighbourhood Plans Reinforce this Vision
- “The City will promote the establishment of neighbourhood associations to support neighbourhood planning initiatives”.



## Nanaimo's Neighbourhood Associations and Their Organizational Structure

- 21 Active Neighbourhood Associations
- Various Ages (some 20+ years)
- Spread Out Through Community
- Boundaries Self-Defined
- Organizational Capacity Varies
- Generally Collaborative Relationship, with Some Occasional Exceptions



Groups which are formally organized as registered non-profits	Groups which are not formally organized as registered non-profits but have an executive, regular meetings and a membership structure	Groups which are not formally organized as registered non-profits and are loosely organized with no executive, regular meetings or membership structure	Groups which are inactive, but did exist in the past
Chase River Community Association	Brechin Hill Community Association	Bradley Street Neighbourhood Association	Beaufort Commons Residents' Association
Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association	Hospital Area Neighbourhood Association	Caring About Townsite Society	East Wellington Concerned Citizens
Harewood Neighbourhood Association	Nanaimo Old City Association	Cilaire Neighbourhood Association	Hammond Bay Residents' Association
Neighbours of Nob Hill	Neighbourhood Standards Advocacy Association (Newcastle)	College Park Neighbourhood Association	Jinglepot Neighbourhood Group
Protection Island Neighbourhood Association	Newcastle Neighbourhood Association	Dover Community Association	Parkwood Neighbourhood Association
South End Community Association	Stephenson Point Neighbourhood Association	Lost Lake Neighbourhood Association	Rocky Point Residents Association
	Wellington Community Association/Wellington Action Committee	Western Neighbourhood Association	
		Westwood Lake Neighbourhood Association	

## How the City Engages with Neighbourhood Associations

- Responsive Communication and Liaison Role
- Communication Conduit – building trust and familiarity
- Conflict Resolution
- Neighbourhood Plan Implementation and Monitoring
- Development Referral/Information
- Community Engagement Task Force (2018)
- 2020 OCP Engagement

## What is the Nanaimo Neighbourhood Network (NNN) and How Is It Supported By the City

- The Network was formed in 2003
- Independent umbrella organization for neighbourhood associations
- Mandate is to facilitate development of effective neighbourhood associations through shared information, consultation and decision making between associations, the City and other organizations
- Meets three times a year in SARC Board Room
- One Staff member from Community Planning attends meetings as an information resource





**The purpose of the Network is to facilitate the ongoing development of effective neighbourhood associations through shared information, consultation and decision-making between neighbourhood associations, municipal government and other organizations.**

The Network has the following three objectives:

**1) Developing Strong Neighbourhoods**

- to encourage the establishment of identifiable neighbourhood associations throughout Nanaimo and support them through leadership training and development programs;
- to provide guidance and assistance to the community in the formation and development of neighbourhood associations that operate beyond the crisis issue of the moment;
- to encourage neighbourhoods to engage in activities that develop a spirit of pride and cooperation among residents;
- to encourage citizens to participate in their association; to be involved in citywide issues directly as well as via participation in the Network.

**2) Catalyst/Co-ordination**

- to encourage co-operation and to promote the development of neighbourhood plans;
- to ensure that neighbourhood-based meeting space, such as schools, is available for use by the local community;
- to establish and encourage dialogue and interaction between neighbourhood associations, municipal government and other organizations.

**3) Advice, Information and Education**

- to act as a clearinghouse for information and to facilitate communication among and between neighbourhoods;
- to facilitate educational opportunities for neighbourhood associations/leaders.

## How Do Other Communities Support and Engage Neighbourhood Associations

- Many cities across Canada choose to support and collaborate with Neighbourhood Associations (local examples include District of Saanich, City of Victoria and City of Surrey)
- Dedicated Funding Program's for Neighbourhood Associations are common
- Many approaches to support and engagement, but common objective is to promote communication, citizen participation and the creation of liveable neighbourhoods

Support/Engagement	District of Saanich	City of Victoria	City of Surrey
Does a Funding Program Exist	Yes, Saanich Community Grants Program	Yes, Great Neighbourhood Grant Program	Yes, Neighbourhood Enhancement Grant Program
City Staff Liaison Provided	Yes	Yes, a Councilor assigned to each recognized association as well. Also provide “Neighbourhood Walkshops” as opportunity for residents to share ideas about needed community improvements with City staff. Each association has a Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) which facilitates dialogue between development applications and the neighbourhood.	No
Registered Non-Profit Status Required or Encouraged	Yes for recognition and grant funding	Yes for recognition and grant funding	Yes for recognition and grant funding
Has an Independent Neighbourhood Network	Yes	No	No
Meeting Room Provided for Network	Yes, Saanich Police Department	No	No
Capacity Building Training	No	Is looking to introduce training opportunities	No
Maintains a Map of Neighbourhood Association Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes