



**AGENDA**  
**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Board Room, Service and Resource Centre,  
411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC

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Pages

1. CALL THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO ORDER:
2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:
  - a. Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held in the HR Training Room, City Hall, 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC on Wednesday, 2020-JAN-22, at 5:00 p.m. 1 - 5
5. PRESENTATIONS:
6. DELEGATIONS:
  - a. Delegation from Phil Kent and Chantelle Carden, Cowichan Energy Alternatives, regarding options to creating a local, low carbon economy. 6 - 6
7. REPORTS:
  - a. 2020 Environment Committee Workplan 7 - 9

To be introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

*Purpose: To provide the Environment Committee with a draft workplan for consideration and recommendation to Council.*

Recommendation: That the Environment Committee recommend that Council endorse the draft 2020 Environment Committee Workplan.

**b. City of Nanaimo Environmental Framework**

10 - 15

To be introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

*Purpose: To provide the Environment Committee with a draft environmental framework on the City's environmental policies, programs and initiatives within the City of Nanaimo.*

Presentation:

1. Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**9. QUESTION PERIOD:**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MINUTES**  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HR TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL  
455 WALLACE STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
WEDNESDAY, 2020-JAN-22, AT 5:00 P.M.

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Present: Councillor B. Geselbracht, Chair  
Councillor T. Brown  
E. Boulanger  
D. Chen  
H. DesRoches  
L. Frey  
J. Lesemann  
L. McCunn  
W. Wells

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer (arrived 5:04 p.m., vacated 6:43 p.m.)  
R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture  
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services  
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works  
J. Holm, Director, Development Approvals  
D. Beck, Recreation Coordinator (vacated 5:40 p.m.)  
R. Lawrence, Environmental Planner  
B. Zurek, Planner  
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Environment Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

(a) Agenda Item 6(a) Delegations – Add delegation from Christopher Brown.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2019-NOV-20 at 5:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Rudolph entered the HR Training Room at 5:04 p.m.

5. DELEGATIONS:

(a) Christopher Brown re: Earth Day 2020 Celebration

Christopher Brown provided a verbal presentation regarding the Nanaimo Earth Day 2020 Celebration to be held at John Barsby Secondary School on Saturday, April 25, 2020, and requested that Staff and committee members support Earth Day Initiatives.

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- The City of Nanaimo's role in an Earth Day conference
- City wants to showcase successes and what has been happening and actions taken
- Potential for the committee to work on Earth Day event and to work as a facilitator to connect neighborhoods and bring people together
- Earth Day concept can be expanded to more than one day
- Progression of Earth Day into Earth Month and providing a place for people to find out how they can get involved
- City of Nanaimo earth related programs such as stream keepers, stewardship and adopt a park programs
- Current facilitator is contracted for 80 hours through School District 68
- Involvement of Nanaimo Area Land Trust, Nanaimo Food Share, Regional District of Nanaimo regarding Transit and community involvement
- Integration with Wild Food Festival
- City representative sits on planning committee as a liaison and will take on a larger role this year

6. REPORTS:

(a) 2020 Environment Committee Workplan

Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner, introduced the report and advised the work plan provides high level, major focus areas for the committee, shows how the committee is meeting its mandate and gives a general sense of timing of initiatives.

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Residential building retrofit initiative and support for whitening rooftops, ensuring new buildings have vegetation on roofs and developer driven initiatives other than those listed in the City's green building policy
- Regulations in bylaws encourage higher levels of efficiency and many new buildings have green roofs which originate from the requirements for storm water management
- Retrofitting existing buildings is a challenge
- The number of active environmental programs the City has such as grants for rainwater collection, woodstove change out programs and if those would be worth highlighting at Earth Day
- Tree voucher program has been successful at Earth Day
- Connecting the City's tree vouchers program and School District 68

- City currently works with volunteer groups now and restoration includes tree planting on various park sites with work primarily on public land
- Funds from violations of the tree bylaw are used to plant trees
- Potentially have a presentation and discussion early in the workplan regarding communications and engagement around the environment
- Natural Connections Newsletter showcases what's upcoming
- Supporting urban agriculture and potentially developing a strategy to be more aware of how the City addresses urban agriculture
- Committee can have discussion to reprioritize or add/remove items from workplan
- Order of some items tie into timelines for projects that are already underway

D. Beck vacated the HR Training Room at 5:40 p.m.

- Challenges regarding the hierarchy of plans and where items fit within a broader strategy
- Sustainability items in Official Community Plan (OCP) don't specifically relate to environment
- Community Sustainability Action Plan:
  - Provides key focus areas with targets related to the environment
  - Plan wraps up strategy around environment
  - Focus to lower Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions through various initiatives
  - Can be adjusted to give a broad view of what the City is doing around environment
- Urban forestry program and planting more trees to increase forest cover
- Review of OCP and significant documents will include work on climate resiliency strategy
- City relied on Community Energy and Emissions Inventory which was stopped by the Province in 2012
- Differences in scale and combining corporate and community emissions together
- Develop a plan with a consultant to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions
- Clarification needed regarding where the City's targets are at and in order for those targets to be met the City needs to resource appropriately
- Understanding where emissions are coming from is key
- Consultant will develop methodology and give end report
- Potentially narrowing and defining focus of committee workplan
- Suggestion that the following items be removed from the workplan:
  - Draft East Wellington Park Management Plan
  - Regional Air Quality Mapping Project
  - Natural Asset Inventory and Strategy
  - Wildlife Management Initiatives
- Prioritization of green house gas reduction
- Committees involvement and awareness of Transportation Master Plan

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee refer the 2020 Environment Committee Workplan to Staff to return with a revised plan. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Draft Scope of Work: 2050 Nanaimo Climate Action Plan

Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner, introduced the report and advised:

- Two separate plans (City Corporate Climate Change Plan and Community Sustainability Action Plan) are not necessary
- Two scenarios are proposed:
  - Business as usual GHG emissions reductions by 2030 and 2050
  - 58% GHG emissions reduction below 2010 levels by 2030 and 107% GHG emission reduction below 2010 levels by 2050
- Consultant will look at energy data available and a model will be made for projections in the future
- A range of stakeholders will be invited from large emitters in the community to neighbourhood representatives to identify actions, plans and programs
- Conversation needs to be had on how to address aggressive targets

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Targets set by Council through climate emergency declaration
- Confusion based on poor data
- General consensus to err on conservative side
- Unrealistic targets result in losing people along the way
- Idealized versus realistic targets
- Emissions from road traffic
- Motivating community to reach targets
- The City being transparent and vocal about achievements in order to maintain resiliency
- Quantifiable modeling for increases in temperature

J. Rudolph vacated the HR Training Room at 6:43 p.m.

- Put onus on consultant to advise how they would solve the problem
- Result of consultants work would help inform the 2021 budget
- Relationship with the 2050 Nanaimo climate action plan, and the OCP, as Staff try to bring policy documents together

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend the Request for Proposals for a consultant be endorsed with minor amendments to allow for flexibility for the consultant to provide options for achieving alternative emissions targets. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) Approved 2020 Environment Committee Key Date Calendar

Introduced by Councillor Geselbracht, Chair.

5. DELEGATIONS: (continued)

(a) Delegation from Christopher Brown re: Earth Day

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend Lisa Frey work with Staff and the organizers of Earth Day to provide recommendations to enhance City participation in Earth Day. The motion carried unanimously.

7. QUESTION PERIOD:

No one in attendance wished to ask questions.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 7:00 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

## Delegation Request

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### **Delegation's Information:**

Phil Kent and Chantelle Carden, Cowichan Energy Alternatives, have requested an appearance before the Environment Committee.

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

### **Delegation Details:**

The requested date is March 11, 2020.

The requested meeting is:  
Environment Committee

Bringing a presentation: Yes

Details of the Presentation:

General review presentation of our initiatives relative to their Climate Action Goals.



DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 11, 2020 |

AUTHORED BY | ROB LAWRENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER |

**SUBJECT                      2020 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide the Environment Committee with a draft workplan for consideration and recommendation to Council. |

### **Recommendation**

That the Environment Committee recommend that Council endorse the draft 2020 Environment Committee Workplan.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Nanaimo Environment Committee mandate includes offering innovative ideas and providing advice, information, options, and recommendations to Council on Climate Change, green technology, energy efficiency, urban forestry, and other topics associated with environmental sustainability for the City of Nanaimo.

The draft 2020 Environment Committee Workplan is intended to set a timeline for the Committee involvement in projects scheduled for 2020 that align with and further the Committee's mandate. |

## **DISCUSSION**

The draft 2020 Environment Committee Workplan outlined below presents the Committee's consideration and recommendation to Council for endorsement.

| <b>2020 Environment Committee Workplan</b>  |                      |  |   |
|---|----------------------|--|---|
| <b>Topic</b>  | <b>Project Lead</b>  | <b>Overview</b>  | <b>Introduction and Review Timeline</b> |
| Nanaimo 2050: Climate Action Plan (Update the Community Sustainability Action Plan) | Development Services | Review and provide input into a draft terms of reference, final recommendations and public engagement. | January - October 2020                  |

|  |  |  |                      |
|--|--|--|----------------------|
| Environmental Framework for Nanaimo  | Development Services / Parks and Recreation and Culture / Public Works | An environmental framework provides the public with an overview of the City's environmental priorities and goals, which are implemented through the various policies, programs and regulations the City, oversees. | March – May 2020     |
| Climate Resiliency Strategy  | All Departments  | Provide input on how the public can be engaged in climate resiliency. Help promote and implement the City's Climate Resiliency Strategy.   | May 2020             |
| B.C. Energy Step Code Strategy Review  | Development Services   | Report back with options to accelerate the implementation and use of the B.C. Energy Step Code in the City's Zoning and Building Bylaws.   | May - September 2020 |
| Residential Building Retrofit Initiatives  | Development Services / Environment Committee                           | Provide input on new building energy retrofit rebate opportunities for Nanaimo. Seek input on public engagement and awareness on these programs.   | Ongoing              |
| Strategic Planning Review (Official Community Plan, Parks, Trails and Recreation Plan, Active Transportation Plan) | All Departments  | Receive updates on policy development. Work with staff on public engagement opportunities.   | 2020 - 21            |

## **OPTIONS**

The above table provides a list of projects that fall within the mandate of the committee. Additional items that fall under the Committee's mandate may come up that require Council's attention or may be referred by Council for the Committee's consideration.

1. That Council endorse the 2020 Environment Committee Workplan.
  - The advantages of this option: The Environment Committee can proceed with implementing the workplan.
  - The disadvantages of this option: Some projects and programs may not be listed that are relevant to the committee's mandate.
2. That Council does not endorse the 2020 Environment Committee Workplan
  - The advantages of this option: Council can recommend additions or deletions to the committee workplan.
  - The disadvantages of this option: Progress is slow in moving forward with the committee. Committee membership frustration will increase.

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The workplan intentions are to show Council how the committee will meet its mandate and offer input and advice on the environment.
- Additional items that fall under the Committee mandate may come up that require Council's attention or may be referred by Council for the Committee's consideration.

### **Submitted by:**

Dean Mousseau  
Manager, Engineering and Environment

### **Concurrence by:**

Jeremy Holm  
Director, Development Approvals

Dale Lindsay  
General Manager, Development Services

DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 11, 2020 |

AUTHORED BY | ROB LAWRENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER |

SUBJECT | CITY OF NANAIMO ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORK |

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report:**

To provide the Environment Committee with a draft environmental framework on the City's environmental policies, programs and initiatives within the City of Nanaimo.

## **BACKGROUND**

During the Environment Committee meeting held on 2020-JAN-22, staff presented the draft Committee work plan and the terms of reference for the Climate Action Plan Update for the City. During the meeting, the Committee discussed that a framework could be helpful in communicating the City's progress on a number of environmental initiatives. This report introduces a draft Environment Framework for discussion. |

## **DISCUSSION**

Developing an Environmental Framework offers a way to understand and assess the City's progress across a core set of principles that can be and monitored and adjusted over time. Staff have prepared an initial draft framework for committee review and comment. The core principles center on:

- Climate Action: Meeting our GHG emissions reduction targets as a community and showing climate leadership corporately.
- Protection and Restoration of Natural Spaces: Protecting and enhancing the ecological diversity found within the City through the purchase and restoration of our parks, through the development process on private land, and by working with the community to provide opportunities to learn about these spaces.
- Zero Waste and Energy Management: In coordination with the Regional District of Nanaimo, providing services to work towards a zero waste future for the City, and demonstrate corporate leadership through energy and waste management practice.
- Community Health: Community health covers the role the City plays in protecting the public from potential environmental harm, in addition, the opportunity to provide healthier options for getting out and enjoying the environment.
- Community Resiliency: All previous four principles contribute to the City's ability to be more resilient to change and prepare for the environmental impacts of a changing climate. |

## **CONCLUSION**

The attached draft environmental framework is intended to stimulate discussion and develop more effective methods to communicate the City of Nanaimo environmental policies, programs, and initiatives for both Council and the public. |

### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Developing an Environmental Framework offers a way to understand and assess the City's progress across a core set of principles that can be more easily monitored over time.
- Staff have prepared an initial draft framework for committee review and comment.

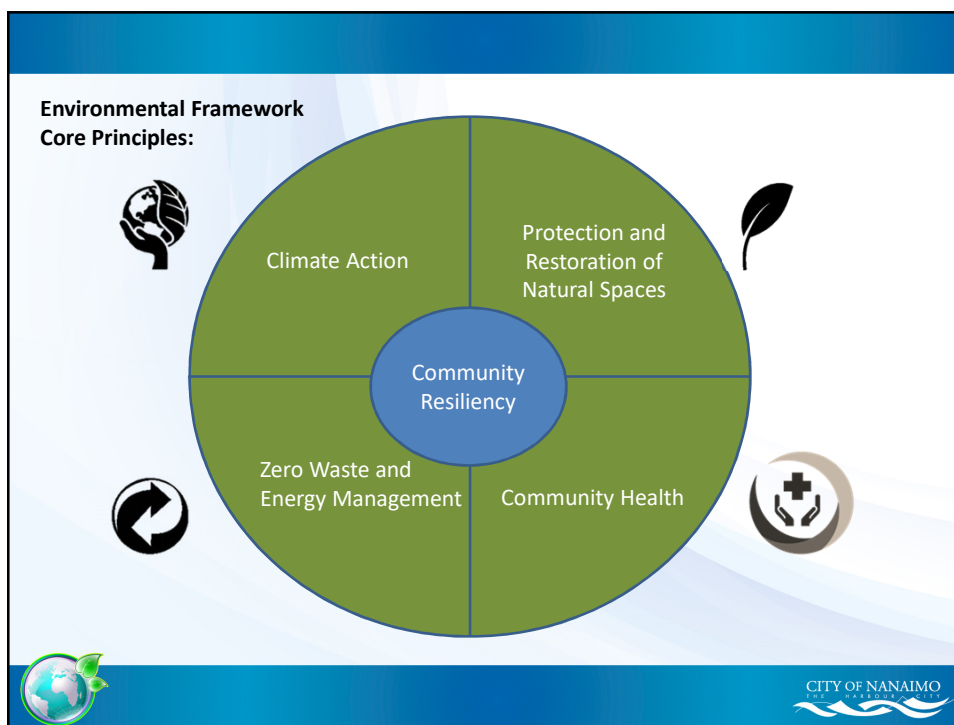
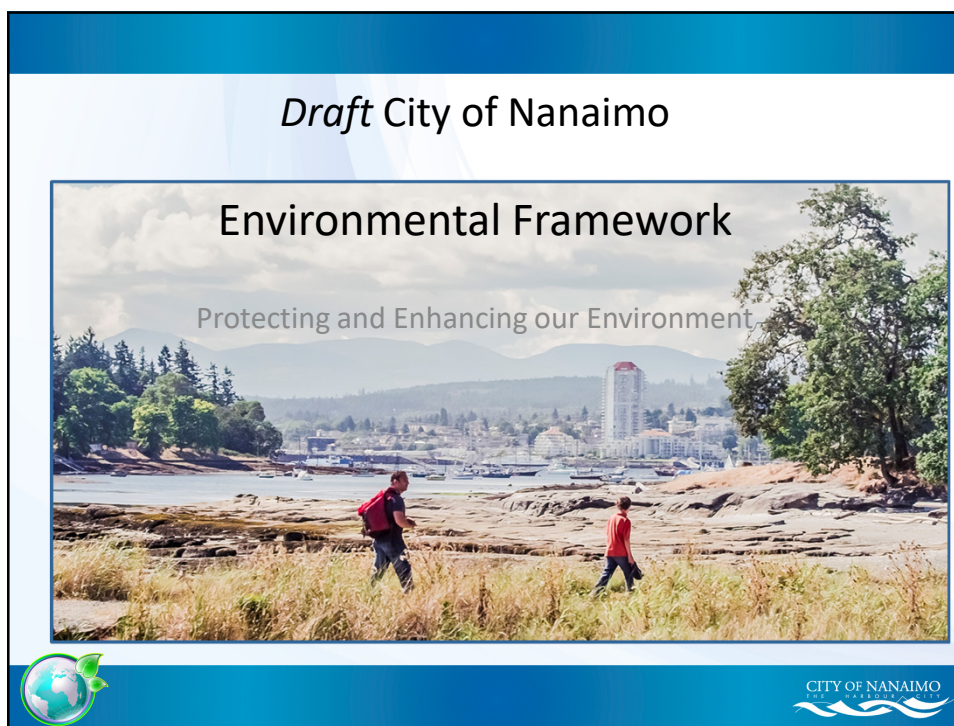
#### **Submitted by:**

Dean Mousseau  
Manager, Engineering and Environment|

#### **Concurrence by:**

Jeremy Holm  
Director, Development Approvals

Dale Lindsay  
General Manager, Development Services|



| Climate Action:                             |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Plans and Strategies</u>                 | <u>Targets</u>  | <u>Initiatives</u>  |
| Official Community Plan (2008)              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3% below 2007 levels by 2020 and 39% below 2007 levels by 2050</li> </ul>  | Energide assessment training - Realtor Energy Efficiency Program (2016)   |
| Corporate Climate Action Plan (2007)        |   | Corporate Green Fleet Strategy (2020)                                     |
| Community Sustainability Action Plan (2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce GHG emissions by half of 2010 levels by 2030</li> <li>Reach Net Zero of 2010 levels by 2050</li> <li>Mode Share Targets (2041)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increase sustainable trips from 12-24%</li> </ul> </li> <li>Reduce average vehicle trip from 14-10km</li> </ul> | Step Code Implementation Strategy (2018) Update (2020)                    |
| Climate Emergency Declaration (2019)        |   | BC Energy Step Code included in Building Bylaw (2019)                     |
| Transportation Master Plan (2014)           |   | Building Energy Retrofits - CleanBC Better Homes Incentive Program (2020) |
| Climate Resiliency Strategy (2020)          |   | Investment in Active Transportation - Complete Streets Program            |



| Protection and Restoration of Natural Spaces: |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Plans / Strategies</u>                     | <u>Targets</u>  | <u>Initiatives</u>  |
| Official Community Plan (2008)                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Density Targets:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 150 units per hectare (Downtown)</li> <li>50 to 150 per hectare (Medium Density)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Park Acquisitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linley Valley</li> <li>Tanya Drive</li> <li>GNWD Lands</li> <li>933 Park Ave</li> </ul> |
| Parks Master Plan (2005)                      |   | East Wellington Park Plan   |
| Urban Forestry Management Strategy (2010)     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase our forest canopy to 32% by 2020</li> </ul>   | Buttertubs Marsh Conservation Area  |
| Invasive Plant Management Strategy (2014)     |   | Partners in Parks: Volunteer Stewardship Program (ongoing)  |
|   |   | Tree Voucher Program (ongoing)  |
|   |   | Departure Creek Realignment Project (2019)  |
|   |   | Vancouver Island Beggartick Restoration Project (2016 – 2019)   |





## Zero Waste and Energy Management:



### Plans / Strategies

### Targets

### Initiatives

Water Supply Strategic Plan (2007)

Sort Toss Roll - Automated Curbside Collection (2016)

Solid Waste Management Plan (2018) • Meet regional goal of 90% solid waste diversion by 2029

E3 Fleet Program (2020)

Corporate Green Building Strategy (2011)

Reservoir No.1 Energy Recovery System (2012)

Corporate Energy Conservation Management Policy (2015)

• Upgrade when there is simple payback of 8 years

Beban Park Boiler Replacement (2019)

Green Fleet Strategy (2020)

Streetlight LED Conversion (ongoing)

Corporate Energy Management Program

Corporate Anti-Idling Policy (2015)



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## Community Health:

### Plans / Strategies

### Targets

### Initiatives



Official Community Plan (2008)

Steep Slope Development DPA and Guidelines (2008)

Parks Master Plan (2005)

Hazard Lands Development Permit Area (2008)

Water Supply Strategic Plan (2007)

Woodstgove Change-out Program (2009)

Pesticide Use Bylaw 2010 No. 7102 (2010)

Pesticide Use Bylaw (2012)

Active Transportation Plan (2020)

• Reduce water consumption 10% per decade (426L pp/per day by 2035)

Water Conservation Strategy (2014)

Corporate Antildling Policy (2015)

Manual of Engineering Standards and Specs (Section 7): Stormwater Management Guidelines (2015)



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