



AGENDA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

April 28, 2021, 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Board Room, Service and Resource Centre,
411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC

	Pages
1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:	
[Note: This meeting will be live streamed and video recorded for the public.]	
2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:	
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:	
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:	
a. Minutes	4 - 10
Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2021-FEB-24, at 4:00 p.m.	
5. PRESENTATIONS:	
a. Robyn Bull to provide a verbal presentation via Zoom re: Adapt Island Society for Community Accessibility	
b. Bowen Park Trailway and Utility Upgrade	11 - 16
To be introduced by Chris Lang, Project Engineer.	
c. Departure Bay Waterfront Walkway	17 - 33
To be introduced by Bill Corsan, Director, Community Development.	
d. REIMAGINE NANAIMO - Update on Indicators	34 - 45
To be introduced by Karin Kronstal, Social Planner.	
6. REPORTS:	
a. LEAP Program Review - Phase 3	46 - 49

To be introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Purpose: To provide the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness with the results of Phase 3 of the Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP) Program Review as well as recommendations for program revisions for consideration.

Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness approve the recommendations outlined in Phase 3 of the LEAP Program Review and recommend Staff forward them to Council for consideration.

b. 2021 Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Work Plan

50 - 52

To be introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Purpose: To provide an overview and opportunity for feedback on the 2021 Work Plan for the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness prior to forwarding to Council for consideration and endorsement.

Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness recommend that Council endorse the 2021 Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Work Plan.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Proposed Recommendations from Sarah Cameron

53

[Note: List of references are attached]

1. That Council and municipal staff adopt the use of pronouns in all written and electronic communications.
2. That the City of Nanaimo use gender-inclusive and gender-neutral language, including communications, and print and electronic materials.
3. That the City of Nanaimo update and revise all print and electronic materials to include the use gender-inclusive and gender-neutral language.
4. That the City of Nanaimo arrange for the availability of diversity and inclusion training for council members and city staff. This would include both LGBTQIA2+ and gender competency training, either online or in-person workshops, or both.

b. Special Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Meeting

To be introduced by Sky Snelgrove, Steno Coordinator/ Deputy Corporate

Officer.

Purpose: To schedule a special Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness meeting in May.

Options for meeting date include:

- Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS MEETING
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC
WEDNESDAY, 2021-FEB-24, AT 4:00 P.M.

- Present: Councillor Armstrong, Chair
Councillor Maartman
A. Breen, At Large Member (joined electronically)
S. Cameron, At Large Member (joined electronically)
T. Davenock, At Large Member (joined electronically)
L. Derksen, At Large Member (joined electronically)
S. Hamel, At Large Member (joined electronically)
R. Harlow, At Large Member (joined electronically 4:08 p.m.)
D. Hollins, At Large Member (joined electronically)
J. Maffin, At Large Member (joined electronically)
R. Pike, At Large Member (joined electronically)
E. Williamson, At Large Member
- Staff: R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works (joined electronically)
J. Van Horne, Director, Human Resources (joined electronically)
L. Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture
T. Doyle, Fire Chief (joined electronically)
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning
J. Speed, Recreation Coordinator, Recreation Services Section
K. Kronstal, Social Planner (joined electronically)
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer
K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS MEETING TO ORDER:

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Councillor Armstrong advised that Richard Harlow would be bringing forward an item under Other Business regarding live closed captioning service.
- (b) Councillor Armstrong advised that Lynn Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture, would be bringing forward an item under Other Business regarding Adapt Island.
- (c) Councillor Armstrong advised that she would be bringing forward an item under Other Business regarding the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative Grant.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2020-NOV-25, at 5:05 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Alessandro Iachelli, President, Nanaimo Pride Society

Introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Alessandro Iachelli, President, Nanaimo Pride Society, provided a verbal presentation. Highlights included:

- Nanaimo Pride Society appreciates the support from the City of Nanaimo (the City) over the years and will continue to support the City on initiatives to make Nanaimo an inclusive and welcoming community
- Provided suggestions to improve diversity and inclusiveness within the City operations including:
 - Encouraging the use of identifying pronouns
 - Using gender inclusive language
 - Better representation of the LGBTQ community in printed and online materials such as the Parks and Recreation activity guide

R. Harlow joined the meeting electronically at 4:08 p.m.

- Diversity and inclusion training for City employees
- More visual representation of LGBTQ community during City promotions and functions
- Collaboration between Nanaimo Pride Society, the City and the Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce for a signage/sticker campaign for businesses and organizations
- Requesting Council to pass a bylaw banning conversion therapy within the City of Nanaimo
- Attendance at the 2019 Nanaimo Pride Festival doubled from 2018. This demonstrates that Nanaimo has come a long way in acceptance
- Nanaimo Pride Society is willing to be a leader along with any other organization that wants to embrace inclusion and diversity

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The banning of conversion therapy is an important step for municipalities to take
- The LGBTQ engagement process and a community survey to go out hopefully in March
- The policies surrounding the sticker campaign program
- Requesting the list of recommendations from the Nanaimo Pride Society to be forwarded to the Committee for information

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness recommend that Council immediately ban conversion therapy within the City of Nanaimo. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee discussion continued as follows:

- The City could be helpful in providing awareness of services available for the LGBTQ community
- Vancouver Island University (VIU) offered diversity training to their staff
- Diversity and inclusion training would be beneficial for City staff and school district teachers
- Requesting that Alessandro Iachelli, President, Nanaimo Pride Society, share the result of the community survey once completed

(b) Brain Hackwood, Assistant Director of Planning and Operations, School District 68

Introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Brain Hackwood, Assistant Director of Planning and Operations, School District 68, provided a verbal presentation. Highlights included:

- School District 68 facilities will be undergoing seismic upgrades over the next 10 years
- Taking a proactive approach on accessibility at schools
- Rick Hansen Foundation accessibility audit
- Seeking input from the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI) on the facility upgrades

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- VIU had all buildings audited by the Rick Hansen Foundation
- VIU's experience and some inexpensive ways to improve accessibility and inclusiveness (gender neutral and wheelchair accessible washrooms)
- Availability of simple self audit materials
- Rick Hansen Foundation audit will inform what is incorrect, but does not provide details on fixing the problem
- The perspective of different types of disabilities to identify barriers that able bodied individuals may not recognize
- Recognized that schools occasionally require public access for events such as voting or renting parts of the facility

- Suggestion that organizations such as the Child Development Centre may be able to provide feedback from parents of students in the school district
- Big gains can be made by simple measures such as inclusive signage

Brain Hackwood, Assistant Director of Planning and Operations, School District 68, noted that the School District is piloting gender neutral washrooms, and so far the pilot has been successful.

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, gave thanks for the presentation and to the committee for sharing their feedback. He proposed a potential opportunity for the City and School District 68 to work together on accessibility audits of facilities.

(c) REIMAGINE NANAIMO – Phase 1 Update and Phase 2 Next Steps

Karin Kronstal, Social Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:

- Phase one of REIMAGINE NANAIMO exceed expectations in terms of outreach
- Phase two will include exploring options (more refined phase of the process)
- Provided the highlights of the phase one engagement
- Distribution of responses show a proportionate geographical representation
- Ways to overcome some of the barriers to participation in the REIMAGINE NANAIMO engagement
- Provided some of the engagement results of what people love most about Nanaimo as well as what concerns people about Nanaimo
- Phase two will include developing the City Portrait related to the Doughnut Economics framework model
- A City Portrait looks at local/social and ecological indicators
- Provided a summary of indicators currently used by the Regional District of Nanaimo as well as examples of indicators identified in the Health and Housing Action Plan
- Hoping to hold an inter-committee workshop on this topic to include experts in various fields

6. REPORTS:

(a) 2020 Annual Report for Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness

Introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Lynn Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture, spoke regarding the 2020 annual report. Highlights included:

- All topics described in the 2020 Work Plan were covered (along with additional topics) with the exception of the “Guiding Principles Summary” topic
- Overall ACAI had a very successful first year and achieved more than anticipated

- Seeking approval from the committee that the report accurately reflects the year

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Suggestion to include a short summary of the discussion had at the 2020-NOV-25 ACAI meeting regarding improvements
- “Guiding Principals Summary” to be included in the 2021 Work Plan

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness approve and provide to Council the 2020 Annual Report for information. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Leap Program Review - Phases 1 and 2

Introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Lynn Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture, spoke regarding the Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP) program review. Highlights included:

- Introduced Jeff Speed, Recreation Coordinator, Recreation Services Section
- Significant drop in LEAP program usage stemmed a review to assess if the program is still meeting the community’s needs
- An inventory of free and low cost Parks, Recreation and Culture opportunities is provided in the report appendix
- First two phases of the Leap Program Review suggest that the program is going well; however, it could be better marketed
- In comparison to financial assistance programs in other municipalities, the LEAP program requires more documentation
- Listed the top barriers to participation and how they can be addressed
- Census poverty information indicates a continued need for LEAP program in Nanaimo
- Targeting specific areas where there are more people living in poverty

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Suggesting a less rigorous registration process in terms of the required supporting documents
- Considerations for individuals who may not meet the low income requirement; however, still have financial barriers that limit their disposable income (ie: medication expenses, or they are single parents)
- Numerous paper documents a barrier to visually impaired
- Documents written in a more accessible language (third grade reading level)
- Application process should be made as simple as possible, and placing less of a concern on those attempting to take advantage of the program

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, spoke regarding the history of the LEAP program.

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness receive the information for the LEAP Program Review for Phases 1 and 2 and approve Phase 3 to proceed as outlined. The motion carried unanimously.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Live Closed Captioning Service

Richard Harlow spoke regarding services available to allow live closed captioning of committee and council meetings. This would be a valuable service to allow many people the opportunity to participate.

Committee discussion took place regarding audio and video upgrades in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre.

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness recommend that Council direct Staff to implement a live captioning service for all future Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness meetings with the potential to expand to all meetings of Council and Council's committees. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Adapt Island

Lynn Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture, spoke regarding Adapt Island. Highlights included:

- Adapt island is in their second year as a registered society
- Their goal is to make outdoor recreation and sport activities as accessible as possible
- The Committee, by unanimous consent, agreed to invite Adapt Island to speak at a future ACAI meeting

Committee discussion took place regarding the importance of physical exercise and the positive impact that has on mental health.

(c) Canada's Healthy Communities Initiative

Councillor Armstrong advised the committee of the Government of Canada's Healthy Communities Initiative grant and requested the Committee's input on identifying projects that may qualify.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The importance of improving the sound and captioning of council and committee meetings
- There is a closed captioning service offered through Zoom
- Accessibility of the Beban Park fitness centre

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, advised the Committee of an improvement plan for the Beban Park Pool; however, the plan is in need of more advocates to push forward. The plan will be forwarded to the committee for information.

Committee discussion continued as follows:

- The City offering programs through Zoom
- Anticipating strong competition for this grant
- Consideration for the senior population and isolation due to COVID-19
- Staff to follow up with Shaw TV regarding closed captioning of live streamed council meetings
- Scheduling an additional ACAI meeting for March
- The consideration for a described video (DV) service that narrates a description of visuals on a screen

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:58 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

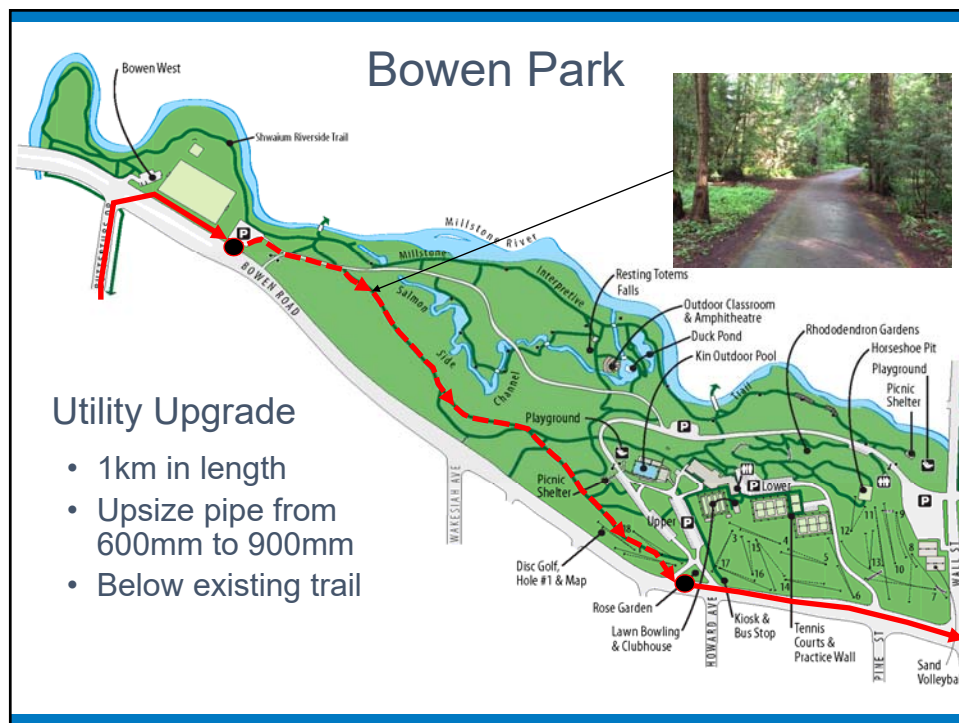
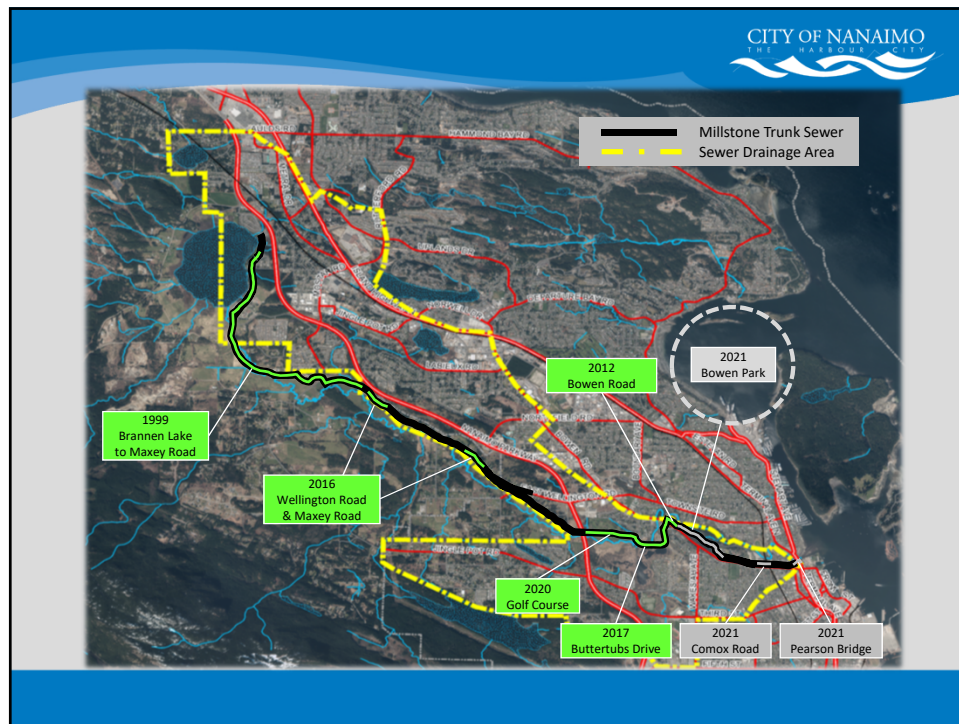
CORPORATE OFFICER

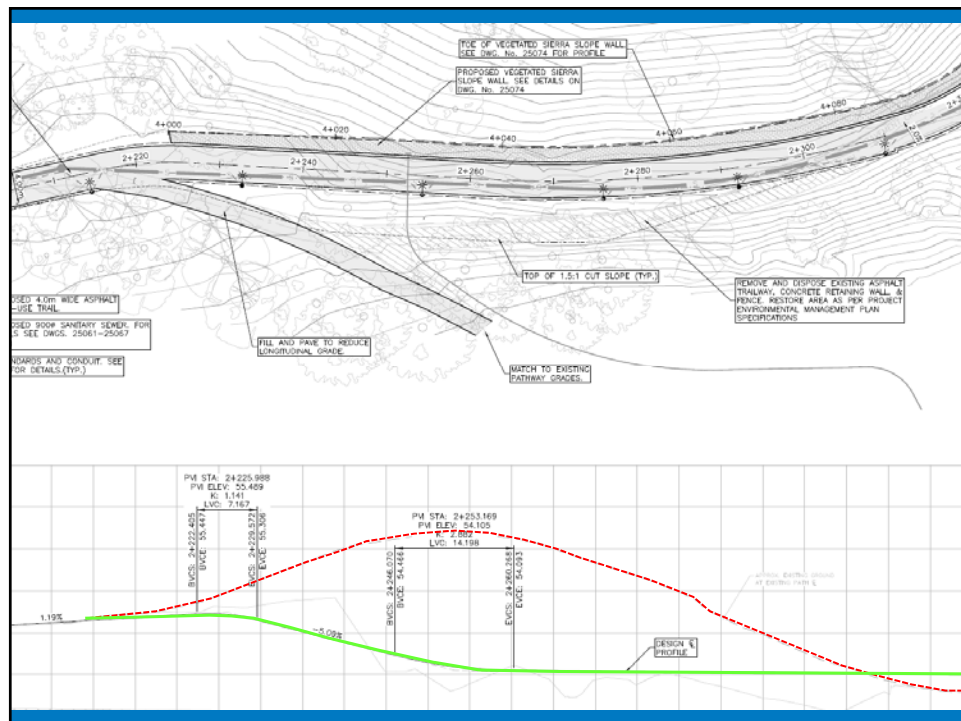
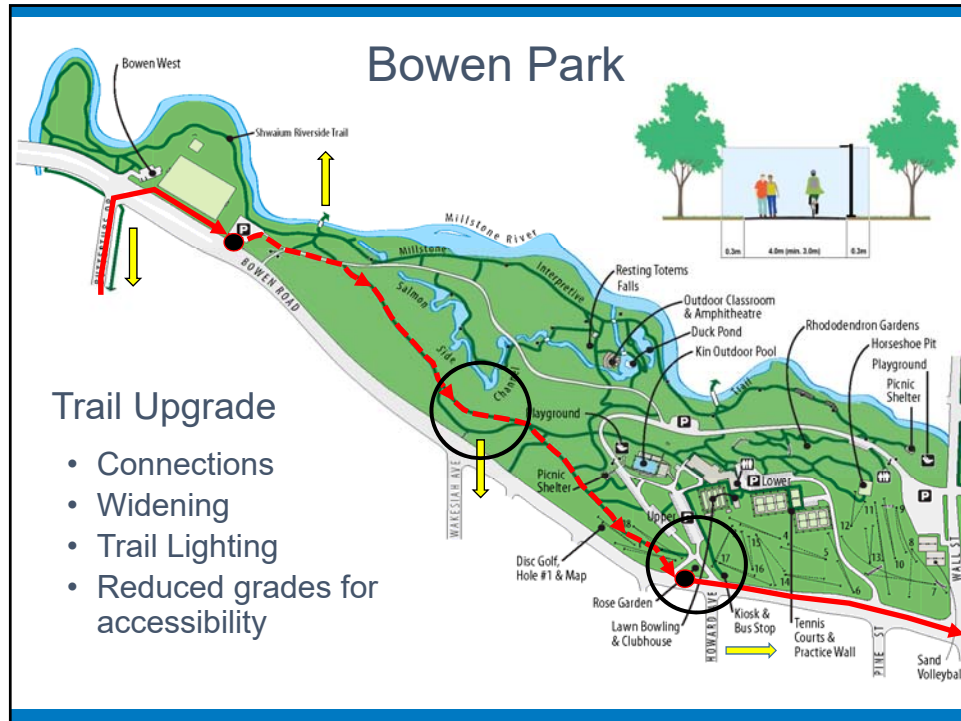
Bowen Park Trailway & Utility Upgrade

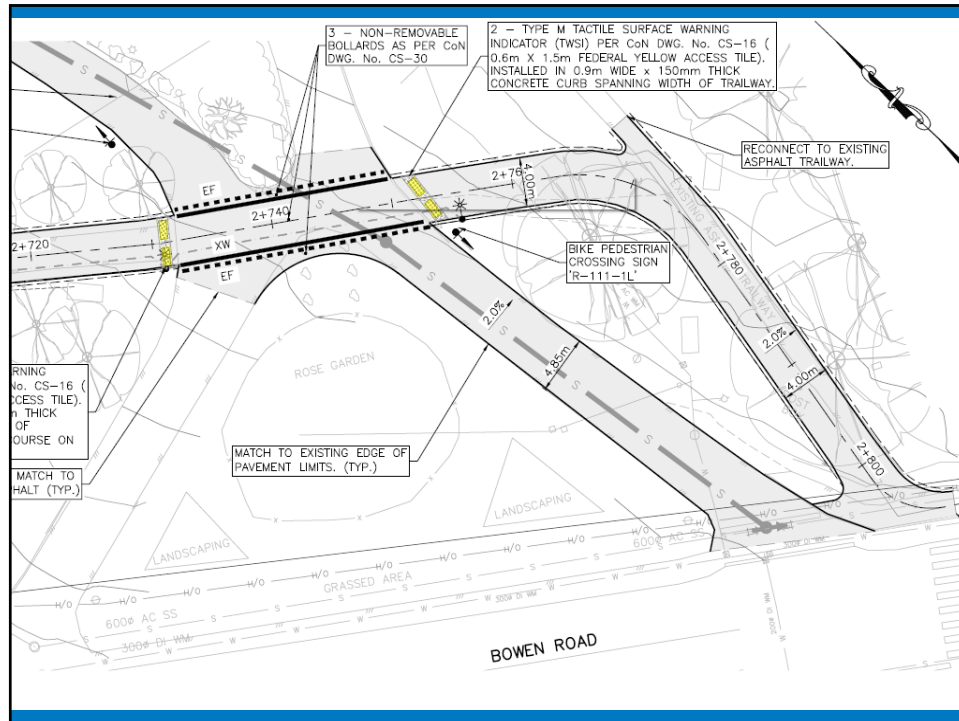


Background

- The Millstone Trunk Sanitary Sewer was built in 1976 & 1977
- Extends from Brannen Lake to Nanaimo Harbour
- Services central Nanaimo
- Capacity planning to address level of service started in late 1990's
- City is progressively upgrading the highest priority sections







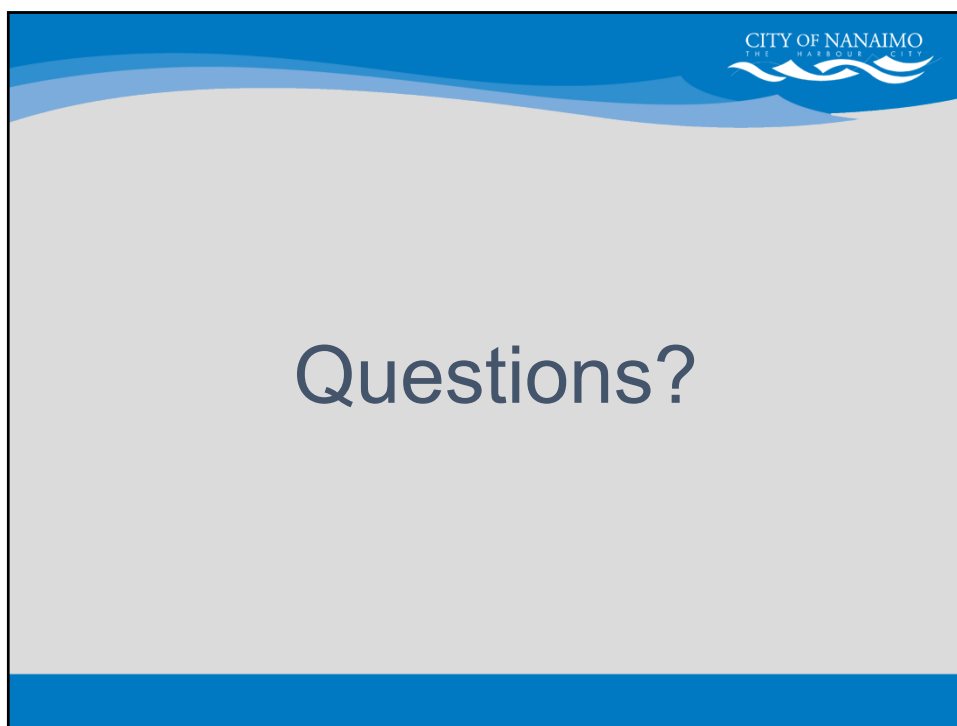
Public Information & Consultation

- Council presentation
- Project website
- Neighbourhood groups
- ACAI

PROJECT COMMUNICATION PLAN			
PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name	Milestone Trunk Sanitary Sewer Upgrade (Phase 2)		
City Project Number	01018	Project Classification	MAJOR
Project Manager	Chris Lang	Project Sponsor	Phil Stewart

Summary Points

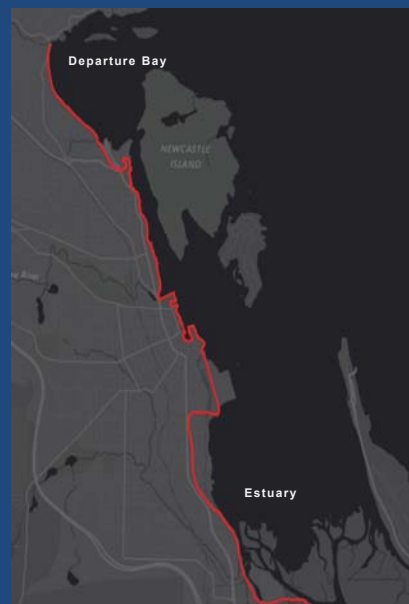
- Challenges are environment and community impact
- Tree preservation through alignment considerations and construction methods
- Includes seismic performance upgrades
- Trailway upgrades include widening for safety, softer grades for all ages and abilities, and trail lighting
- Expected to be completed between May to September 2021





A Little Bit Of History

- The Waterfront Walkway project has been identified as a Council priority initiative in each of the last three Strategic Plans.
- In 2017, the City completed an overall Implementation Plan for the creation of a continuous walkway from Departure Bay to the Nanaimo River Estuary.
- The plan was completed with significant input from the community and revealed strong public support for the development of the waterfront walkway.
- The Waterfront Walkway Implementation Plan endorsed by Council in December 2017.



The Implementation Plan

- Walkway route broken up into segments.
- Provides a framework for each segment which includes:
 - Existing features
 - Recommended alignment and cross-sections
 - Issues and considerations for decision making
 - Amenities to consider



Framework for Departure Bay Segment



Previous Design Work

- In 2018, a Functional Design was completed for an elevated walkway near the Ferry Terminal.
- Revealed construction costs far exceeded original estimates, in part due to increased costs of structural steel and other specialized construction requirements.
- A Value Engineering Assessment was completed and it was recommended that an on-beach option be considered to reduce projects costs.



Current Design Work

- On 2019-MAR-18 Council allocated \$400,000 from the 2018 general surplus to fund the Waterfront Walkway Feasibility Study and Functional Design
- Staff issued a Request for Statement of Qualifications to identify a multi-disciplinary team to deliver the project
- A team led by McElhanney Consultants was selected to undertake the project
- The project has two distinct phases:
 - Phase 1: Feasibility Study (Complete)
 - Phase 2: Functional Design



Feasibility Study and Functional Design



Phase 1: Feasibility Study

- Data collection and modelling to understand the challenges and design opportunities.
- The study area included both the foreshore and adjacent lands.
- 3 conceptual designs along the foreshore.
- Costs for the 3 conceptual designs are estimated to be between \$18-\$19M.
- Other Critical Design Direction included:
 - Flood Protection and Resiliency
 - Future Upgrade Allowance for Sea Level Rise
 - Structure Design for Minor Slide Events
 - Extreme Storm Event Risks
 - Works on Crown Land to avoid Impact on Private Property

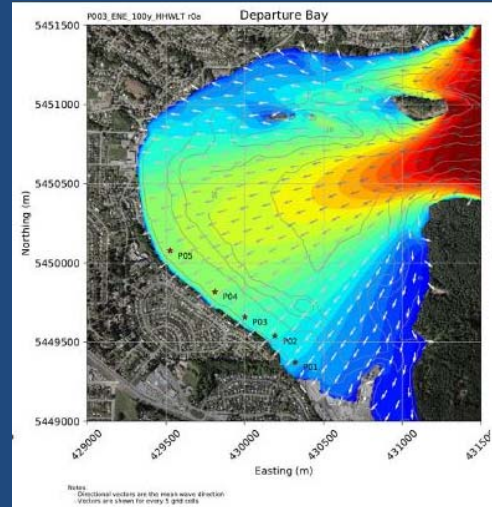
Challenge: Wind, Current and Wave Modelling

Issue:

- The project needs to account for storm surge, storm wave run up, and freeboard. Modelling of Departure Bay shows impacts during various weather events.

Design Opportunity:

- Construct the walkway to account for wave action. Use a gradual slope to reduce wave action. Use headlands/reefs to break wave action.



Challenge: Sea Level Rise

Issue:

- Local sea level rise is predicted to be 0.60m in 50 years. Sea level rise was incorporated into the wave modelling.

Design Opportunity:

- Incorporate sea level rise into project for 50-year horizon. Design with ability to adjust the height when trail needs to be resurfaced.



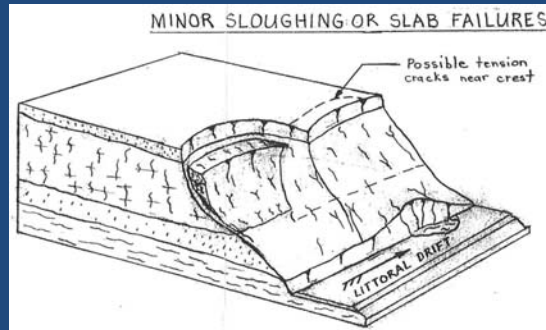
Challenge: Geotechnical Concern with Cilaire Bluff

Issue:

- There is slope instability in certain areas along the Cilaire Bluff that could result in slumping and vegetation falling

Design Opportunity:

- Mitigate the erosion of the toe of slope and adjust the alignment to minimize the risk of debris from slope failure in select locations



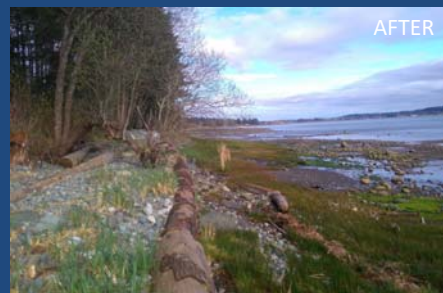
Challenge: Environmental Values of Shoreline

Issue:

- Work on the foreshore will impact existing habitat. Most of foreshore is considered low-value habitat.

Design Opportunity:

- The project must be designed to meet "No-Net-Loss" Principle
- Principle is intended to conserve productivity of aquatic habitats
- The project should be designed to ensure a "Net Gain" of habitat



Challenge: Archaeological

Issue:

- Departure Bay lies within the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation
- Registered archaeological site within project area is a shell midden near Northfield Creek and has been disturbed
- Remainder of project area considered to have low archaeological potential

Design Opportunity:

- Ensure early involvement with Snuneymuxw First Nation
- A permit under the Heritage Conservation Act may be required



Challenge: Permitting

Issue:

- Will require permits from DFO and a Lease License or Right-of-Way from the Province (can take upwards of 18 months)
- DFO requires bonding for environmental work
- Approvals required from BC Ferries, Transport Canada, and the Regional District of Nanaimo

Design Opportunity:

- Permitting requires detailed design work to be completed
- Both DFO and the Province will require consultation with local first nations



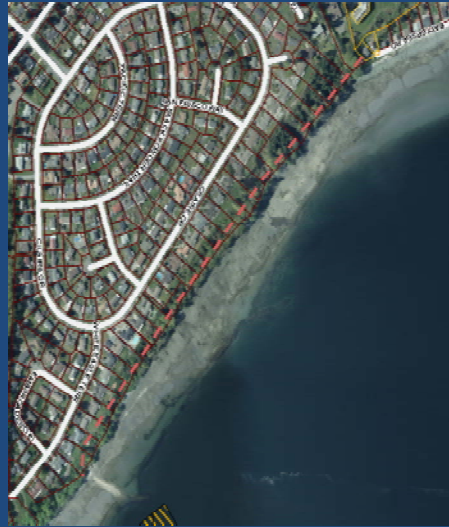
Challenge: Riparian Rights

Issue:

- 30 private property owners along the Cilaire Bluff have riparian rights
- Construction of walkway will require each homeowner to provide consent for the project

Design Opportunity:

- An acquisition program should be started to acquire the riparian rights in advance of permitting



Conceptual Renderings



Conceptual Renderings



Conceptual Renderings



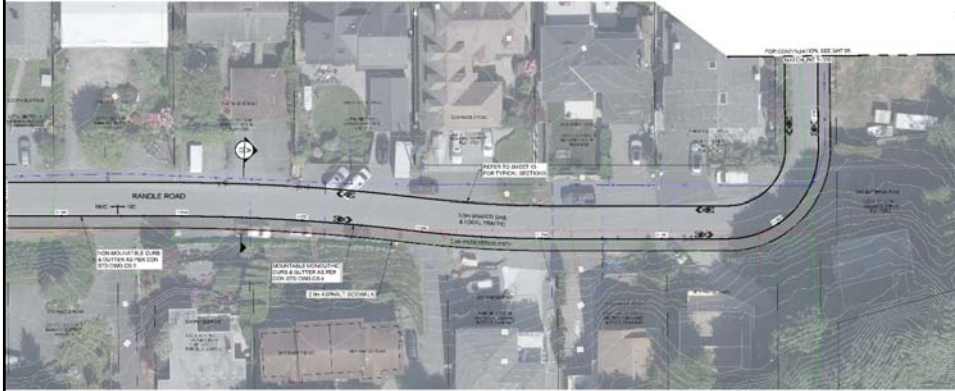
Conceptual Renderings



Conceptual Renderings



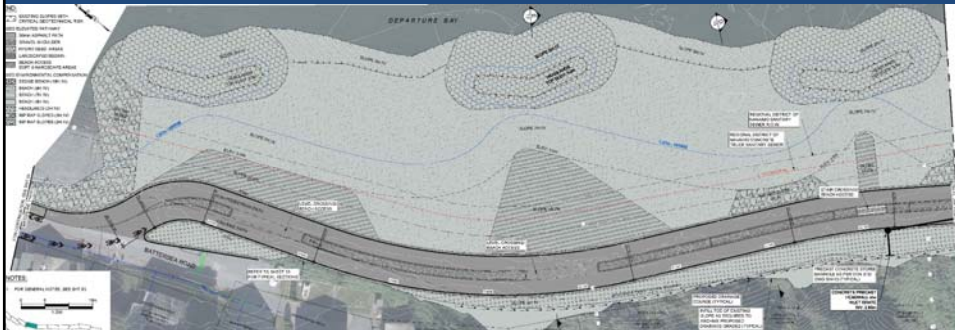
Draft Functional Design



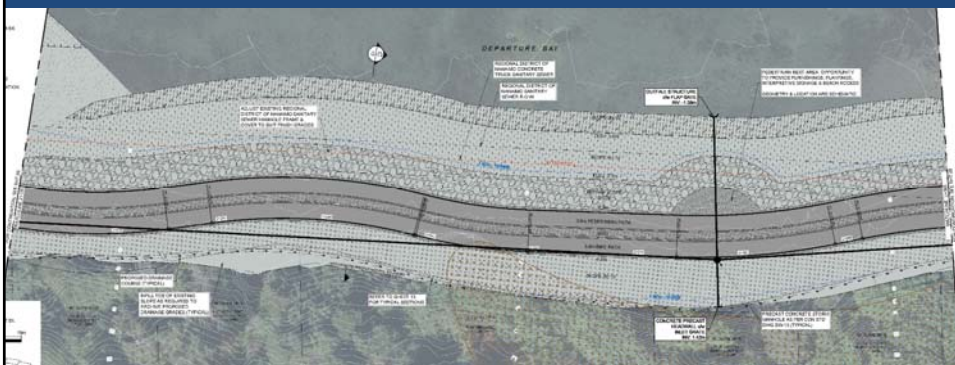
Draft Functional Design



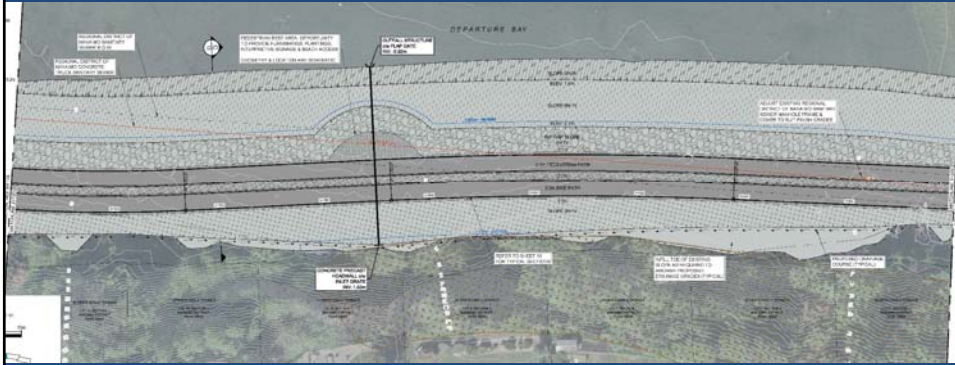
Draft Functional Design



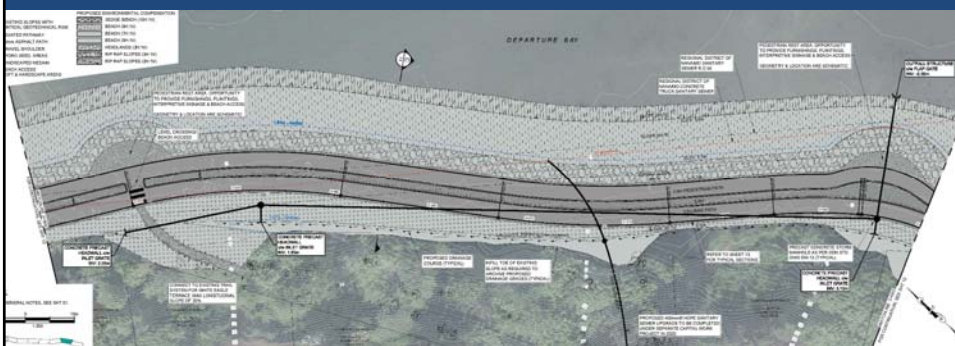
Draft Functional Design



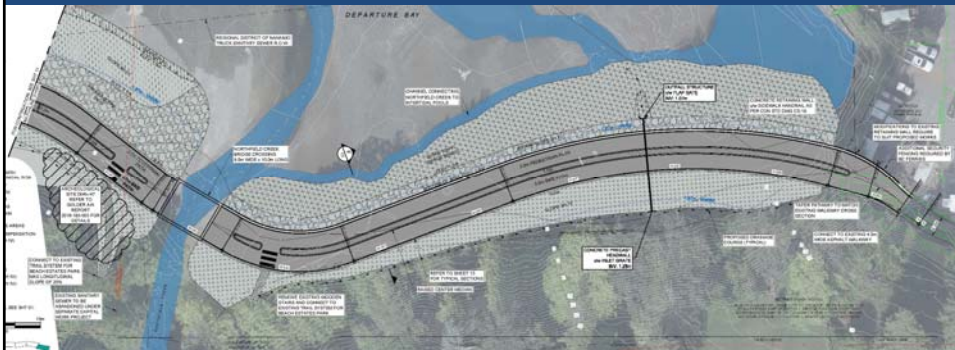
Draft Functional Design



Draft Functional Design



Draft Functional Design



Next Steps

- Present the initial Functional Design findings to Snuneymuxw First Nation
- Additional public consultation using the City's online platform with a survey to capture feedback and gauge support for continuing the project
- Coordinate a meeting with the RDN to obtain approval in principle for the Functional Design and to discuss rights-of-way details
- Coordinate a meeting with BC Ferries to review their letter of support based on the Functional Design and legal agreements that might be needed to secure access in perpetuity
- Coordinate a meeting with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to present initial Functional Design findings, review foreshore restoration concepts, and define bonding requirements to meet their obligations
- Review internal City funding mechanisms
- Undertake detailed design of the project in stages

Questions?

1. What elements of the Waterfront Walkway Project compliment accessibility and inclusiveness?
2. What additional elements could be incorporated into the Waterfront Walkway Project for improved accessibility and inclusiveness?





ACAI - Update on Indicators

2021-APR-28

AGENDA



Council/Committee Workshop Highlights



Draft City Portrait Indicators



Next Steps



Indicators and Targets Workshop Highlights



- ⊙ ~40 Participants (incl. Council + Committees)
- ⊙ Six Facilitated “Zoom Rooms”
- ⊙ 75 Potential Indicators Discussed
- ⊙ 21 Indicators “Upvoted”



Breakout Room Links

ROOM 1: ENABLED

(Economic Health)
jobs, income, tourism, energy
How We Work

ROOM 2: HEALTHY & EMPOWERED

(Environment)
housing, water, food (Governance)
peace, equity, diversity
How We Care

ROOM 3: CONNECTED

(Livability)
mobility, community, neighbourhoods
How We Live & Move

ROOM 4: CONNECTED

(Livability)
well-being, culture
How We Connect, Recreate & Get Outside

ROOM 5a: ECOLOGICAL CEILING

air quality, biodiversity, chemical pollution, climate change
How We Adapt & Stay Green

ROOM 5b: ECOLOGICAL CEILING

land health, ocean health, soil and waterway health, waste, water resources
How We Adapt & Stay Green

COMMUNITY CONNECTION & WELL-BEING

primary goal: so everyone has equitable access to opportunities to connect in healthy built and natural environments to support well-being

COMMENTS / QUESTIONS ON THIS GOAL

Background

- 1998 / 2006 Progress Nanaimo measured:
 - Total park area and open space in City and in identified neighbourhoods
 - Proportion of neighbourhood area that is within 800 m of a park or trail
- 2012/2016 Balanced Scorecard measured:
 - Total park area and open space per 1,000 population
 - Total km of trails and open space per 1,000 population
 - Average hours of recreation facilities per 1,000 population
 - participation hours for recreation programs per capita

Post a sticky note

Post a sticky note

Post a sticky note

Proposed REIMAGINE NANAIMO Indicators

INDICATOR	WHAT IT TELLS US	HOW IT'S MEASURED	DISCUSSION QUESTIONS / SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS	SUSTAINABLE INDICATOR?	VOTING DOTS
1 Public Waterfront Access km and number of publicly accessible waterfront streets Desired trend: increase (see existing report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows how much publicly accessible waterfront is available, including both saltwater and freshwater locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> km of trail along public waterfront (waterfront walkway and streamside / lakeside trails) # of beach accesses / access points (e.g., docks) measured by City GIS baseline available for waterfront walkway 	<p>type of trail and character of trail</p> <p>post could celebration events? cost of events</p> <p>cool for council to implement Reimagine</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Maybe</p>	<p>Cast a vote by moving one dot to either yes, no, or maybe</p> <p>●●●</p>



Council/Committee Workshop Highlights



Draft City Portrait Indicators



Next Steps





5 Draft goals are organized around the doughnut – one goal each for the 4 **social** foundations, one for the **ecological** ceiling


- **Healthy**
- **Connected**
- **Enabled**
- **Empowered**
- **Ecological**




5 Draft Goals

- **Healthy** – Support well-being for all
- **Connected** – Build a more sustainable community
- **Enabled** – Promote a thriving economy
- **Empowered** – Encourage social enrichment
- **Ecological** – Protect and enhance our environment








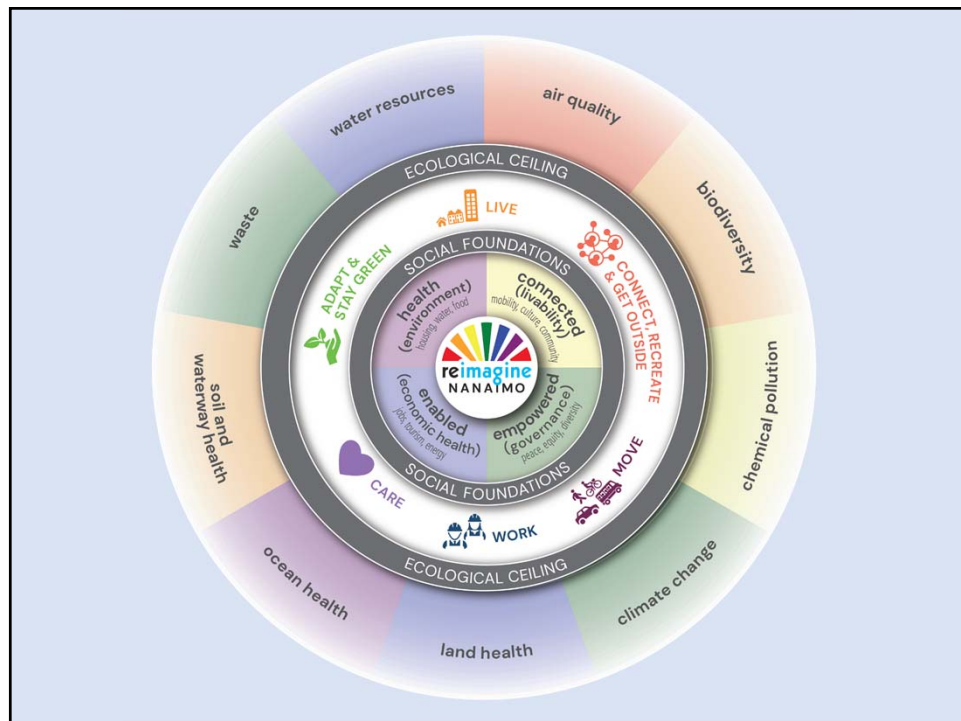
22 Draft Indicators

under the 5 Draft Goals

NOTE: This is an evolving work in progress

- **22 Draft Indicators**

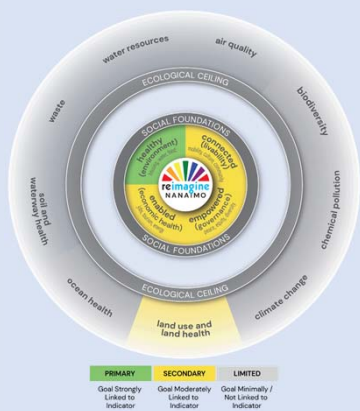







Healthy

Build a more sustainable community
(housing, water, food)



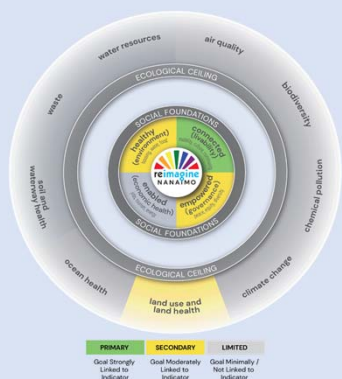
TOP INDICATORS

- Chronic / Episodic Homelessness
- Housing Affordability
- Vacancy Rate
- Mix of Housing Types in Neighbourhoods



Connected

Support access and well-being for all
(mobility, culture, community)



TOP INDICATORS

- Transportation By Mode
- Distance Driven Per Capita
- Access to Daily Needs (includes transit/jobs/services/schools/parks & rec amenities)
- Land Use Mix in Nodes / Corridors
- Public Waterfront Access



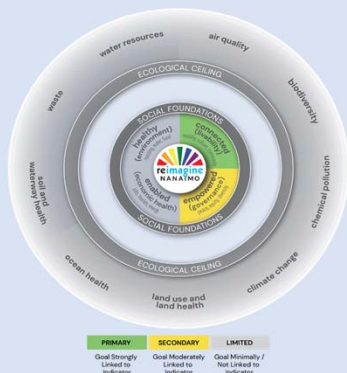


Empowered

Encourage social enrichment
(peace, equity, diversity)

TOP INDICATORS

- Traffic Injury Rate
- Inclusion and Diversity
- Investment in Arts, Culture, and Heritage
- Participation in PRC Programs and Services

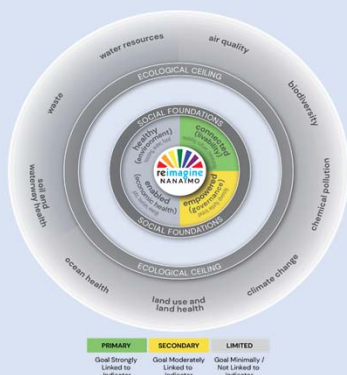


Empowered - Deep Dive -

Inclusion and Diversity

Could be measured through varied potential inputs including:

- # barrier-free facilities
- # of volunteers
- # of LEAP participants
- # KMs accessible trails
- # inclusive playgrounds
- # of capital projects to improve accessibility
- Other ideas?



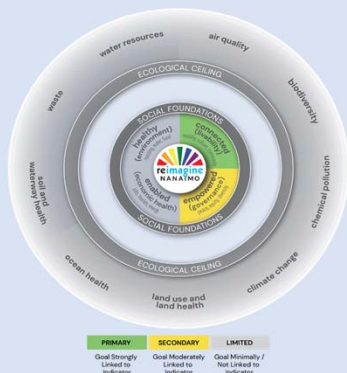


Empowered - Deep Dive -

Investment in Arts, Culture, and Heritage

Could be measured using:

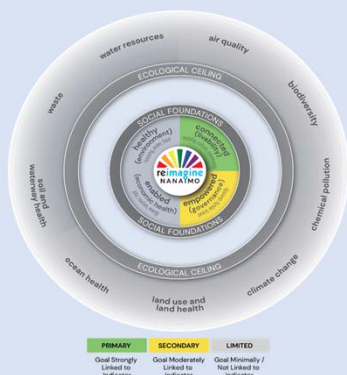
- # of sites on the Heritage Registry
- Number of grants to heritage, arts and culture organizations
- Value and amount of funds leveraged
- Number of grants and property tax exemptions under heritage building conservation programs, value and amount of funds leveraged
- Annual attendance at City-funded events, festivals, culture facilities and related programs
- Investment in public art and creative place-making projects
- **Other ideas?**



Empowered - Deep Dive -

Participation in PRC Programs & Services

- A variety of methodologies can be used to ensure rigor in the research – i.e., participation rates can be cross-referenced with impact assessments
- Methodologies include: Consultant-led survey; implementation of ongoing program evaluation to collect qualitative data; participation levels as tracked through PerfectMind
- Assessing whether programs and services are considered equitable, inclusive, accessible
- Aim is to know if the programs, services and facilities offered are making a difference to individual and community well-being



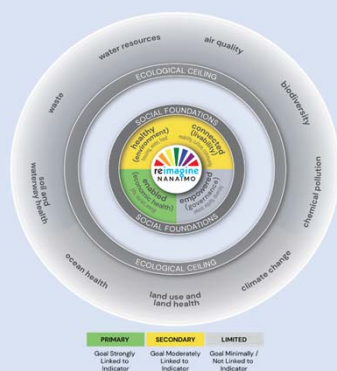


Enabled

Promote a thriving economy
(talent, jobs, prosperity)

TOP INDICATORS

- Working Age Population
- Non-Residential Building Permits
- Business Growth

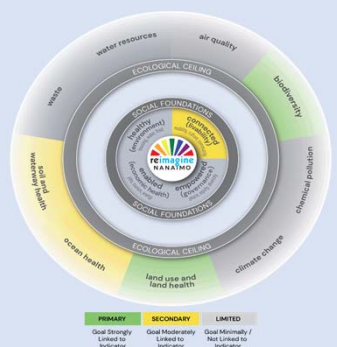


Ecological

Protect and enhance our environment
(air quality, biodiversity, chemical pollution, climate change, land use and land health, ocean health, soil and waterway health, waste, water resources)

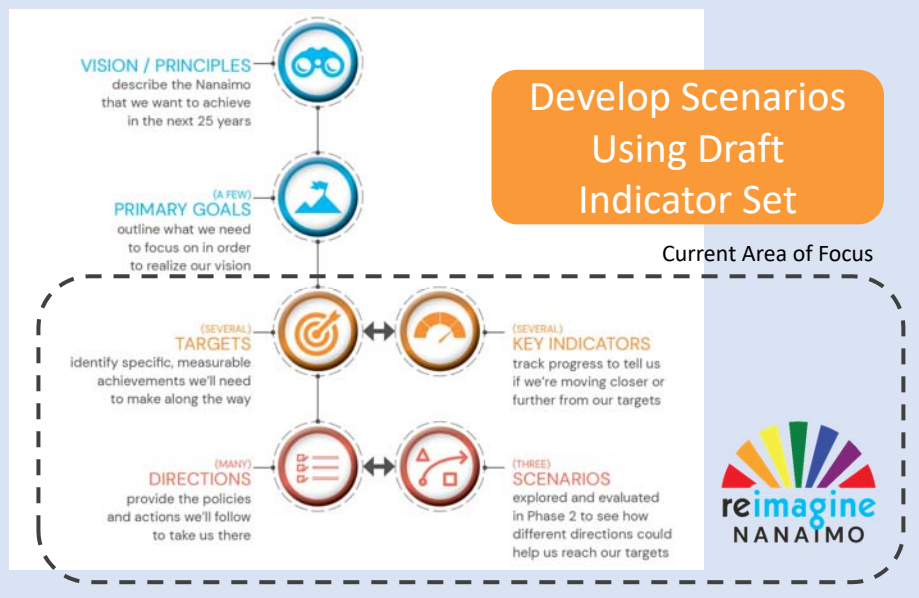
TOP INDICATORS

- GHG Emissions
- Protected Environmentally-Sensitive Areas and Lands
- Surface Water Quality
- Collected Waste / Household
- Water Consumption / Capita





Use Indicators to Evaluate Scenarios



Council/Committee Workshop Highlights

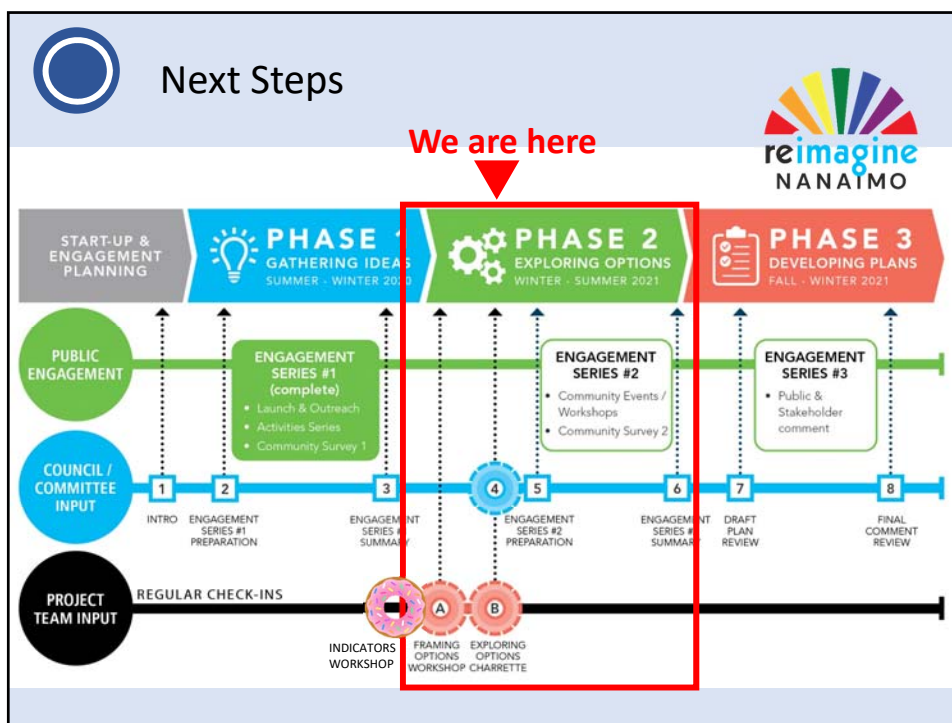


Draft City Portrait Indicators



Next Steps





REIMAGINE ACAI feedback

- **Feedback?**
- **Thoughts on next steps?**
- **Other comments?**



REIMAGINE



"Fun neighbourhood" by Bronwyn Moes, Age 10

Huy tseep q'u Siem



DATE OF MEETING APRIL 28, 2021

AUTHORED BY LYNN WARK, DIRECTOR, RECREATION AND CULTURE
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

SUBJECT LEAP PROGRAM REVIEW – PHASE 3

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To provide the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness with the results of Phase 3 of the Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP) Program Review as well as recommendations for program revisions for consideration.

Recommendation

That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness approve the recommendations outlined in Phase 3 of the LEAP Program Review and recommend Staff forward them to for Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND

At the 2020-MAR-18 meeting, Council made a motion to approve a review and update of the Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP) program in 2020; and refer the review of the program to the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI) to develop recommendations for changes for Council's consideration.

At the 2020-JUL-29 ACAI meeting, Staff presented a phased review process for consideration and the committee passed a motion that the ACAI approves of and conducts the review process, as presented, for the LEAP Program.

At the 2021-FEB-24 ACAI meeting, Staff presented the results of Phases 1 and 2 of the LEAP Review. At that meeting, a motion was passed to approve Phase 3 to proceed.

DISCUSSION

Phase 3 of the LEAP Program Review provides recommendations for program revision, based on an analysis of the information gathered and reviewed in Phases 1 and 2.

In general, the framework for the financial access program has proven to be quite sound but in need of some refinement to make it more accessible to the community. Changes to the program administration, program name, eligibility requirements, application and approval process, benefits, and the marketing and promotion of the program are being recommended.

The proposed recommendations for LEAP Program changes are as follows:

Recommendations for Implementation by September

1. To help reduce the stigma around applying for the program, consider changing the name of the program so that it does not include a reference to lack of financial resources (i.e. LIFE – Leisure Inclusion for Everyone).
2. To make the application process easier, reduce supporting documentation to one piece of photo identification, proof of residency, and Notice of Assessment (NOA) from prior year.
3. To provide flexibility, approval could be acquired under special circumstances from staff (i.e. family is slightly above Low Income Cut-Off but has proof of undue hardship).
4. To provide clarity around program eligibility, create an online self-assessment eligibility tool.
5. To eliminate the requirement to apply at a facility front desk, provide an online application form/process.
6. To ensure application and supporting materials are easily understandable, ask Literacy Central Vancouver Island to proofread revised application form and other related program materials.
7. To help reduce the stigma around applying for the program, offer private appointments for applicants who wish to discuss the program with a Recreation Coordinator.
8. For specific demographics, whose financial situation is unlikely to change, consider changing the requirement to reapply, from every year, to every two years.
9. To provide enhanced access to drop-in activities, create the option to renew the pass if 50 drop-ins are used prior to the end of the one-year term for the pass.
10. To ensure that community members are aware of the program, create a marketing and communications plan for the program which would include building relationships, and networking with potential community partners and key organizations.
11. To ensure that clients are aware of the option to register for four programs at a reduced rate, create enhanced program information materials.
12. To determine if program is having the intended impact, create some target measures for re-evaluation in one year.

Recommendations Requiring Further Exploration

13. To potentially expand eligibility, do some research to determine what the impacts would be of including post-secondary students or, if there is a potential partnership opportunity with Vancouver Island University (VIU).

14. To provide alternate options of proof of need, research other documentation that could replace the requirement for the NOA such as, proof of Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), proof of disability assistance (Persons with Disabilities [PWD]), proof of Income Assistance or, a letter from an adjudicator/referral agency.

These changes to the LEAP Program will enhance the ability for those living at, or below, the low-income threshold to access pool, arena, drop-in gym and program services, which will be a huge benefit to these individuals and families.

In addition, through the research conducted and reviewed in Phases 1 and 2, there is evidence that supports what Recreation Coordinators are already aware of, that there are many other barriers to participation in parks, recreation and culture that could be addressed to a greater extent. For this reason, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Division will be reviewing and recommending changes to current operations which may support a higher degree of focus on inclusion and diversity. |

OPTIONS

1. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness approve the recommendations outlined in Phase 3 of the LEAP Program Review and recommend Staff forward them to for Council for consideration.
 - The advantages of this option: The recommendations are relatively easy to implement and will enhance community access to the LEAP Program.
 - The disadvantages of this option: More staff time will be required to implement and support the changes.
 - Financial Implications: There will be some nominal costs involved in creating new program information and application materials, a communications and marketing plan, and additional staff time. These costs can all be absorbed in the regular operating budget.
2. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness approve the recommendations, with revisions, in the LEAP Program Review and recommend Staff forward them to for Council for consideration.
 - The advantages of this option: Committee members will have the opportunity to identify any other issues of concern that are not addressed by the recommendations as is.
 - The disadvantages of this option: Additional staff time, costs, or other resources may be required to implement and support the suggested revisions.
 - Financial Implications: Additional costs, that may not be able to be covered within the current operating budget, may be incurred depending on the revised recommendations.
3. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness provide alternate direction.
 - The advantages of this option: Committee members will have the ability to provide alternate suggestions for program revision.

- The disadvantages of this option: Depending on the changes suggested, revisions to the program may take longer to implement, and require additional resources.
- Financial Implications: Dependent on the alternate direction. |

SUMMARY POINTS

- Council recommended that the Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP) Program be reviewed to ensure that it was still meeting community needs.
- Phase 3 of the Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP) Program Review is complete and provides 14 recommendations for program revisions.
- If implemented, Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP) Program revisions will enhance access to recreation opportunities for individuals, or families, living at, or below, the Low Income Cut-Off Thresholds.

Submitted by:

Lynn Wark
Director, Recreation and Culture

Concurrence by:

Richard Harding
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

DATE OF MEETING APRIL 28, 2021

AUTHORED BY LAARA CLARKSON, MANAGER, RECREATION SERVICES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

**SUBJECT 2021 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND
INCLUSIVENESS WORK PLAN**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To provide an overview and opportunity for feedback on the 2021 Work Plan for the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness prior to forwarding to Council for consideration and endorsement.

Recommendation

That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness recommend that Council endorse the 2021 Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the City of Nanaimo's Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI) is to promote social and political equity within existing and proposed City plans, policies, bylaws, and infrastructure and make recommendations to ensure that they are inclusive and accommodating to citizens of all ages, abilities and walks of life.

The proposed draft 2021 Work Plan is intended to establish how the Committee will meet its mandate and offer input and advice on accessibility and inclusiveness to Council.

DISCUSSION

The 2021 ACAI Work Plan outlined below presents the committee's consideration and recommendations to Council for endorsement.

2021 Work Plan		
Topic	Lead Department / Section	Overview
Guiding principles summary		Create a guiding principles summary, to help guide decision making, specifically related to accessibility & inclusion for use in various areas of City operations.

REIMAGINE Nanaimo	Community Planning & Parks, Recreation & Culture	Continue to participate in the engagement process for REIMAGINE Nanaimo. Some specifics would include input regarding accessibility of facilities, infrastructure and parks.
Complete the review of the LEAP Program	Parks, Recreation & Culture	Complete the review of the LEAP Program to identify opportunities for change or improvement.
Projects as referred by Council and/or Staff for Review and Input	Legislative Services	Review & provide input into existing and future projects and plans as directed.

The above work plan table provides a list of projects that fall within the purpose of the Committee. Additional topics that fall under the Committee's purpose may arise that require Council's attention or may be referred by Council to the Committee for consideration.

OPTIONS

1. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness recommend that Council endorse the 2021 Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Work Plan.
 - The advantages of this option: A work plan provides Council with a list of focus areas and a way for Council to measure Committee activity and progress in meeting its mandate.
 - The disadvantages of this option: Having a set work plan may limit the flexibility of the Committee to respond to questions and issues that are presented to them throughout the year.
 - Financial Implications: No immediate financial implications. Any completed actions identified on the work plan would be presented with more detailed financial implications to Council.
2. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness refer the draft 2021 Work Plan back to staff for further amendments.
 - The advantages of this option: Following input from the Committee, Staff could revise the draft to meet the suggested revisions.
 - The disadvantages of this option: Process for adopting a work plan for 2021 would be further delayed and could stall progress on the listed initiatives.
 - Financial Implications: None identified.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The 2021 ACAI Work Plan is intended to illustrate how the Committee will meet its mandate and offer input and advice to Council.
- The Committee recognizes that in addition to this proposed work plan, additional topics that fall under the Committee's mandate may come up that require Council's attention or may be referred by Council for the Committee to consider.
- Topics for 2021 build on the work the Committee completed in its inaugural year in 2020.

Submitted by:

Laara Clarkson
Manager, Recreation Services

Concurrence by:

Lynn Wark
Director, Recreation & Culture Services

And by:

Richard Harding
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Reference Links

Gender-neutral & gender-inclusive language:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/home/accessible-government/toolkit/audience-diversity/inclusive-language-and-terms>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/csj-sjc/legis-redact/legistics/p1p15.html>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/careers/all-employees/working-with-others/words-matter.pdf>

Online Training Resources:

<http://www.phsa.ca/transcarebc/health-professionals/education/trans-intro>

<https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/8141/exploring-gender-diversity>