

## AGENDA GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 7:00 P.M. SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE 80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC

SCHEDULED RECESS AT 9:00 P.M.

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#### 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. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
- 4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:
  - a. Minutes

Minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2024-MAY-13 at 1:00 p.m.

#### 5. AGENDA PLANNING:

a. Upcoming Topics and Initiatives

To be introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services.

#### 6. **REPORTS**:

- a. Empowered Nanaimo:
  - 1. Lisa Zwarn Alternative Approval Process Review

To be introduced by Dale Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer.

[Note: Report to be distributed on addendum.]

2. Alternative Approval Process Policy Options 13 - 34

To be introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services.

Purpose: To provide the Governance and Priorities Committee with policy options for future Alternative Approval Processes (AAP).

#### Delegation:

1. Sandy Bartlett

#### Recommendation:

- 1. That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend staff return to Council with a policy for their consideration that includes:
  - a. The method of communication/engagement be considered on a case-by-case basis based on the scale and the borrowing amount of the project; and,
  - b. Set 100 forms per day per person as the limit of forms provided to citizens during the AAP period.
- 2. Provide direction to staff on the inclusion of mail-out options for response forms and electronic submission of response forms in the policy.
- 7. QUESTION PERIOD:
- 8. ADJOURNMENT:



#### MINUTES

#### **GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

### Monday, May 13, 2024, 1:00 P.M. SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE 80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC

Members:	Councillor B. Geselbracht, Chair Mayor L. Krog Councillor S. Armstrong Councillor H. Eastmure Councillor E. Hemmens Councillor P. Manly Councillor I. Thorpe
Absent:	Councillor T. Brown Councillor J. Perrino
Staff:	<ul> <li>D. Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer</li> <li>R. Harding, General Manager, Community Services/Deputy CAO</li> <li>L. Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services</li> <li>B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works</li> <li>S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services</li> <li>J. Holm, Director, Planning and Development</li> <li>P. Rosen, Director, Engineering</li> <li>C. Negrin, Manager, Subdivision/Deputy Approvals Officer</li> <li>J. Rose, Manager, Transportation</li> <li>N. Sponaugle, Communications Advisor</li> <li>K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary</li> </ul>

#### 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by "Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272"

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### 2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Agenda Item 6(a)(1) Geotechnical Guidelines Review Add PowerPoint Presentation titled "An Introduction to Updated and New Geotechnical Guidelines".
- (b) Agenda Item 6(b)(1) Allocation of Unallocated Pedestrian Funds Add the following delegations:
  - 1. Kelsey Chandler and Kaylee Baker
  - 2. Barry Lyseng

### 3. <u>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:</u>

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

#### 4. <u>ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:</u>

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2024-APR-29, at 1:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 5. <u>AGENDA PLANNING:</u>

### (a) <u>Upcoming Topics and Initiatives</u>

Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services, spoke regarding topics and initiatives scheduled for upcoming Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) meetings. Highlights included:

- The Monday, 2024-JUN-10 GPC meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday, 2024-JUN-12 due to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) convention
- A review and discussion of Alternative Approval Process policy options is scheduled for the 2024-JUN-12 GPC meeting
- A Public Works Yard discussion on options for funding is scheduled for the 2024-JUN-24 GPC meeting
- Future GPC topics include the City Plan Monitoring Committee(s), School Zone Policy Update and Incentives that Support City Plan
- Tentative GPC topics include the E-Mobility Strategy Phase 1 and Development Permit Area (DPA) 8 Form and Character Design Guidelines

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> It was moved and seconded that the Alternative Approval Process topic scheduled for the 2024-JUN-12 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting, be rescheduled to an evening meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

### 6. <u>REPORTS:</u>

### (a) <u>Green Nanaimo:</u>

### (1) <u>Geotechnical Guidelines Review</u>

Introduced by Jeremy Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

Claire Negrin, Manager, Subdivision/Deputy Approvals Officer, noted that the purpose of the Geotechnical Guidelines Review is to update and modernize existing guidelines as well as to develop a new set of guidelines for geotechnical assessments above abandoned mines.

### Presentation:

- 1. Carl Miller, Senior Principal Geotechnical Engineer, WSP, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:
  - Provided an overview of some of the difficulties associated with the previous geotechnical guidelines
  - The updated guidelines are intended to assist in legislated reports for private land development
  - The guidelines help support the development approval process leading to better success in the completion of development permit applications
  - Areas of geotechnical design criteria include natural hazard, seismic design, level of landslide safety and consideration of changed conditions
  - Provided an overview of report content requirements that would not normally be found in geotechnical reports
  - The Guidelines for Geotechnical Assessments Above Abandoned Working Mines fall under the scope of the overall City guidelines
  - Assessment of mining induced geological hazards is a specialized area of practice

- The City's NanaimoMap shows the outlines of mines and includes a healthy buffer due to potential inaccuracies
- Historical information is provided in the guidelines
- There are many hazards related to the type and depth of mining
- Preliminary risk assessment shows areas of high risk to allow forewarning before developing in the area
- Section 6 of the guideline outlines the City's expectations of the assessment process and of reporting needs

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The guidelines are intended to be sent to geotechnical engineers and will be readily available on the City's website for anyone who is interested
- There was extensive public consultation for the Development Permit Areas through the City Plan Review
- From a development perspective, the awareness of mining activity and review of potential hazard is not new, but rather the guidelines are for clarity and alignment with professional practice

Carl Miller, Senior Principal Geotechnical Engineer, WSP, spoke regarding areas in town where there would be elevated risk and noted that there are areas of uncertainty considering that historical mining has not always been well documented.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Request that the reference to Newcastle Island be updated to it's proper name, Saysutshun
- WSP is currently doing a hazard review for the Regional District of Nanaimo and are encouraging them to incorporate the mining aspect
- The settling on Old Victoria Road

It was moved and seconded that the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council endorse the following guidelines, as attached to the Staff Report dated 2024-MAY-13, associated with the preparation of geotechnical reports and the assessment of mine-related geotechnical hazards in support of development applications within the City of Nanaimo:

- 1. Guidelines for the Preparation of Geotechnical Reports; and,
- 2. Guidelines for Geotechnical Assessments Above Abandoned Mine Workings.

The motion carried unanimously.

- b. <u>Healthy Nanaimo:</u>
  - (1) <u>Allocation of Unallocated Pedestrian Funds</u>

Introduced by Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works.

- The recommended project for the 2024 Unallocated Pedestrian Funds is the Albert Street Crossing Improvements
- Due to a successful grant application there is an opportunity to reallocate some funds from the 2023 Unallocated Pedestrian Funds
- Staff received positive feedback from the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness on improving accessibility at transit stops

## Presentation:

- 1. Jamie Rose, Manager, Transportation, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:
  - Provided an update on the status of 2022 and 2023 unallocated pedestrian projects
  - The recommended project for the unallocated pedestrian funding is Albert Street crossing improvements at Selby Street and Dunsmuir Street
  - Improvements will bridge a link between Vancouver Island University (VIU) and Downtown Nanaimo
  - Projects for future consideration include accessibility improvements at transit stops and the Third Street sidewalk expansion
  - Provided an overview of priority capital projects

Committee discussion took place regarding the projects that require consultation with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI).

Jamie Rose, Manager, Transportation, continued the presentation and spoke regarding projects that are of community interest; however, not suited to the Pedestrian Unallocated Funding Program. These includes:

 Pedestrian improvements from 3190 Hammond Bay Road to Lagoon Road

Committee discussion took place regarding the opportunity to restripe the shoulder on Hammond Bay Road when restoring the road from the Regional District of Nanaimo sewer project.

Jamie Rose, Manager, Transportation, continued the presentation and spoke regarding projects that are of community interest. Highlights included:

- Adding Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) on Hammond Bay Road at Oakridge Drive
- Pedestrian mobility around Bayview Elementary School
- Sidewalk infill around the Park Avenue Elementary School
- Adding RRFBs and a new crosswalk at École
   Quarterway School

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Consultation with School District 68 (SD68) in identifying schools of priority for pedestrian improvements
- Factors that are considered in the output of scores for the Pedestrian Prioritization Tool
- Scoring metrics are both reactive and proactive
- The risk of going overbudget is lower than it has been in previous years
- Factors involved in addressing the five-stop intersection in the Bayview area

### Delegations:

1. Kelsey Chandler and Kaylee Baker spoke regarding the urgency of pedestrian and cyclist safety in the vicinity of École Quarterway School due to high traffic volume, speed and congestion, and they requested a more comprehensive analysis of the area. They spoke regarding the current zoning, road classifications and the City-owned right-of-way crossing the Legion property 1630 East Wellington Road. They requested that the Committee reconsider the recommended funding allocation of the Pedestrian Unallocated Funds and for more transparency in the breakdown of Pedestrian Prioritization Tool scores.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Crossing guards for morning and afternoon pick-ups have been cancelled as students do not feel safe
- Council relies on both objective data and concerns from the community

Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, explained the scoring system of the Pedestrian Prioritization Tool and noted that more detail can be found on the City's website.

 Barry Lyseng, Stephenson Point Neighbourhood Association (SPNA), spoke regarding SPNA's priority action relating to pedestrian mobility improvements on Hammond Bay Road discussed during the 2023 Neighbourhood Association engagement event. He expressed concern with the Staff report's reflection of the SPNA's ask, and requested further discussion with Staff.

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Staff could not accommodate an acceptable lane width to provide a pedestrian corridor along Hammond Bay Road without moving the center line
- The Neighbourhood Association meeting was to provide the priorities of each of the neighbourhoods which were endorsed by Council as part of the integrated action plan
- Reporting back to the Neighbourhood Associations regarding their requests at the next Neighourhood Association Engagement Event

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The Committee recessed the meeting at 3:17 p.m.

The Committee reconvened the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- There are not many solutions for reducing traffic speed in the area of Nicol Street and Needham Street, and acknowledging that pedestrian safety is not MoTI's goal
- There are a number of vulnerable individuals downtown crossing Albert Street to reach the safe consumption site
- The Pedestrian Prioritization Tool provides an unbiased professional approach to determine priorities
- The Staff recommendation references bump-outs; however, these should not have a negative impact on vehicle traffic
- The cost to add RRFBs at École Quarterway School
- The benefit of improving Albert Street for its connection between VIU and downtown
- Spreading the pedestrian funding to support minor improvements in multiple locations
- Consultation with first responders regarding the impact of narrow roads on emergency vehicles
- There are limited resources allocated to pedestrian improvements
- Staff capacity challenges and difficulty in filling technical positions
- Narrowing roads is a way to slow down traffic and increase the perception of safety
- After funding is allocated, the detailed design will provide a better understanding of what improvements can be done
- Seeking to support all modes of transportation

It was moved and seconded that the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council allocate \$300,000 of the 2024 Pedestrian Unallocated Funds and reallocate \$182,500 of the 2023 Pedestrian Unallocated Funds for a combined total of \$482,500 toward Albert Street Crossing Improvements from Milton Street to Dunsmuir Street. The motion carried. *Opposed: Councillors Eastmure and Geselbracht* 

## 7. <u>QUESTION PERIOD:</u>

The Committee received no questions from the public regarding agenda items.

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## 8. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>

It was moved and seconded at 3:59 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER

Meeting Time	Upcoming Topics and Initiatives						
	June 24, 2024 – GPC Meeting						
1pm	Public Works Yard (Nanaimo Operations Centre Project)	Discussion re: options for funding     (2024-FEB-12 Council motion)					

## Future GPC topics – dates TBD

- City Plan Monitoring Committee(s) (2023-MAY-1 Council motion)
- School Zone Policy Update (2024-FEB-26 Council motion)
- Incentives that support City Plan (2023-DEC-04 Council motion) Tentative date 2024-OCT-28 GPC

### **Tentative GPC topics – dates TBD**

• E-Mobility Strategy Phase 1 (IAP Action C1.1.37) Tentative date 2024-JUL-15 GPC	Presentation & report for decision
• DPA8 Form and Character Design Guidelines (IAP Priority Action #202) Tentative date 2024-OCT-28 GPC	Presentation of new development permit (DP) guidelines for endorsement
• Development Cost Charge Bylaw Update Project (IAP Priority Action #203) Tentative date 2024-OCT-28	Presenting considerations for updating DCC Bylaw No. 7252
Amenity Cost Charge Bylaw Project (Bill 46 Housing Statutes 2023) Tentative date 2024-OCT-28	Presenting considerations for using new development finance tool endorsed by the Province in November 2023.

Legend					
	Council requested topics				
	Staff initiatives				
	Integrated Action Plan (IAP) program				

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# **Staff Report for Decision**

File Number: CC-03

DATE OF MEETING JUNE 13, 2024

AUTHORED BY SHEILA GURRIE, DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

#### SUBJECT ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS POLICY OPTIONS

#### OVERVIEW

#### Purpose of Report

To provide the Governance and Priorities Committee with policy options for future Alternative Approval Processes (AAP).

#### Recommendation

- 1. That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend staff return to Council with a policy for their consideration that includes:
  - a. The method of communication/engagement be considered on a case-by-case basis based on the scale and the borrowing amount of the project; and,
  - b. Set 100 forms per day per person as the limit of forms provided to citizens during the AAP period.
- 2. Provide direction to staff on the inclusion of mail-out options for response forms and electronic submission of response forms in the policy.

#### BACKGROUND

At the 2023-DEC-04 Regular meeting of Council, the following motion was made:

"It was moved and seconded that staff provide a report and recommendations outlining policy options to improve accessibility and increase the ability of electors to engage in the democratic process when the Alternative Approval Process is used for elector approval".

Feedback received by Council and staff included, but was not limited to:

- Mail-in and electronic forms should be allowed (note: mail-in is allowed);
- Email responses;
- More open houses;
- Clarity around project requiring borrowing;
- Notification and communication around the AAP process and the project;
- Education around the borrowing process; and
- Mail drops to all households.

Staff investigated other municipality's practices during an AAP process, reaching out to many with questions and reviewed policies that exist around accessibility and increasing engagement during an AAP. Prior to the review being completed, and implementing some of the feedback



heard, the City conducted an AAP in January 2024 and steps to increase engagement from previous AAPs were taken and feedback received from the public was positive.

#### DISCUSSION

Long-term borrowing by a municipality is one of the matters considered by Council that requires approval of the electors in accordance with the *Community Charter*. The two ways to obtain approval of the electors is either by an Assent Vote or by the Alternative Approval Process. These processes are both subject to Provincial legislation that local governments must follow.

An Assent Vote, often referred to as a Referendum, is a large undertaking with significant costs and staff resources. Alternatively, an AAP can be undertaken with significantly lesser costs and resources. Certain parts of the process for both methods are non-negotiable under the legislation. Some exceptions apply and where the City of Nanaimo can go above and beyond, it is best to set out those methods in policy in order to be consistent and lessen the opportunity for error.

The "Alternative Approval Process: A Guide for Local Governments in British Columbia", outlines where a local government can set certain processes out in policy, where not noted in the legislation. The areas where there is a possibility for variables, where a local government can go above and beyond, are basically engagement/communication and procedures for providing and accepting response forms.

#### AAP POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The Provincial guidelines for an AAP outline this method of obtaining approval of the electors as accessible and convenient with considerably less costs. Elector approval is required for long-term borrowing, boundary extensions, exchange or other disposal of parkland, etc. Each decision for an AAP versus an Assent Vote requires a Council resolution. The method of communication/engagement can be considered on a case-by-case basis as well, rather than having a blanket process for all AAP's. This can be outlined in the policy and would allow for latitude of scale, based on the project requiring elector approval.

It is not recommended that legislative requirements outlined in the *Community Charter* for holding an AAP process be included in policy; rather it should be set out in procedure as there is no flexibility in that part of the process.

Below outlines options that the Governance and Priorities Committee may wish to include in a policy. The ability to adjust processes outlined in the policy (that not subscribed in the legislation) are available, as always, should Council choose to.

#### Communication/Engagement:

Attachment A outlines communications and engagement taken for the last AAP for borrowing conducted in January 2024. Feeback was positive and there were several opportunities to provide clarity around the AAP process as well as the project itself.



Options related to Communication/Engagement for Council to consider would be:

- To have staff create a communications and engagement plan for the AAP process (contiguous with a communications plan for the project) for any borrowing bylaw AAP's to be endorsed by Council on a case by case basis.
- To modify these communications and engagement initiatives as needed based on the scale of the project and type of AAP.

#### Response Forms – Availability:

Currently, response forms are available at City Hall and on the City website with the ability to be printed and dropped off in person to City Hall during regular business hours or mailed in by Canada Post.

Suggestions we heard and considered during our review process included:

- Inserting response forms in User Rate bills:
  - User Rate bills are not sent to every homeowner in Nanaimo at one time rather the process is staggered in a manner across the City and therefore only a fraction of homeowners would receive the response form.
  - These bills are sent to homeowners only and they may not necessarily be the occupiers of the residence.
  - The timing of these bills may be incongruent with the AAP timelines as well.
- Canada Post flyer drop (unaddressed mail)
  - Approximate cost of \$11,500.00 depending on format and contents.
  - These are costly and an AAP is meant to provide cost savings; however, it is still significantly less than holding an Assent Vote.
  - The disadvantage of this option is that the flyer drop would encompass an area larger than the eligible elector boundaries set out in legislation. This could cause confusion for residents that received a form and are then told they cannot participate as they are outside of the electorate area.
- Canada Post Direct Mail to Homeowners:
  - Postage costs \$32,650.00, printing \$5,000.00 (depending on the format).
  - These are costly and an AAP is meant to provide cost savings; however, it is still significantly less than holding an Assent Vote.
  - This option would go to homeowners only and would not necessarily reach apartment buildings or other forms of rental housing.
- Having response forms available at City facilities other than City Hall:
  - Logistically ensuring all forms are returned to City Hall and not the location they were picked-up from, could be difficult.
  - Electors may feel frustrated when response forms are rejected from being received at the location(s) they were picked-up from.
  - Staff at these facilities won't necessarily be familiar with the legislation and process, which could result in confusion or errors.



- Number of response forms available for electors:
  - Staff investigated other local governments and policies related to AAP's to determine current practice which varies from place to place.
  - During the most recent two AAP's a handful of citizens requested up to 1000 forms on a daily basis and when limited to 100 by the Corporate Officer, appealed this decision to Council.
  - As anyone has the ability to print as many response forms as they would like directly from our website, Council could consider limiting this number to 100 response forms per day and set this number in the policy.
- Response forms available in Newspaper:
  - Staff considered an accessible way of reaching more electors that do not have printers by having the response form as a cut out or an insert in the Nanaimo News Bulletin.
  - The Nanaimo News Bulletin newspaper reaches approximately 30,000 residents weekly and having a form that could be either cut out or included as an insert would allow more residents easy access to these forms.

#### Response Forms – Submission:

There has been significant feedback during the past two AAP's regarding the submission of the response forms. Staff have researched the legislation, practices and policies that other local governments follow and worked with the City's Information and Technology (IT) department to come up with some options that could be placed in a policy.

- Electronic submission:
  - Electronic submissions could be done through the City of Nanaimo's website where scanned or photographed forms can be uploaded safely.
  - The forms would have the eligible elector's signature and access would be limited to the Corporate Officer and staff from Legislative Services authorized to assist the Corporate Officer as outlined in the legislation.
  - This method is safer and recommended over email submissions that create a threat to cyber security (viruses, etc.).
- Electronic signatures:
  - This method of receiving response forms could be achieved entirely electronically with the legislated requirement of a signature being met by Docusign (an electronic signature software).
  - The costs associated with this method are \$3.00 to \$4.00 per signature.
  - Until a method of ensuring attempts to make multiple submissions is achieved, this could be too costly to undertake at this time. We will continue to work with our Information and Technology Department to advance this method and come back with overall estimated costs.



#### **CONCLUSION:**

After every Election or AAP/Assent Vote held, staff review feedback heard from all sources. Accessibility for future AAP's was heard as an improvement that could be made, as well as increased education and understanding around the process. There is so much misinformation in the community today; therefore, ensuring the correct information is shared becomes critical.

There are few areas that Council can choose to increase engagement and communications when seeking approval of the electors via an Alternative Approval Process. Setting in policy that a communication/engagement plan be adopted that is consistent with the communication plan for the project itself, will allow for better information sharing and education with the electors. Allowing for electronic submissions for response forms, along with the existing process of sending in by mail and dropping of forms during a 30 plus day period, increases an already accessible process.

#### **OPTIONS**

- 1. That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend staff return to Council with a policy for their consideration that includes:
  - a. The method of communication/engagement be considered on a case-by-case basis based on the scale and the borrowing amount of the project; and,
  - b. Set 100 forms per day per person as the limit of forms provided to citizens during the AAP period.
- 2. Provide direction to staff on the inclusion of mail-out options for response forms and electronic submission of response forms.

The advantages of this option:

• Having a policy that outlines methods for communication and engagement; response forms availability; and, response forms submissions will allow for a more informative and accessible AAP.

The disadvantages of this option:

• The staff time (capacity) with greater communication/engagement as well as different methods of returning a response form could be significant. As well, the risk of error, or inconsistency could increase with the addition of multiple steps.

Financial Implications:

- The costs for an AAP related to a borrowing bylaw could significantly increase based on options included in the policy. Flyer drops or direct mail from Canada Post range between \$11,500.00 to \$37,650. The true cost increases would not be known until a comparison between a future AAP with new methods applied versus previous AAP's. AAP's are included in the Legislative Services budget annually for a nominal amount of money most years. Assent Votes (referendum) are only budgeted for in years where capital projects that Council wishes to proceed with and borrowing is the source of funding, are planned for.
- 2. That the Governance and Priorities Committee provide alternate direction.



#### SUMMARY POINTS

- The "Alternative Approval Process: A Guide for Local Governments in British Columbia", outlines where a local government can set certain processes out in policy, where not noted in the legislation.
- Council provided direction to have staff report back with options for inclusion in an AAP Policy.
- Staff have incorporated feedback received from a number of different areas and have outlined factual information in response to suggestions and upon review.

## ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A: Communication and Engagement Initiatives taken in January 2024 AAP.

#### Submitted by:

#### Concurrence by:

Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services Dale Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer

## ATTACHMENT A

## News Releases

(news releases are emailed to media and other subscribers, posted to website and posted to twitter)

#### November 29, 2023

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR231129NanaimoOperationsCentreAlternativeApprovalProcess.html

#### December 6, 2023

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR231206CityToRedoAlternativeApprovalProcessForNanaimoOperationsCentre Project.html

#### January 10, 2024

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR240110AlternativeApprovalProcessForNanaimoOperationsCentreBeginsNext Week.html

#### January 18, 2024

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR240118AlternativeApprovalProcessForNanaimoOperationsCentrePhaseOneB egins.html

#### February 5, 2024

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR240205AlternativeApprovalProcessUpdate.html

February 12, 2024

https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR240212AlternativeApprovalProcessBylawUpdate.html

## <u>eNews</u>

(emailed to subscribers, posted to website and social channels)

January 8, 2024: <u>https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-</u> online?ct=gJI2wWsIN3g9YR9z9aM7WvOWShN4L6XLc4T\_5p1f9dKNA6cdcPtiwK2-R5hVn1G12EFf0tw0y0wp\_nLX-N\_rZg~~

January 15, 2024: <u>https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-</u> online?ct=Kh1TBHcMXVITwRHwDjHnS5OBDaXiTRiyXQ1W8-nkAYT\_ZLUKxX9TpEDmIgkbqsb\_MB-Xt\_UlvoeYxg-ZXXiR9Q~~

January 22, 2024: <a href="https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=SgW2kd3Y2pSmnN3alneuNVP8mCp1zcJlKw05j327h10EytaB8bUjV-u-D8DmopQ9loIA78HLk2CfZtKtkvDWnQ">https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=SgW2kd3Y2pSmnN3alneuNVP8mCp1zcJlKw05j327h10EytaB8bUjV-u-D8DmopQ9loIA78HLk2CfZtKtkvDWnQ</a>

January 29, 2024: <u>https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=-cl7-</u> tAsBCUYt4aKle5k3iAwaENeK\_9YhVyamq6i3jeKA2BcBsSxr1f2TTq7\_wLKU2mP06LD7yFQdCtCyKt42Q

**February 5, 2024:** <u>https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-</u> online?ct=gZ5oGahhA0Mx2J2rA8yXT3gd8AN6w1vQdsyJLVCap6no8kRhQJbA\_22nUbQzSMtnbk76XC5dUob\_Li\_izwsKTw

**February 12, 2024:** <u>https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-</u> online?ct=RINHNH54BSsNNDqCE9aa2DHG0gkPnpR5aBEIcXfwQL0nt5zKEQaQDNt5SeOpxX0GTPptBfhrhf23KMYrFQsmLw

## Notice to electors

First notice published Jan. 10, 2024; second notice published Jan. 17, 2024

https://www.nanaimo.ca/docs/your-government/elections/aap/2024-notice-to-electors\_nanaimo-operations-centre-phase-one-borrowing-bylaw-2023-no.pdf

# Additional Communication materials

(prepared for AAP #2)

Get Involved project page (includes Q&A's & all background materials): https://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/NOC

Blog (Public Works Interactive Maps): <u>https://www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/news-events/blog/blog-detail/city-of-nanaimo-blog/2024/01/30/public-works-interactive-maps</u>

#### **NOC Information Handout**

#### Posters (and info handouts) in facilities

#### Website

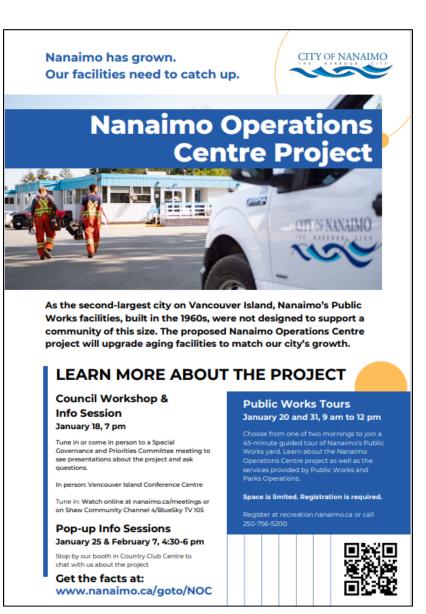
#### homepage banner

regularly added link to NOC Get Involved page under News & Announcements

#### Intranet

Internal messaging to staff

Included in updates at all-staff meeting



**YouTube Information Video:** "Nanaimo Operations Centre, Phase One" <u>https://youtu.be/aLKE-GdOQSw?si=Prcr46atmw-1z9fr</u>

## **Events & Initiatives**

#### • Media tour of Public Works Yard

Reminder: Media Advisory: Tour the City of Nanaimo's Public Works yard					
Tracy Loewen	← Reply	≪ Reply All	$\rightarrow$ Forward	<b>i</b>	
To  Communications			Mon 2024	4-01-15 9:36 A	M
Members of the media,					
You are invited to a tour of the City of Nanaimo's Public Works yard.					
When: Tuesday, Jan. 16, 11 am					
Where: Public Works yard, 2020 Labieux Road					
Who: Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering & Public Works,					
Richard Harding, General Manager, Community Services & Deputy CAO					
Laura Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services,					
Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services,					
John Elliot, Director, Public Works					
Poul Rosen, Director, Engineering Brandon Miller, Manager, Fleet					
Michael Lonsdale, Project Manager					
Join City of Nanaimo representatives on a guided tour of Nanaimo's Public Works yard to learn about the services Publ	lic Works and	Parks Operation	s provide to th	e	
community, the proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre Project and the upcoming Alternative Approval Process seeking	g elector appro	oval to borrow fu	unds for the pro	oject.	
For more information and to confirm attendance, please contact media.requests@nanaimo.ca.					

- Public Open House tours of Public Works Yard <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/1463298594248923/</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/920531386079847/</u>
- Governance and Priorities Committee workshop <u>https://pub-nanaimo.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=7e525fc1-fc0d-4d56-94c3-<u>5cad7c7d3312&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English</u>
  </u>
- Rogers TV interview with Bill Sims <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJX203v5jPM</u>
- Pop-up Info sessions in Country Club Mall (Jan 25 & Feb 7) <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/339075509014663</u>

# Advertising

#### January 10, 2024 – Nanaimo News Bulletin



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NANAIMO

#### January 24, 2024 – Nanaimo News Bulletin



#### Island Radio ads

#### Run from Jan 8-Feb 7

Nanaimo has seen tremendous growth, and our facilities are struggling to keep up. As the second-largest city on Vancouver Island, our Public Works facilities, built in the 1960s, are in need of an upgrade.

The proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre project will replace or upgrade aging facilities to match our city's growth and community's needs. The City is seeking resident approval to borrow \$48.5 million for this project through an alternative approval process.

Want to know more? Join us at an upcoming tour of public works or info session to learn about this project and the services Public Works provides to keep Nanaimo running. Get the facts on the project, learn more about the Alternative Approval Process and see a schedule of tour and info session dates at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC.

This message brought to you by the City of Nanaimo.

#### Run from Feb 7-16

Nanaimo has seen tremendous growth, and our facilities are struggling to keep up. As the second-largest city on Vancouver Island, our Public Works facilities, built in the 1960<u>s</u>, are in need of an upgrade.

The proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre project will replace or upgrade aging facilities to match our city's growth and community's needs. The City is running an Alternative Approval Process from January 18 to February 20 to seek resident approval to borrow \$48.5 million for this project.

Get the facts. Learn more about the Nanaimo Operations Centre project and the Alternative Approval Process at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC.

This message brought to you by the City of Nanaimo.

#### Nanaimo News Now – mid-content ads

#### orizontal, 3.88 (1940x500)

#### Nanaimo has grown. Our facilities need to catch up.

Nanaimo's Public Works yard, built in the 1960s, no longer meets the needs of our growing community. The proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre project will upgrade aging facilities to match our city's growth. The City of Nanaimo is seeking approval from resident electors to borrow up to \$48.5 million for Phase 1 of this project through an Alternative Approval Process (AAP) from January 18 - February 20, 2024.

Get the facts about the project and learn more about the AAP: www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC



#### rizontal, 3.04 (1520x500)

#### Nanaimo has grown. Our facilities need to catch up.

Nanaimo's Public Works yard, built in the 1960s, no longer meets the needs of our growing community. The proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre project will upgrade aging facilities to match our city's growth. The City of Nanaimo is seeking approval from resident electors to borrow up to \$48.5 million for Phase 1 of this project through an Alternative Approval Process (AAP) from January 18 - February 20, 2024.

CITY OF NANAIMO



#### Nanaimo has grown. Our facilities need to catch up.

Nanalmo's Public Works yard, built in the 1960s, no longer meets the needs of our growing community. The proposed Nanalmo Operations: Contre project will upgrade sging facilities to match our city's growth. The City of Nanalmo is seeking approval from resident electors to borrow up to 848.5 million for Phase 1 of This project (hrough an Attenative Approval Process (AAP) from January 16 - February 20, 2024.

Get the facts about the project and learn more about the AAP: www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC



#### andscape 1 48 (740x

Nanaimo has grown. Our facilities need to catch up.

Nearains'i Public Works yand, built in the 1960s, no longer meets the needs for any growing community. The proposed Nearains Operations Centre project all supprete aging facilities to mich our crity growth. The City of Nearains is aesking approval from resident electors to borrow up to 543. Smithor for Phase 1 of this project through an Atleneature Approval Process (ANP) from January 18 - Fridmary 270, 2024.

about the AAP: www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC



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## Social Posts

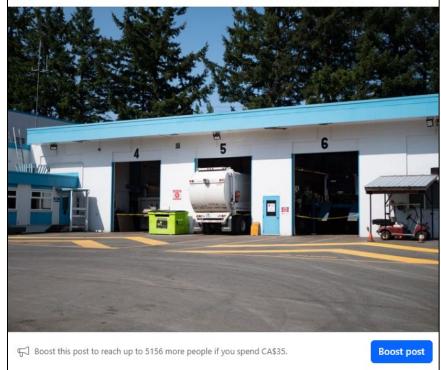
#### Facebook



City of Nanaimo Local Government January 4 · 🕥

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The Alternative Approval Process (AAP) for Council to seek elector consent to borrow up to \$48,500,000 for the first phase of construction of the Nanaimo Operations Centre (Public Works building) starts on Thursday, January 18. Visit https://ow.ly/chUV50Qkllu to learn more about the project, and find more information about the AAP here: https://ow.ly/g4PY50Qkllv



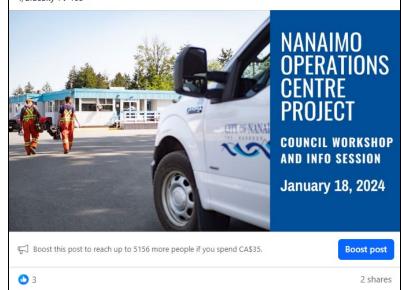
00000 10

17 comments 11 shares

#### City of Nanaimo Local Government January 14 · 🕲

Tune in or come in person to a Special Governance and Priorities Committee meeting on Thursday, January 18 to see presentations about the project and ask questions. 👔 In person at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre Shaw Auditorium Watch online at https://ow.ly/Ll3v50QqAyb or on Shaw (Rogers) Community Channel 4/BlueSky TV 105

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#### City of Nanaimo Local Government 0 January 15 · 🕄

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Reference with the cost of the Nanaimo Operations Centre project? Let's break it down!

needed. This includes more than \$13 million for inflation and potential unexpected costs. With strategic budgeting like this, it's easier to move through unexpected delays and cost overruns, ultimately keeping the project on schedule.

Based on 20 years borrowing at a rate of 4.78%, if we use the full amount, the household cost will be about \$10 per \$100,000 of your home's value. For an average Nanaimo home at \$808,873, that's around \$77 per year.

Learn more about the project on our website: https://ow.ly/15wP50QkN48 and, learn more about the Nanaimo Operations Centre (Public Works building) Alternative Approval Process here: https://ow.ly/15wP50QkN48



😴 Boost this post to reach up to 5156 more people if you spend CA\$35.

0 20 50

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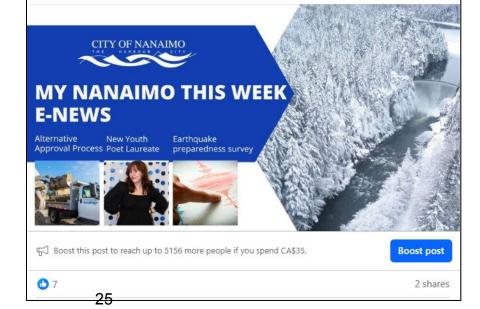


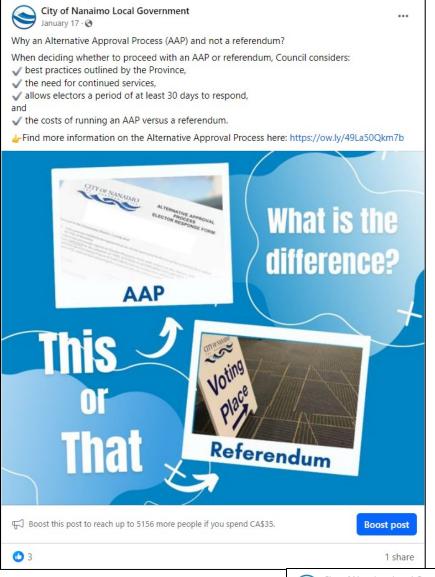
75 comments 9 shares

City of Nanaimo Local Government January 15 · 🕥

In My Nanaimo This Week E-News: Learn about the Nanaimo Operations Centre Project, Nanaimo has a new Youth Poet Laureate. And, how prepared are you for earthquakes? Read on for more! https://ow.ly/JToq50Qr6Ky~~

Sign up for the My Nanaimo This Week newsletter to get a weekly snapshot of upcoming events, meetings and City programs along with a recap of the previous week's news. https://www.nanaimo.ca/.../sign-up.../my-nanaimo-this-week





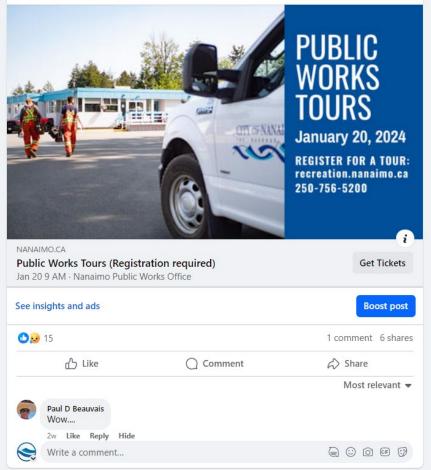
City of Nanaimo Local Government January 18 · 😵

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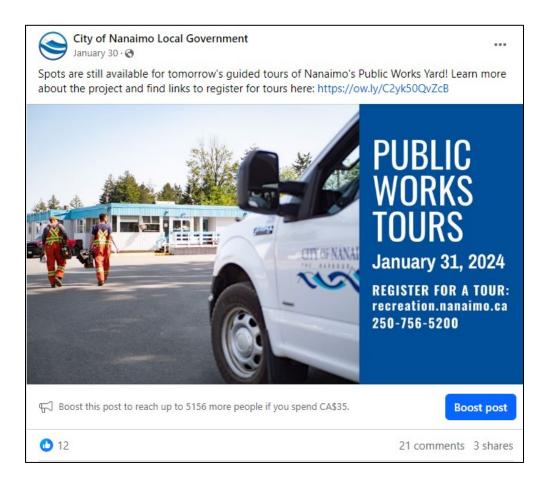
Tonight's Special GPC meeting featuring a Council workshop and information session on the Nanaimo Operations Centre project has been postponed due to the forecast for another 10-20 cm of snow expected throughout today and into tonight. The meeting will now take place on Monday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre's Shaw Auditorium. https://ow.ly/sOwm50QsgJN



City of Nanaimo Local Government Published by Hootsuite I January 18 at 10:00 AM · C The Alternative Approval Process (AAP) for Council to seek elector consent to \$48,500,000 for the first phase of construction of the Nanaimo Operations C building) begins today and runs until 4:30 p.m. on February 20, 2024. Visit to find more information about its AAP here: https://ow.ly/43IR50QscbU about the project here: https://ow.ly/WB2450QscbU	entre (Public Works
CITY OF NANAL THE HARBOUR	
NANAIMO.CA Alternative Approval Process	
See insights and ads	Boost post
• 2	4 shares
Like Q Comment	City of Nanaimo Local Government Published by Tracy Michelle I January 9 at 2:34 PM · C Register for a free, 45-minute guided tour of Nanaimo's Public Works yard to learn about t proposed Nanaimo Operations Centre project as well as the services provided by Nanaimo



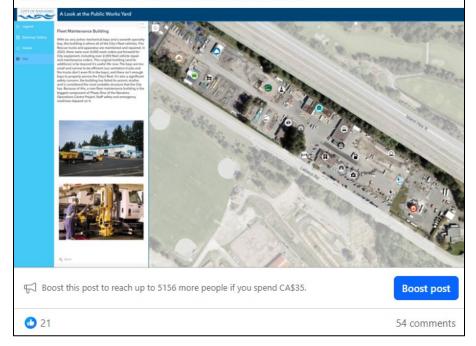
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from Beban Park that follows alongside the railway. This very active yard is where all of the City's fleet is maintained, infrastructure supplies are stored and disaster response is coordinated. Our snow plows, sanitation trucks, hydro-vac truck and so many more mobilize from this yard. Tour through the map to learn more! www.nanaimo.ca/goto/PWyard

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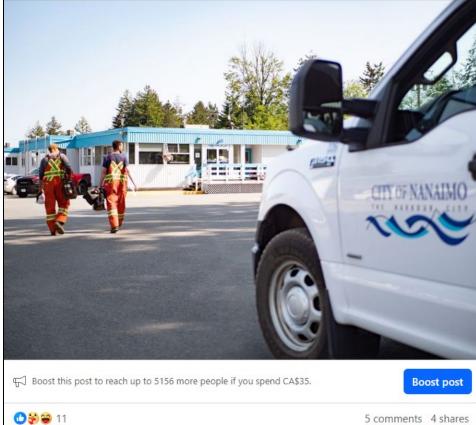




#### City of Nanaimo Local Government February 12 · 🕄

At a special council meeting held on Feb. 12/2024, City Council made the decision to cancel the current Alternative Approval Process (AAP) for the Nanaimo Operations Centre Phase One Borrowing Bylaw 2023 No. 7362, and direct staff to return to Council at a later date with options to fund the project. The decision comes after it was determined that an error had occurred at the start of the current AAP.

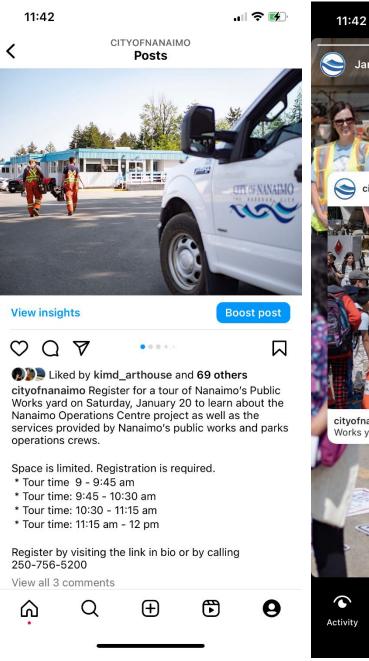
Staff report for decision: AAP update and next steps: https://pubnanaimo.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx...



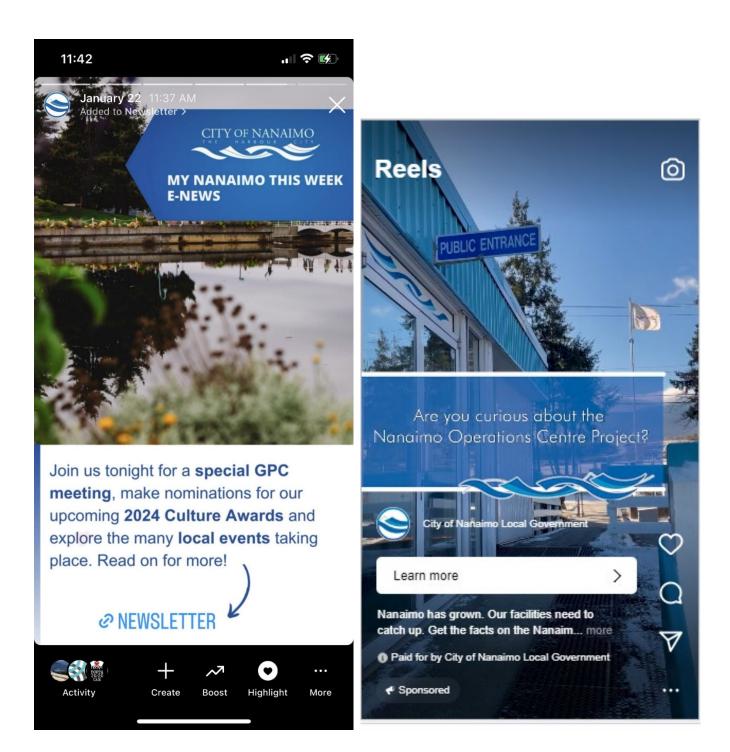
5 comments 4 shares

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#### Instagram (a sampling, but not all\_

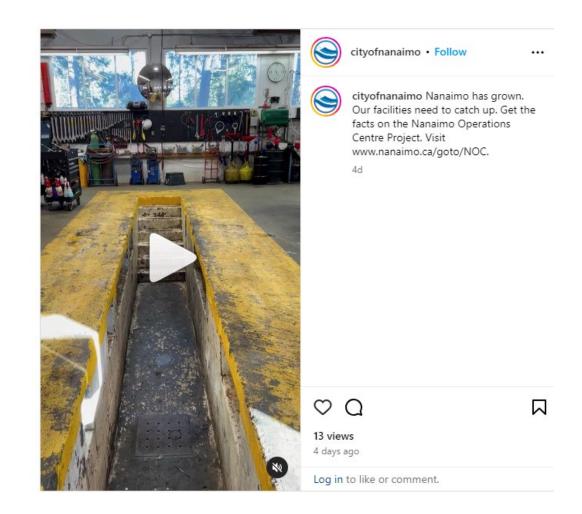












# **Delegation Request**

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

Sandy Bartlett has requested an appearance before the Governance and Priorities Committee

City: Nanaimo Province: BC

#### **Delegation Details:**

The requested date is 2024-JUN-12

Bringing a presentation: No

Details of the Presentation: Options for the structure of the Alternative Approval Process.