SOUTH DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT INITIATIVE: PHASE II

Reporting Back to Mayor and Council:

By the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative Committee
November 9th 2015

Committee Members

- Sasha Angus: Nanaimo Economic Development Corporation
- Bernie Dumas: Nanaimo Port Authority (observer)*
- Douglas Hardie: South End Neighbourhood Association
- Doug Kalcsics, Vice-Chair: Community-at-Large
- Ann Kjerulf: Community-at-Large
- Darren Moss: Downtown Nanaimo Business Improvemen
- Chief John Wesley: Snuneymuxw First Nation (observer)*
- Mayor Bill McKay: City
- Daniel Pearce: Regional District of Nanaimo
- Dave Witty, Chair: Vancouver Island University
- * attended two meetings

Study Area

N
BC Ferries
Study Area
Port
Place
Mall
Front St
Cruise Ship
Terminal
Esplanade
Nicol St
Haliburton St
Old Victoria Rd
Milton St
Farquhar St

Purpose of Committee's Work

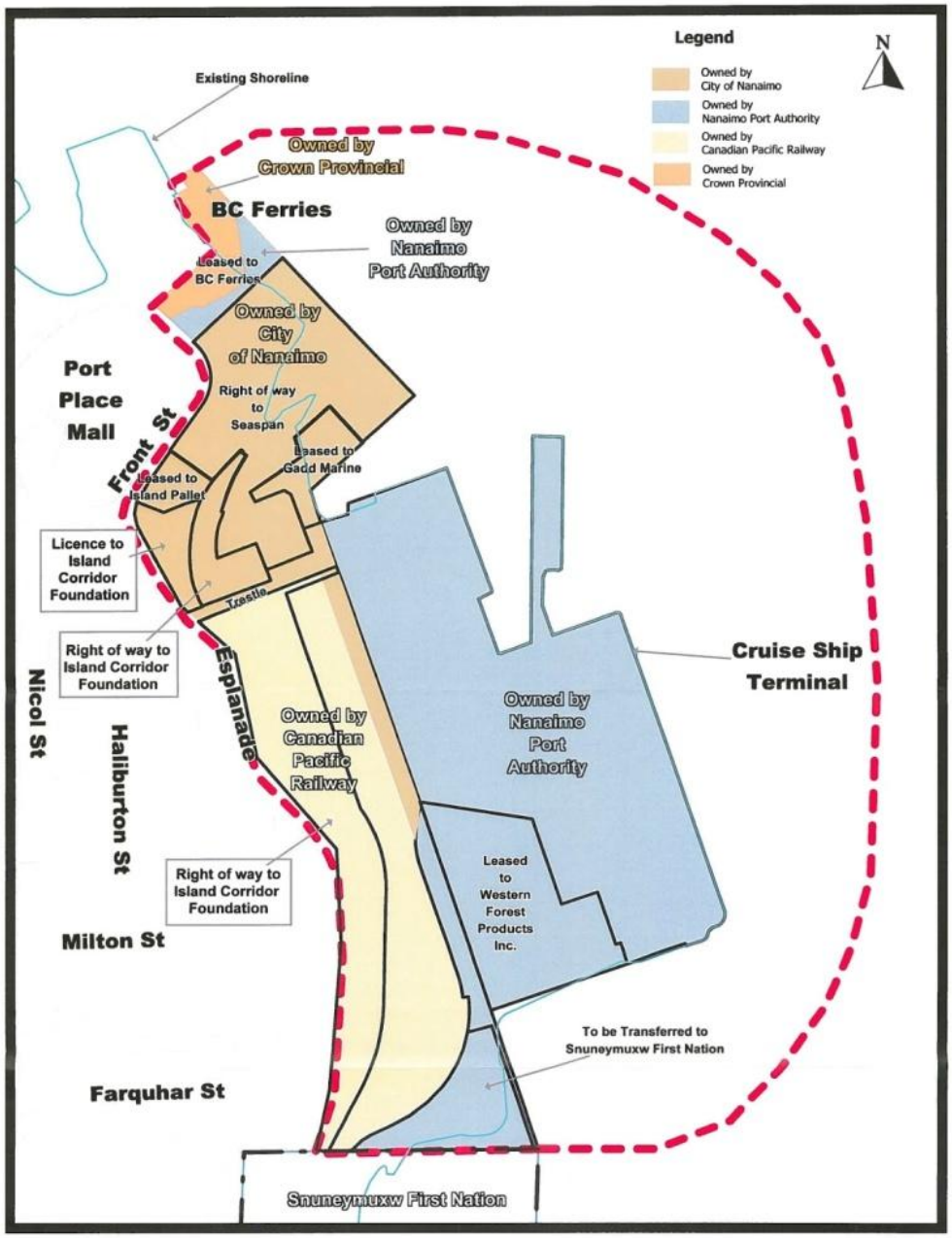
- Phase 1:
- To provide guidance and leadership in the development of a long term Vision and Guiding Principles for the Study Area.

Landowners:

- The City of Nanaimo;
- The Nanaimo Port Authority;
- The Province of British Columbia;
- The Snuneymuxw First Nation, and
- The Canadian Pacific Railway.

Study Area: 59 ha/150 Acres

- Wellcox: 11ha/27Acres



STUDY AREA - OWNERS & TENANTS

South Downtown Waterfront Initiative

FRAMING PRINCIPLES

To inform future land use planning for this important site, and encourage a **SUSTAINABLE**, **DYNAMIC**, **ENGAGING**, **ADAPTABLE**, and **RELEVANT WATERFRONT** for Nanaimo, the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative has established the following shared principles:

CONNECTION

To create a **REGIONAL GATEWAY** that is both **ACCESSIBLE** (e.g. **WALKABLE**, **TRANSIT**, etc), & **MULTI-MODAL**, & encourages **CONNECTIVITY** among land, sea, residential, industrial, & commercial activities in a **SUSTAINABLE** co-existence.

ECONOMIC

To maintain the concept of a **WORKING HARBOUR** & encourage development of **STRATEGIC ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE**.

ENVIRONMENT

To **RESPECT**, **STEWARD** & **ENHANCE** the waterfront environment, while ensuring **ADAPTABILITY** to **CLIMATE CHANGE** & its effects.

CULTURAL/SOCIAL

To create **PUBLIC WATERFRONT ACCESS**, & **ENGAGING PUBLIC SPACES** that celebrate the **HERITAGE** of this site, **STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIP** between South Downtown waterfront activities & the community.

Harbour Fair

Public Engagement

Harbour Fair

+600 citizens engaged

Dr. Beasley Presentation

An active website: **Nanaimo South Downtown Waterfront** Initiative: HOME www.**southdowntownwaterfront**.ca/

Ideas Forum

Charrette: Exploring Possibilities

Key Considerations:

- Snuneymuxw First Nation is implementing the provisions of the Douglas Treaty and the outcome of those outstanding grievances could alter significantly the way in which future decisions are made for the area;
- The Nanaimo Port Authority, which is the largest landowner, has jurisdictional (federal) control over land use, including limitations on many forms of development;
- Anecdotal information (and NEDC work) suggests that Nanaimo may be on the cusp of a reinvigorated future that may provide growth opportunities for high quality development;
- Waterfront use is changing as Seaspan (and others) modify methods of operation, rail use changes and ferry use is modified.

South Downtown
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FRAMING THE FUTURE

Nanaimo South Downtown Waterfront TECHNICAL REPORT

December 2013

South Downtown
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FRAMING THE FUTURE

Vision and Guiding Principles

December 2013

Framing the Future:

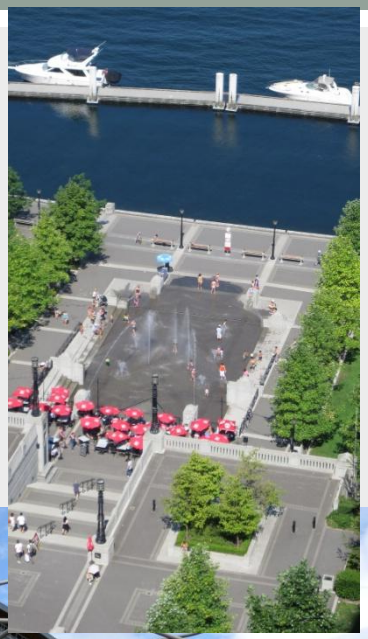
The Vision

- Connectivity
- Working Harbour
- Ecological Stewardship
- Land Use
- Culture and Social Considerations

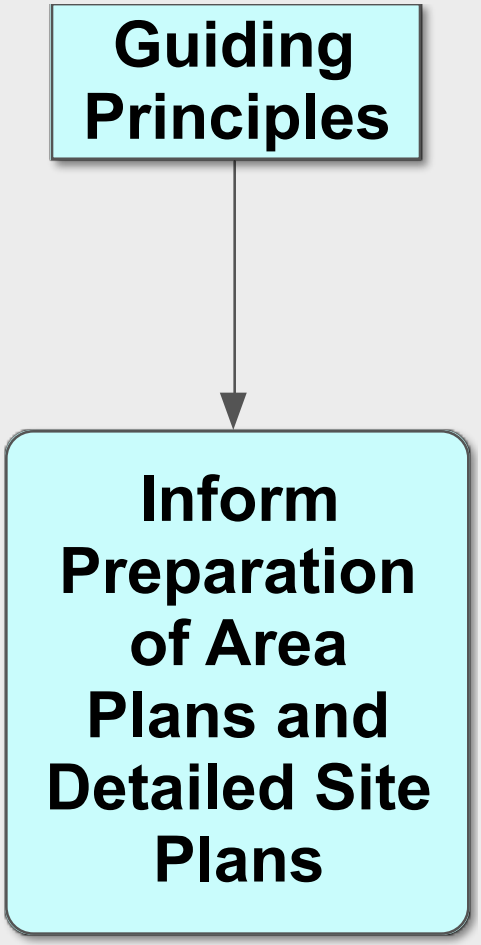
The Challenge

- Putting words into action
- Temporary uses
- Long term commitment

Vision



Overview of Application of Guiding Principles: Area Plans and Site Plans



Five Guiding Principle Topics

- **PROMOTE ACCESS & CONNECTIVITY TO LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOODS, THE CITY & THE REGION**
- **SUPPORT AN EVOLVING WORKING HARBOUR**
- **PROMOTE ECOLOGICAL POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT**
- **PROMOTE BOLD, RESILIENT & VISIONARY LAND USE**
- **EMBED CULTURAL & SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN FUTURE DECISIONS**

Phase 2: Key Mandate

- By 2015-June 30, the Committee should aspire to complete:
- A recommendation on the nature and type of charter and/or similar documents that set out a commitment to action;
- A recommendation on the type, nature, structure and mechanisms of a group, body, corporation or other entity to undertake the long term planning and management the South Downtown Waterfront.

Outcomes

- Nine meetings between October 2014 and June 2015;
- Explored Charters and identified key components;
- Reviewed the Seattle Charter model via Skype;
- Held a Committee workshop on May 1st;
- No agreement on a preferred wording for Charter (but key elements agreed to);
- No agreement on a model for type, nature, structure and mechanisms of a group, body, corporation or other entity to undertake the long term planning and management o the South Downtown Waterfront.

Key Elements of a Charter

- Collaboration
- Cooperation
- Coordination
- Urgency/timeliness
- Communicating the message
- Sets direction for overall undertakings
- Common project over near term
- Organizing theme
- Action plan moving forward
- Tangible demonstration of intent
- Respect & trust
- Overall mission/vision
- Building trust
- Common good is benefit to all 3 partners
- Newcastle is key
- Provides conduit for dialogue about initiatives

South Downtown WATERFRONT Initiative