

MINUTES

SPECIAL GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2022-FEB-28, AT 2:00 P.M.

- Present: Councillor B. Geselbracht, Chair
Mayor L. Krog
Councillor D. Bonner
Councillor T. Brown (joined electronically)
Councillor Z. Maartman
Councillor I. W. Thorpe
Councillor J. Turley (joined electronically)
- Absent: Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Councillor E. Hemmens
- Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services/Deputy Chief
Administrative Officer
R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
T. Doyle, Fire Chief (joined electronically)
L. Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development
B. Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development
L. Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning
K. Biegun, Planner
K. MacDonald, Parks and Open Space Planner
C. Wood, Social Planner
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Agenda Item 4(a)(1) Introducing the Draft City Plan – Add PowerPoint presentation titled “REIMAGINED City Plan Document”.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

4. REPORTS:

a. REIMAGINE NANAIMO:

1. Introducing the Draft City Plan

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

Presentation:

1. Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, provided a PowerPoint presentation and presented the draft City Plan (the Plan). Highlights included:

- This presentation will provide an overview of the structure and content of the different sections of the Plan
- The Plan is quite large in size; however, it replaces several existing City documents
- The document has a visual communication style with graphics as well as policies written in text
- Overview of the phase three timeline includes:
 - Information referrals February 28th to April 8th
 - Upcoming Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) Meetings scheduled
 - Community engagement starts March 1st
 - Returning with engagement summary at the 2022-MAY-09 GPC meeting
 - Revised draft to be brought forward at the end of May
- The Plan integrates six different plans (Official Community Plan (OCP); Transportation Plan; Climate Emergency & Resiliency Plan; Parks, Recreation, Culture & Wellness Plan; Accessibility and Inclusion Plan; and Active Mobility Plan)
- The Plan prepared in compliance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act* (LGA)
- The Plan will be searchable and linked to help navigation
- There was a tremendous amount of input from the community in Phases 1 and 2 and hopes that those who previously engaged will do so again
- Integrated action plan will be coming forward a future GPC and is a document that gets updated on a regular basis
- Identified twelve community input themes and many items fit under more than one goal
- Part C of the Plan includes the five key City goals organized around the framework of the Nanaimo Doughnut
- Part D of the Plan includes five conceptual City structure layers (Growth Management; Blue and Green Network; Land Use Plan; Mobility Network and Parks, Recreation, Culture & Wellness Plan)

- Nanaimo plays an important role in growth management and is the primary focus point for the majority of urban growth for the region
- Blue and Green Network section presents the City's ecosystems link between watersheds, management of rainwater and infrastructure
- Land Use Plan section provides a summary table of different land use designations
- Mobility Network section shows key transit routes and how transit exchanges align with the City's growth centres
- Integration between land use and transportation is a strong part of the Plan
- Parks, Recreation, Culture and Wellness section shows both existing and future recreation facility locations
- Part E of the Plan is related to taking action, and it includes sections on area plans, bylaws and permits, development permit and heritage conservation, financial mechanisms and relationships
- Section on area plans explains intention of area plans and neighbourhood engagement
- End of document provides explanation how the Plan can be amended

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Incorporating motions made at the Environment Committee meeting into the Plan
- Opportunity for input from committees and the community

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, spoke regarding the engagement process and noted upcoming special meetings to collect input from the Environment Committee on March 9th and Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness on March 23rd.

Committee discussion continued. Highlights included:

- Paying attention to the language used in the document to avoid misinterpretation on what the City's priorities are and what can be achieved
- Thanked Staff and the community for all the work and engagement
- Important to understand that the current document is a draft and there are opportunities for changes

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer, spoke regarding process. He noted that this is a preliminary first draft and engagement with various committees, agencies, and the community is expected to lead to a fine tuned final draft that the committee is comfortable with by the time it is presented at the Public Hearing.

Committee discussion continued. Highlights included:

- Stronger language on some items so City priorities are clear
- Compiling many documents into one place and providing a vision that includes the aspirations of a whole range of citizens
- Clarity of outcomes, providing definite goals and using direct language to ensure clarification on what is trying to be achieved
- Complexity of goals in terms of working within the City's jurisdiction

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, spoke regarding the Plan's goals and their connection with the integrated action plan and monitoring plan. While there may be broad goals in the Plan, the action plan allows for more opportunity to set specifics and details. Having actions in a separate document allows a more regular review and flexibility.

Committee discussion continued. Highlights included:

- Process to provide feedback on the different policy areas
- The map layering included in the Plan is a useful tool for visualization

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, spoke regarding the expectations for the 2022-FEB-28 Council Meeting. Highlights included

- Presenting an overview of phase three community engagement
- Updates on website through the Get Involved Nanaimo platform

5. QUESTION PERIOD:

No one was in attendance to ask questions.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:10 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CHAIR

CORPORATE OFFICER