

MINUTES
GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2023-JAN-23, AT 1:00 P.M.

Present: Councillor I. Thorpe, Chair
Mayor L. Krog
Councillor T. Brown (joined electronically, disconnected 1:47 p.m.)
Councillor H. Eastmure
Councillor B. Geselbracht (joined electronically, disconnected 1:12 p.m.)
Councillor E. Hemmens
Councillor P. Manly
Councillor J. Perrino

Absent: Councillor S. Armstrong

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
J. LeMasurier, Deputy Fire Chief – Administration
L. Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development
B. Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development
L. Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning
T. Pan, Manager, Sustainability
T. Webb, Manager, Communications
K. Biegun, Planner, Community Planning
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
N. Sponaugle, Communications Advisor
K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

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

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

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Agenda Item 5(a)(1)(1) City Plan: Nanaimo ReImagined Overview - Add delegation from Tim McGrath.

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 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2023-JAN-09 at 1:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS:

a. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE:

1. City Plan

Introduced by Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer.

- The City Plan was a large undertaking and is used as a framework to guide City development
- A Council Strategic Priorities Workshop is scheduled for February, 2023 and will be helpful in understanding the alignment between the Integrated Action Plan and Council's strategic plan

1. City Plan: Nanaimo ReImagined – Overview

Presentation:

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:

- The City Plan: Nanaimo ReImagined is more than a standard Official Community Plan (OCP) as it integrates six high level documents into one (OCP; Parks, Recreation, Culture Wellness Plan; Transportation Plan; Active Mobility Plan; Climate Action and Resiliency Plan; and Accessibility and Inclusion Plan)
- The OCP was redone as the previous OCP came up for renewal as well as several documents were outdated
- The City of Nanaimo is one of the fastest growing metropolitan cities in Canada, and the OCP guides how the City accommodates the projected population growth
- The Nanaimo framework incorporates five City goals: A Green Nanaimo, A Connected Nanaimo, A Healthy Nanaimo, An Empowered Nanaimo and A Prosperous Nanaimo
- The framework influences how the priorities are structured/organized under each of the five goals
- The City Plan provides a high level roadmap while the actions are in a separate document called the The Integrated Action Plan (IAP)

Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, continued the presentation. Highlights included:

- The City Plan goal: A Green Nanaimo section looks at how the community can live in harmony with the natural area
- This section incorporates: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) goals, Climate Action Strategy, addresses traditional and natural infrastructure, renewable energy, and transportation
- There is a strong link between growth and the capacity to withstand that growth
- The City Plan goal: A Connected Nanaimo section looks at access and mobility
- Focus is on improving connectivity between urban centres and along corridors

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, continued the presentation and introduced the City Plan goal: A Healthy Nanaimo. Highlights included:

- This section addresses community wellbeing for all residents
- Since the adoption of OCP, there has been the implementation of the Community Safety Officers

Councillor Geselbracht disconnected from the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, spoke regarding how the policies set the stage for the City to take consistent actions over next four years.

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, continued the presentation:

- The City Plan goal: A Healthy Nanaimo section also includes: affordable housing; intergenerational living; food security; emergency management; and recreation, culture & wellness

Committee discussion took place regarding the tools listed under the C3.2. Affordable Housing Section of the City Plan.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, continued the presentation and introduced the City Plan goal: An Empowered Nanaimo.

- In addition to the Empowered Nanaimo section, elements of truth and reconciliation are embedded throughout the document
- An OCP document does not commit Council to any of the actions and it is up to Council to prioritize the areas to focus on

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, continued the presentation:

- The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI) provided a lot of input into the Plan
- The An Empowered Nanaimo section also includes: political voice and engagement; culture; archaeology & heritage; public art projects & programs; community events, festivals, tournaments & gatherings; parkland & park amenity management and waterfront use and protection

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer, reminded the Committee that there will be additional days to focus on each of the five goals and dive deeper into the sections.

Bill Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development, continued the presentation and introduced the City Plan goal: A Prosperous Nanaimo. Highlights included:

- The City's Economic Development Strategy was completed prior to the City Plan, and there is complete alignment between the two
- The A Prosperous Nanaimo Section includes: economic capital; human, social, & environmental capital; business development; innovation & technology; place making & investment attraction and tourism

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Recognizing the importance of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital in terms of job creation
- Area plan for the growth of the hospital is incorporated into the City Plan
- Working with Vancouver Island University in respect to medical programs and identifying talent in Nanaimo
- Thinking of arts and culture as economic generators and contributing to local economy
- Strong partnership between the City and the Tourism Society
- The Port Theatre is a major investment that draws people to the community
- The integrated nature of the Plan and the importance of having a prosperous city and strong economy in order to obtain the resources to support all the other areas

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, spoke regarding the 2023 Junior All Native Basketball Tournament which takes place March 19 – March 24, 2023.

Committee discussion took place regarding the large amount of information contained in the City Plan document, and an executive

summary of the Plan is available online which includes a high level overview of the City Plan.

Councillor Brown disconnected from the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, continued the presentation and spoke regarding Part D: City Structure.

- Due to the integrated nature of the Plan, Part D provides a visual representation of how all the different elements fit together

Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, continued the presentation and provided an overview of the D3 Blue and Green Network Map.

Bill Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development, continued the presentation, and provided an overview of the D4 Future Land Use Designations Map.

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The Future Land Use Designation map in the OCP reflects the future growth of Nanaimo
- If current zoning is inconsistent, then a rezoning application would be needed or an amendment to the OCP could be made
- In 2022 Council directed Staff to look into the zoning of urban centres and corridors to identify properties to change zoning in order to be consistent with the OCP and Staff anticipate bringing that forward in the Fall of 2023

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, reminded Council that the *Local Government Act* does not obligate Council to take the actions identified in the Plan; however, any changes to land use must be consistent with the OCP.

Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, continued the presentation and provided an overview of the D4 Mobility Network Maps.

- There are two maps involved in the Mobility Network: the Active Mobility & Primary Transit Network Map and the Road Network Map

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, continued the presentation and provided an overview of the D6 Parks, Recreation, Culture & Wellness Map.

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer, spoke regarding the OCP land use amendments and noted that the maps are visions and should inform where Council decides to place investments and emphasis.

Delegation:

1. Tim McGrath spoke regarding his concerns with citizen safety and security in the City Plan. He spoke regarding incidents occurring around the City, a lack of discussion on the topic, the Reimagine Nanaimo public engagement results, and the importance of people feeling safe. He stated that citizen safety needs to be a priority, and he expressed concern that safety and security will get pushed aside due to limited resources and time.

Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning, continued the presentation and spoke regarding Part E of the Plan: Taking Action.

- Area plans provide more detailed policy direction for specific areas in the City. These include: the Downtown Plan, the Port Drive Waterfront Masterplan, the Hospital Area Plan, the Bowers District Masterplan and the Sandstone Masterplan
- The City will engage with neighbourhoods on a regular basis and Neighbourhood Plans are used as guiding documents
- The City Plan also provides guidance for bylaws and permits, development permit & heritage conservation areas, financial mechanism and relationships
- The Integrated Action Plan (IAP) contains the actions to achieve the City Plan goals and the Monitoring Strategy will track the progress
- Staff anticipate that a full draft of the IAP will be ready by March, 2023

Committee and Staff discussion took place regarding the need to identify priorities that are going to be driven forward.

2. Integrated Action Plan - Introduction

Introduced by Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development.

Presentation:

Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning, provided a PowerPoint presentation and introduced the Integrated Action Plan (IAP). Highlights included:

- The purpose of the IAP is to communicate the actions the City may consider undertaking in the ongoing, short, and long term
- The Committee will have an opportunity to go through the IAP in more detail in upcoming GPC meetings
- The IAP is a living document that can be reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis
- The document's structure includes three parts: Part A: Welcome, Part B: Foundations and Part C: Actions

Kasia Biegun, Planner, continued the presentation and provided an example of what to expect in Part C: Action section of the IAP. Highlights included:

- Actions are organized based on programming actions versus project actions
- Actions are organized by timeframes of ongoing (regularly), immediate (0-5 years) and future (beyond 5 years)
- The section will identify how actions are connected to City Plan policies
- The integrated action areas within the section recognizes that most actions will support progress in multiple topic areas

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Potentially including a two-year timeframe considering that the immediate timeframe of 1-5 years is a large gap
- All options/choices are presented to Council, and Council has the opportunity to provide direction
- Recognizing that not everything can be done at once; however, timelines are necessary to not lose sight of what is important
- Budget is a component that must be kept in mind with decision making

Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning, continued the presentation and spoke regarding the proposed next steps for the City Plan IAP and Monitoring Strategy review:

- A Green Nanaimo and A Connected Nanaimo actions will be discussed at the 2023-MAR-13 GPC
- A Healthy Nanaimo and An Empowered Nanaimo actions will be discussed at the 2023-APR-24 GPC
- A Prosperous Nanaimo actions, City Structure and Taking Action and Draft Monitoring Strategy Introduction will be discussed at the 2023-MAY-08 GPC
- Completed draft IAP and Monitoring Strategy will be brought forward at the 2023-MAY-29 GPC

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer spoke regarding the following:

- A facilitated Council strategic planning workshop is scheduled for the end of February
- The Committee has the option to reorder the schedule for the IAP and Monitoring Strategy review if needed
- An update on the Downtown Safety Action Plan is scheduled for March

Committee and Staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Committees have provided input into the City Plan and potentially inviting committees to participate in the IAP and Monitoring Strategy review sessions
- Committees topic will be discussed at the 2023-FEB-13 GPC meeting
- Currently the only standing committee is the ACAI
- Council Strategic priorities are reviewed annually
- All rezoning applications are referred to neighbourhood associations for comment
- Neighbourhood plans are key guiding documents that Staff use when reviewing rezoning applications
- Neighbourhood associations are positive supports to the community and it's important to provide them with support
- Concerns regarding Neighbourhood Associations meeting the criteria of being a representation of the entire neighbourhood

The Governance and Priorities Committee recessed the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

The Governance and Priorities Committee reconvened the meeting at 3:17 p.m.

3. Monitoring Strategy - Introduction

Introduced by Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development.

Presentation:

Ting Pan, Manager, Sustainability, provided a PowerPoint presentation and introduced the Monitoring Strategy. Highlights included:

- The purpose of the Monitoring Strategy is to provide insight, indicate if the actions are effective and track the progress towards City goals
- Key indicators tell us how well a system is working over a period of time
- Targets define desired outcomes and show what we wish to achieve and by when
- The MultiCapital Scorecard is a performance measurement methodology to help an organization develop context-based sustainability and performance indicators
- Producing a score in each area of impact makes it possible to communicate progress
- Step 1 includes applying the selection criteria:
 - Indicators are sorted into either Phase 1, Phase 2, Recommended Supportive Indicators, or Potential Supportive Indicators
- Step 2 includes accessing the indicators' sustainability
- An example of using the MultiCapital Scorecard to assess water infrastructure capacity could be by identifying a

- sustainably threshold of “at least 30% of water reservoir capacity should be maintained at all times”
- An example of using the MultiCapital Scorecard to assess housing affordability could be by identifying a sustainably threshold of “no resident in Nanaimo should be required to spend more than 30% of their household income spent on housing costs”

Committee discussion took place regarding housing affordability and that it is important to be clear to the public what is in the City’s control.

Ting Pan, Manager, Sustainability, continued the presentation. Highlights included:

- Step 3 includes developing metrics to measure actual impact and a sustainability end goal
- Assigning values to different increments informs the proximity towards a goal

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Day-to-day monitoring is used to determine when water restrictions are raised
- Housing affordability data in terms of housing costs can be collected through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)

4. Next Steps

Committee and Staff discussion took place regarding the schedule for the City Plan IAP and Monitoring Strategy review. Staff will return to the 2023-FEB-13 GPC meeting with an updated schedule.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Director, Community Development, noted that Staff are prepared to switch the order of the schedule. She also added that the MultiCapital Scorecard measure to assess performance is a tool that is typically applied to corporations or businesses, and Staff are attempting to take that tool and apply it at a community level.

6. QUESTION PERIOD:

Council received two questions from the public regarding agenda items.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:57 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER