

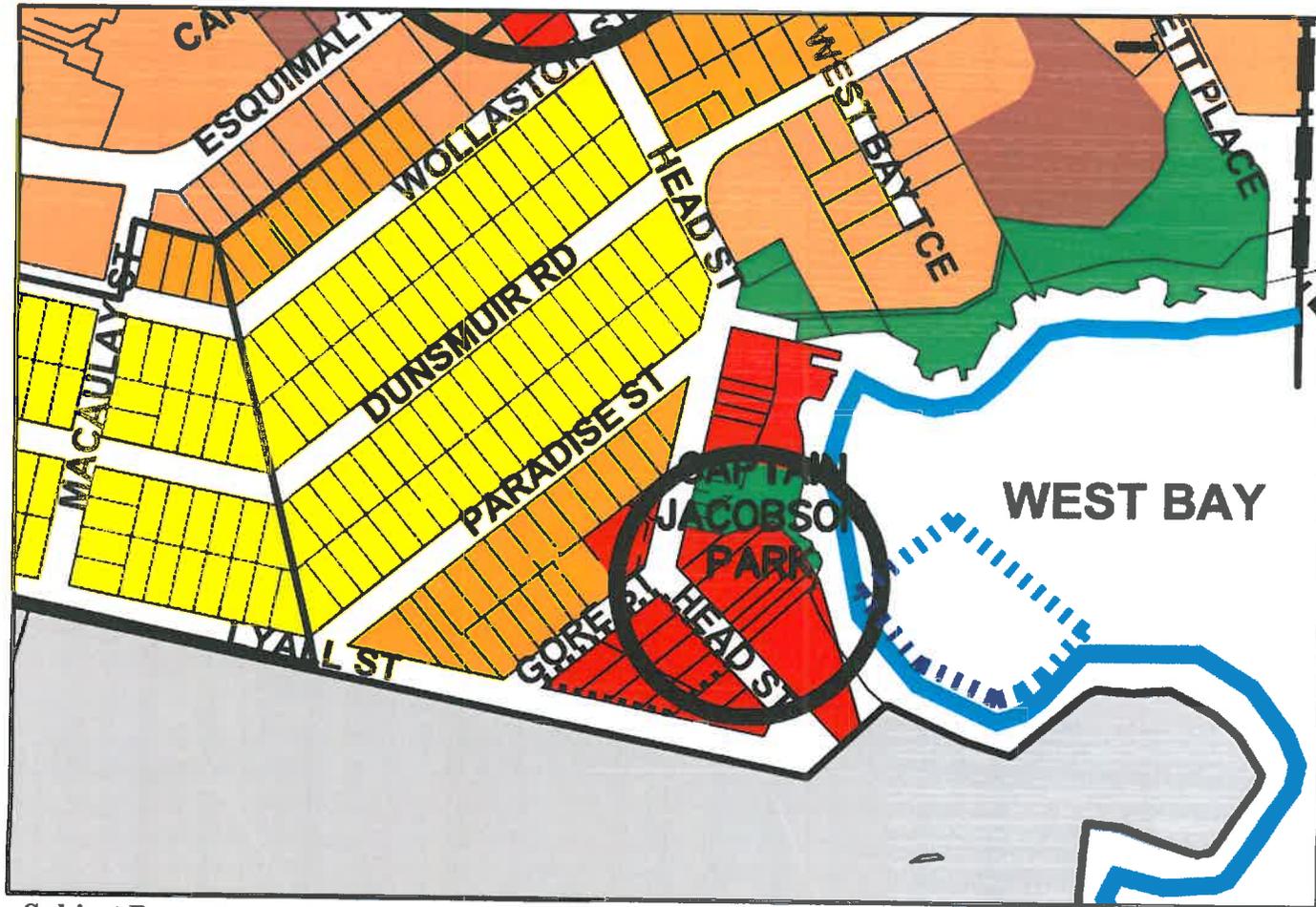
468 Head Street – ‘West Bay Triangle’



Subject Property Boundary: 



Extract from Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2646 Schedule 'A'
Land Use Designations



Subject Property:

LEGEND	
	Single and Two-Unit Residential
	Townhouse Residential
	Multi-Unit, Low-Rise Residential (2 to 4 storeys)
	Multi-Unit, High-Rise Residential (5 to 6 storeys)
	Floating Homes Residential
	Parks and Open Space
	Trails existing and proposed
	Transportation Corridor
	Industrial
	Commercial Mixed-Use
	Commercial Node
	Institutional
	DND Federal Land
	Water Area
	Municipal Boundary

2.3 Commercial—Mixed Land Use

Commercial activity in Esquimalt is clustered in four main groupings:

- Esquimalt Village;
- Esquimalt Road/Head Street;
- Craigflower Road/Tillicum Road; and
- West Bay Harbour.

2.3.1 General Commercial - Mixed Use Objectives

- a) To create a diversified commercial and employment sector that provides a wide range of goods and services to residents of Esquimalt.
- b) To foster the creation of an identifiable and vibrant Esquimalt Village that successfully integrates commercial, public and residential activity.
- c) To encourage growth through revitalization and redevelopment of commercial areas.
- d) To encourage a mix of ground-level commercial and upper-level(s) residential.

2.3.2 General Commercial - Mixed Use Policies

- a) The Township encourages a mix of commercial and multi-unit residential developments in all commercial-mixed use areas denoted on "Schedule A". These will have commercial uses on the ground floor and residential uses above.
- b) All commercial-mixed use areas are designated Development Permit Areas, as shown on "Schedule C" in order to ensure that future development and infill contributes positively to the visual and aesthetic character of its site, setting and surrounding properties.
- c) The Township encourages public and private sector initiatives to improve streetscapes and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists to all commercial areas.
- d) The Township will develop signage guidelines for each commercial area, as part of design guidelines for these areas. The Township, in partnership with interested members of the community, will take the initiative to design and install entrance signage at key street locations, including entrances to Esquimalt.
- e) The Township encourages the provision of amenities such as mini-parks/plazas, street furniture, public art and decorative lighting on private lands in all commercial areas. The Township is amenable to using density bonusing, or providing variances to zoning or parking regulations for redevelopment proposals.
- f) To encourage the use of bicycles, provision should be made in new commercial buildings for bicycle parking for employees and visitors. Secure bicycle parking for employees should be provided in the ratio of one (1) parking space per ten (10) full-time employees with a minimum of one (1) space for each new building. In all new commercial buildings, six (6) bicycle parking spaces should be available for the use of temporary visitors.
- g) End of trip facilities for cyclists such as secure bicycle parking/storage, lockers, change rooms and showers, should be provided to encourage cycling as a viable form of transportation.

- h) Where all of the following criteria are met in a commercial building, Council may reduce the off-street parking requirement through the Development Permit:
 - i) Two (2) or more secure bicycle storage spaces are provided;
 - ii) Shower and change rooms are provided;
 - iii) Six (6) visitor bicycle parking spaces are provided; and
 - iv) The building is located within 200 metres of a regional bus route.
- i) Lands outside the Commercial-Mixed Use designation on "Schedule A" will not be considered for commercial zoning unless the following criteria are met:
 - i) The project is needed to serve tourists or local residents and cannot be appropriately located within established commercial areas;
 - ii) The density and scale of the project is sensitive to the prevailing character of surrounding lands;
 - iii) The project, through its exterior finishes enhances the aesthetics of the neighbourhood;
 - iv) The project's parking requirements can be satisfied on-site and will not unduly affect neighbouring residences; and
 - v) The proponent demonstrates that the neighbourhood has been consulted and residents have had an opportunity to express their concerns.

[Amendment Bylaw [No. 6], 2010, No. 2730 - Adopted May 25, 2010]

- j) In mixed commercial and multi-unit residential developments, buildings up to 12 storeys in height and with a floor area ratio of up to 3.0 for the residential portion of the building may be acceptable.
- k) Development proposals with heights and/or densities greater than those set out in Section 2.3.2 (j) may be considered, where appropriate, through variances to zoning and/or parking regulations and density bonusing of floor space where new commercial buildings provide affordable, accessible, or special needs housing units or amenities for the benefit of the community.

9.4 Development Permit Area No. 2 – Commercial

9.4.1 Scope

All lands designated Commercial on Schedule “C” are part of DPA No. 2.

9.4.2 Category

Section 919(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act* – form and character, commercial.

9.4.3 Justification

Traditionally, Esquimalt’s commercial areas have not been developed on the basis of a particular theme or concept. The design and form of commercial development has been rather haphazard and, as a result, the Esquimalt Village and other local commercial areas do not have the cohesiveness nor the attractiveness they could have.

When asked in a recent questionnaire to identify what they disliked most about Esquimalt, an overwhelming number of respondents identified the lack of a downtown commercial area, with appropriate shops and services, and the appearance of Esquimalt Road in the village core.

Where new development is to occur within Esquimalt’s commercial core, that development should add to the pedestrian appeal and overall appearance of the street through features such as easily accessible entrances, street furniture and public art, landscaping and attractive exterior finishing materials, and by their orientation to the street rather than to a parking lot or internal square.

The goals for Development Permit Area No. 2 are:

- a) to enhance the aesthetic image of Esquimalt’s commercial district, particularly those areas that are considered community focal points, such as the Village, the Head Street/Esquimalt Road intersection and major entrance points to the municipality;
- b) to revitalize existing commercial areas by encouraging a variety of businesses;
- c) to encourage growth in the tax base through diversified commercial development and redevelopment of existing commercial areas; and
- d) to encourage integrated residential/institutional/commercial uses in commercial areas.

9.4.4 Requirements of Owners of Land within the Development Permit Area

- a) Owners of land within Development Permit Area No. 2 must not do any of the following without first obtaining a development Permit in accordance with the guidelines for this Development Permit Area:
 - i) subdivide lands; or
 - ii) construct or alter a building or structure;without first obtaining a Development Permit in accordance with the guidelines of this Development Permit Area.
- b) Exemptions:

The following do not require a development permit:

 - i) construction of buildings or structures less than 10 square metres in area;

- ii) minor additions to existing structures where the floor area of the addition does not exceed 10 percent of the ground floor area of the structure;
- iii) emergency repairs to existing structures and public walkways where a potential safety hazard exists;
- iv) fences;
- v) the cutting of trees as permitted by the municipal tree protection bylaw; and
- vi) replacement or changing of existing signs, provided the sign area is not to be increased.

9.4.5 Guidelines for Owners of Land within the Development Permit Area

- a) Commercial building facades should be appropriate to a pedestrian shopping area with windows facing the street and doors opening onto the street rather than onto a courtyard or laneway. (See image)
- b) Ornamental lighting that not only highlights the building but also increases the amount of light falling onto pedestrian areas should be used wherever possible. However, commercial lighting should not create unnecessary glare or shine directly into neighbouring residential properties.
- c) Buildings should be designed and sited to minimize the creation of shadows on public spaces.
- d) Where possible, weather protection (i.e. awnings and canopies) should be provided above all pedestrian walkways including walkways to on-site parking areas.
- e) Off-street parking areas should be located either at the rear of commercial buildings or underground. Surface parking should be screened with landscaping. Large parking areas should contain additional islands of landscaping.
- f) The design of new commercial buildings, including areas use for parking, should incorporate Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.
- g) Buildings may be located at the front property line in order to create a pedestrian-oriented environment, except where vehicle visibility is affected and on those streets that have been identified as requiring future road widening.
- h) Landscape screening and fencing should be located around outdoor storage areas and garbage and recycling receptacles.
- i) Retention and protection of trees and the natural habitat is encouraged wherever possible.

