

## **COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT 2019-2023 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>STAFF COMMENTS</b>
<b>Advisory Planning Commission</b>		
1.	It would have been helpful to have a Mission and Vision Statement.	Township of Esquimalt Vision, Mission and Core Values, updated by Council January 2019, posted to website and distributed to Committees
2.	Would like to see the Township develop design guidelines for neighbourhoods.	Staff Report on implications and costs to complete neighbourhood plans for entire community to be completed by end of 2019.
3.	Concerned that there is a lot to accomplish; would like to see more prioritizing.	Staff timelines for Operational Strategies and Council-approved budgets will prioritize the numerous initiatives.
<b>Environmental Advisory Committee</b>		
4.	Recommend more consideration of the importance of the natural environment to the community.	This is a Council decision. (Note: Climate Adaptation Plan and Climate Action Plan is included as a Strategic Goal.
5.	Add more emphasis on community resilience.	This is a Council decision.
<b>Design Review Committee</b>		
6.	That reference be made to adopting the Step Code.	Previous Council decision that we will adopt these standards in accordance with BC Building Code, when it is revised to include these.
7.	That more definition be given to the list of amenities set out in the OCP by attaching relative values to them.	Staff will consider this as part of the interim OCP review to be completed by the end of 2019.
8.	That the review of the Parking Bylaw be completed in a timely fashion.	Parking Bylaw review is to be completed by the end of 2019.
9.	That neighbourhood plans be done in a timely fashion starting with the area north of Esquimalt Road between Admirals Road and CFB Esquimalt.	Staff Report on implications and costs to complete neighbourhood plans for entire community to be completed by end of 2019, will include recommendations on priorities, implementation plan and budget.
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Committee</b>		
10.	That Council develop a Car Free Strategy or Incentives.	Transportation Demand Management initiative is ongoing; reduce parking requirements for most new multi-family development, car share and transit passes encouraged.
11.	Parking Bylaw Strategy– include an evaluation of what is actually being used; evaluate and revise results after development is complete.	Parking Bylaw review is to be completed by the end of 2019.
12.	Heritage – include language regarding balancing of heritage vs growth.	Heritage initiatives are already included in the new OCP approved in 2018.
13.	Public Art Master Plan – ensure the Plan factors in Art created by Indigenous People.	Public Art Master Plan will be completed by end of 2020 and will include and consider all forms of public art.

14.	Under “Healthy, Livable & Diverse Community - Advance the work of reconciliation with Indigenous People”: change the term “as <i>required</i> ”, as this wording makes it sound like we “must” take this action.	Staff recommendation is that the following wording would be appropriate: “Support working group as necessary and as recommendations are made to Council”
15.	Under “Fully utilize the \$17 million McLoughlin amenity funds” – add wording for clarity to include the three funded areas.	Staff recommend changing the wording as suggested, to add after “selection of projects” the words: “(Emergency Services and Public Safety Facilities, Waterfront Park Improvements and Recreation/Public Space Improvements)”.
16.	Develop Biking Strategy or Incentives.	Some policies included in new OCP to encourage facilities for bicycles in new development.
17.	Under “Enhance opportunities for Parks & Recreation”, change wording of 3 <sup>rd</sup> bullet to read: “Engage with stakeholders and residents on <i>improvements</i> to parks and recreation services.”	Staff recommend changing the wording as suggested, so that it reads: “Engage with stakeholders and residents on improvements to parks and recreation services.”
18.	Promote and educate the public about Esquimalt’s revitalization tax incentive program.	Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw will be brought to a COTW in 2019 for review of options and updating. Information is posted to the Township’s website and staff inform applicants for development within the designated area of opportunity to participate in program.
<b>UDI Esquimalt Liaison Committee</b>		
19.	Add “Measurable Outcomes” component along with a yearly “Actions” heading, to clarify what Township is trying to achieve, by when and how success will be measured.	Once Strategic Priorities and Operational Strategies and Budget are approved by Council, Staff Annual Work Plans are approved and reviewed by CAO as part of performance review, CAO performance review process is tied to staff’s achievement of Strategic Priorities and Operational Strategies. Timelines have now been proposed by staff and progress on work plans is reported out to Council at 3 public meetings annually.
20.	Support a timely review of Parking Bylaw; willing to be part of working group to assist with review.	Parking Bylaw review to be completed by end of 2019.
21.	Support cost assessment on developing neighbourhood plans and design guidelines; include completion of at least two neighbourhood plans by 2023.	Staff Report on implications and costs to complete neighbourhood plans for entire community to be completed by end of 2019, will include recommendations on priorities, implementation plan and budget.
22.	Support the feasibility report for detached accessory dwelling units, carriage houses and below market housing; encourage target completion by 2020.	Staff Report to be completed by end of 2019.
23.	Support transportation strategies, should include higher densities along transit corridors; add clarity which strategies to review, plan or implement and when.	New OCP contains Transit corridors policy. Ongoing review of transportation model to determine road capacity and level of service as roads are being upgraded.

24.	Encourage continued consultation how to best deliver "Missing Middle" housing; can assist with working group.	Design Guidelines to be completed by end of 2019.
25.	Support development capacity assessment; encourage that completion by 2021 be added.	Staff Report to provide options for completion of assessment will be presented to Council by end of 2020.
26.	Encourage greater transparency and accessibility for Sidewalk and Roadway Master Plans; add reference to "publicly assessable" or "improved online accessibility" and completion date of 2019; to permit understanding of timing and scale of infrastructure improvements.	Next phase of Sidewalk & Roads Master Plans brought to Council during budget for decision. Website will be updated to provide information on long range transportation plans, and to include information on upcoming Projects that are approved, to provide advance public notice of all pending work.

### Public Comments

27.	<p><u>Kym Thrift:</u> Recommended inclusions in Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Active Transportation Plan that identifies and prioritizes improvements to walking, cycling &amp; public transit, annual budget and conditions for improvements in redevelopment projects</li> <li>• Work in partnership with neighbouring municipalities including First Nations to improve active transportation connectivity</li> <li>• Include active transport performance measures focussed on improving modal share of active transport trips (walking, cycling, public transit)</li> </ul>	<p>Cycling enhancements and bike lanes are considered during the planning of road corridor upgrades.</p> <p>Sidewalk Master Plan to provide for maintenance, replacements and new sidewalks for improved connectivity is reviewed by Council annually during the budget process.</p>
28.	<p><u>Katherine Brandt:</u> Not enough emphasis on developing and promoting cycling and other forms of active transportation; Add to Plan, as high priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Active Transport Plan that identifies and prioritizes improvements to walking, biking and public transit</li> <li>• Fund new bike lanes and sidewalks through annual budget</li> <li>• Create biking and walking mode-share goals</li> <li>• Develop safe walking and cycling routes to schools, to discourage being driven to and from school, leading to traffic congestion and rising obesity in youth; eg Tillicum Rd between Craigflower Rd &amp; Gorge Rd needs bike lanes</li> </ul>	<p>(See above, Item 27)</p> <p>Esquimalt Road corridor evaluation will be completed by the end of 2020. Tillicum Road corridor evaluation will be completed by the end of 2021. Both evaluations will include a review of opportunities and options to enhance these road corridors, including bike lanes.</p>
29.	<p><u>Rozlynn Mitchell:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support "development of neighbourhood design guidelines for the entire community", but note that no funds aligned to this priority for the coming year</li> <li>• recommend that Council request staff to</li> </ul>	<p>Staff Report on implications and costs to complete neighbourhood plans for entire community to be completed by end of 2019, and will include recommendations on priorities, implementation plan and budget.</p>

	report on a draft implementation plan of how this priority could be undertaken	
30.	<p><u>Louise Blight:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no explicit consideration of natural environment outside of parks.</li> <li>• eg: "Healthy, Livable and Diverse Community", no mention of nature, wildlife (except deer control), bird habitat, trees, urban forest, coastal waterways, or natural heritage.</li> <li>• "Develop and implement strategies that reduce impact on the environment..." focuses on built environment; should explicitly state that our natural environment, both marine and terrestrial, provide the natural capital upon which climate plans will be built; climate mitigation and adaptation need to start with 'free' services that nature provides; building climate-proofed infrastructure is necessary, but secondary, and more expensive.</li> <li>• support replenishment of Parkland Acquisition Fund; we are growing and densifying and need to increase the area of natural parkland per capita; providing for nature (and human access to it) outside of parks is also important for well-being, as well as for property values.</li> <li>• Esquimalt's clean, green and livable environment is key feature that attracts and retains residents; consider including measures to retain and restore our natural environment.</li> </ul> <p>conduct inventory of natural assets, with goal of creating natural asset management strategy with explicit recognition of economic benefits of natural asset management (eg Town of Gibsons  <a href="https://gibsons.ca/sustainability/natural-assets/natural-asset-management-resources/">https://gibsons.ca/sustainability/natural-assets/natural-asset-management-resources/</a>)</p>	<p><b>This is a Council decision.</b></p> <p>Climate Adaptation Plan to be completed in 2<sup>nd</sup> period of 2020.  Climate Action Plan to be completed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> period of 2020.</p> <p>This initiative is in progress and is on-going as opportunities arise.</p> <p>Staff is currently developing a comprehensive Asset Management program and plan, to be completed by the end of 2020.</p>
31.	<p><u>Bruce Devitt:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• affordability not mentioned under "Healthy, Livable &amp; Diverse Community"; being affordable has been Esquimalt's strength in the past and should continue to be our goal.</li> <li>• completely overwhelmed by the number of complex to do wish-lists for each heading "Community, Partnerships, Economic and Public Service".</li> <li>• maintaining current infrastructure and coping</li> </ul>	<p>Affordability is addressed in the new OCP (see clause 5.4 – to encourage diversity of housing)</p> <p>Council will determine priorities through approval of Operational Strategies and timelines and supporting budget approvals.</p> <p>Infrastructure &amp; Asset Inventory to be completed by end of 2019, and development of Asset</p>

	with new needs associated with planned growth is such a big task and will probably take all the fiscal energy available.	Management program and plan to be completed by end of 2020; will assist in identifying and prioritizing infrastructure requirements.
32.	<p><u>Bruce Cuthbert:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• housing densification in various zone types is a strategic important topic that needs further attention.</li> <li>• Respectful Residential Densification action items to consider:</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Establish an Esquimalt Respectful “Multi-Family zoning?” Densification project with BC Housing (similar and building on Nigel Valley Project &amp; Governance) to minimize stress during next 20 years of densification; could help with areas like 600 Admirals/ Constance/Nelson; updating properties including renovations is increasing stress to impacted, neighbouring, and concerned residents and businesses.</li> <li>2) Implement a basic low-cost (eg \$165 yr 1, \$55 or less ongoing) business license for all single family residential rentals (primary/ secondary); currently suites and single family homes can have unlimited bedrooms, tenants and vehicles.</li> <li>3) Support a letter to and then from CRD Regional Housing First Program to UVic Board of Governors to establish a 10 year 50-60% housing plan (based on UBC plan) in support of Greater Victoria affordable housing crisis; UVic student and perhaps staff housing could significantly increase respectful suites and single family rentals in neighbouring areas.</li> </ol>	<p><b>This is a Council decision.</b></p> <p>Staff will monitor issues arising from densification.</p> <p>Staff are working on multi-family design guidelines to enhance neighbourhood conviviality and social cohesion.</p> <p><b>This is a Council decision.</b></p> <p><b>This is a Council decision.</b></p>
33.	<p><u>Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend Vision be amended to more clear on the community direction and focus.</li> <li>• Operational Strategies should include more items on working with community groups to help bring about economic, social and cultural growth.</li> <li>• Chamber of Commerce is only mentioned in one place and can offer assistance in many other aspects.</li> </ul>	<p><b>This is a Council decision whether to revisit.</b></p> <p>Operational Strategies are based on Council-approved budget and staff capacity.</p> <p><b>This is a Council decision whether to include additional references to the Chamber of Commerce in the Strategic Plan.</b></p> <p>Note: The Township attempts to avoid specifically naming or assigning any tasks to groups outside of the organization in the Strategic Plan.</p>