

February 24, 2021

File: 6500-20

Mr. Bill Brown, MCIP
Director of Development Services
Township of Esquimalt
1229 Esquimalt Road,
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

Dear Mr. Brown,


RE: BYLAW 4328 – RGS AMENDMENT REFERRAL CONDITIONS FOR MUNICIPAL ACCEPTANCE

This letter outlines the Capital Regional District's (CRD) response to each condition set by Esquimalt Council on June 22, 2020 in order to consider approval of the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Amendment Bylaw 4328 referred on March 13, 2020. This letter requests that Esquimalt Council discharge the conditions, and formally accept the RGS amending bylaw in accordance with legislative requirements.

At the regular meeting of Council held April 6, 2020, Council passed a resolution pursuant to Section 436 (4) (b) (ii) of the *Local Government Act* not approving the RGS citing discrepancies with the population projection model and Esquimalt's current and expected development patterns. The legislated referral period ended on May 12, 2020, with 12 municipal Councils accepting the amendment. At the regular meeting of Council held June 22, 2020, Council passed a resolution to consider acceptance of RGS Amendment Bylaw 4328 subject to the following conditions:

1. That the Capital Regional Board first approve an amendment to Section 3.9 (Regional Context Statement - Population Projections) of the Township of Esquimalt's Official Community Plan;
2. That the Capital Regional District commit in writing to paying the legal fees incurred by the Township of Esquimalt to have the proposed amendment to the Regional Context Statement drafted by its legal counsel; and
3. That the Capital Regional District send a letter to all member municipalities stating that the Capital Regional District only recognizes the population projections at the sub-regional level as per the proposed amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy and does not recognize the population projections for individual municipalities.

Esquimalt staff have indicated that Council will be considering an amendment to the Regional Context Statement for CRD Board acceptance. CRD and Esquimalt Staff agreed to make arrangements to compensate the Township of Esquimalt for legal fees incurred as a result of the revised Regional Context Statement. Staff further agreed that the CRD will notify municipalities of the appropriate use of the population projections through the final adoption notification letter. The amended regional context statement will be considered by the CRD's Planning and Protective Services Committee as soon as is reasonable after it is received.



I respectfully request that Council consider this response and formally resolve to discharge its conditional approval, accepting the Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw 4328 per the requirements of Section 438 of the *Local Government Act*, upon CRD Board acceptance of Esquimalt's revised Regional Context Statement.

If you have any questions regarding these matters please contact Emily Sinclair at esinclair@crd.bc.ca or 250-360-3244.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily Sinclair".

Emily Sinclair, MCIP, RPP
Senior Manager, Regional and Strategic Planning
Capital Regional District

Attachments: Attachment 1: Bylaw No. 4328 "Capital Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2019"

Attachment 2: Local Government Act Provisions for Acceptance and Settlement of a Regional Growth Strategy

cc: Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Planning & Protective Services

ES/sc