

**TO:** Regional District of Nanaimo  
Electoral Area Services Committee

**MEETING:** March 14, 2017

**FROM:** Courtney Simpson  
Senior Planner

**FILE:** 6480 00 EAH

**SUBJECT:** Electoral Area 'H' Official Community Plan Review

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

That this report be received for information.

## **SUMMARY**

The Electoral Area 'H' Official Community Plan (OCP) Review project is currently in the third of four stages identified in the Terms of Reference. In this third phase, a revised OCP is drafted and reviewed both internally and by the Working Group and community, through several versions as required. The last phase of the project, where the formal bylaw adoption process occurs, is expected to begin in June 2017 with a recommendation to the Board for first reading (see Attachment 1 – Project Timeline).

## **BACKGROUND**

This report provides a status update on the Electoral Area 'H' OCP Review project that was initiated by the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Board in November 2015. In September 2016 the Board received a "Community Engagement Summary" report that described the community input received on the project so far and the planned updates for the revised OCP.

Review of the draft OCP by the Working Group, composed of approximately 38 community volunteers began in October and proceeded through to December 2016. The remainder of the draft, including a second version incorporating Working Group feedback on sections of the first draft, will be reviewed in Working Group meetings in March and April 2017.

Staff continues to work with consultants to finalize three supporting reports: Active Transportation Plan, Archaeological Overview Assessment, and Agricultural Land Reserve Preliminary Boundary Review. The Agricultural Land Reserve Preliminary Boundary Review report is complete, and the other two are expected to be complete in March 2017. In addition, staff is working with the GIS department to review recently received contour mapping for inclusion in the updated OCP as improved slope and flood hazard mapping.

The project is approximately 6 months behind the originally anticipated schedule, primarily due to increasing the scope of the project with further community engagement and the addition of an Archaeological Overview Assessment at the request of Qualicum First Nation.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Receive this report for information.
2. Provide alternate direction.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The budget for this project is \$142,000 with the majority of expenditures occurring in the 2016 calendar year. The Long Range Planning budget is contributing \$67,000, and an additional \$75,000 has been allocated from the Community Works Fund for background studies. One full-time staff equivalent and mapping resources is assigned to the project through to completion.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Since the Terms of Reference for this project were endorsed, the RDN Board has adopted the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. Development of OCPs is one of the ways in which the RDN achieves its vision as stated in the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. The objectives and policies in an OCP address all five of the Strategic Plan's strategic priorities: focus on governance, focus on service and organizational excellence, focus on relationships, focus on economic health, and focus on the environment.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS**

Public consultation for this project follows the Engagement Plan endorsed by the Board on November 24, 2015 with the exception of several live events that were added to the "Explore Issues" phase: an Open House in conjunction with the Bowser Parents Advisory Council was added in May; a Deep Bay Workshop in September; and, a Developers Forum in October. As a result, consultation on the draft began in October instead of September. To the "Draft Plan" phase, four additional Working Group meetings were added: one in December 2016 and three in March through April 2017.

Two additional public consultation processes are occurring alongside the OCP Review project as part of the supporting studies described in the Terms of Reference: the Active Transportation Plan and the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Boundary Analysis.



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Courtney Simpson  
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February 24, 2017

### Reviewed by:

- G. Garbutt, General Manager, Strategic & Community Development
- P. Thompson, Long Range Planning
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

### Attachments

1. Project Timeline

Attachment 1

Project Timeline

Updated February 23, 2017

MILESTONE	Date
<p><b>Terms of Reference endorsed by Board</b>  <b>Background Report for Area H</b>  <b>Initiate dialogue with First Nations</b>  <b>General Community Meeting #1 – <i>scoping &amp; prioritizing</i></b></p>	<p>November, 2015                      December, 2015                      January, 2015                      February 3, 2016</p>
<p><b>Working Group Mtg #1 – <i>Natural Environment</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #2 – <i>A Community of All Ages</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #3 – <i>Growth &amp; Development</i></b>  <b>Open House with Parents Advisory Council</b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #4 – <i>Growth &amp; Development</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #5 – <i>Deep Bay</i></b>  <b>Active Transportation Plan Public Engagement</b>  <b>Community Open House #2 – <i>confirmation of direction</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #6 – <i>review of community meeting</i></b>  <b>Active Transportation Plan Public Engagement</b>  <b>Deep Bay Workshop</b>  <b>Community Development Forum</b></p>	<p>March 1, 2016                      March 15, 2016                      April 19, 2016                      May 3, 2016                      May 26, 2016                      June 7, 2016                      June 22, 2016                      June 22, 2016                      July 5, 2016                      October 12, 2016                      Sept, 17, 2016                      November 1, 2016</p>
<p><b>Working Group Mtg #7 – <i>review draft OCP</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #8 – <i>review Development Forum</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #9 – <i>review of draft OCP</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #10 – <i>review of draft OCP</i></b>  <b>Full Official Community Plan version 2 Draft</b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #11 – <i>Active Transportation Plan</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #12 – <i>Archaeological and Agrology reports</i></b>  <b>Working Group Mtg #13 – <i>Review of full OCP</i></b>  <b>Community Open House #3 – <i>Feedback on draft OCP</i></b></p>	<p>October, 2016                      November, 2016                      November, 2016                      December, 2016                      March, 2017                      March, 2017                      April, 2017                      April, 2017                      May, 2017</p>
<p><b>Report to RDN Board requesting 1<sup>st</sup> reading</b>  <b>Formal bylaw referral to agencies and First Nations</b>  <b>Report to Board requesting 2<sup>nd</sup> reading</b>  <b>Public Hearing</b>  <b>Adoption</b></p>	<p>June, 2017                      July, 2017                      September, 2017                      October, 2017                      December, 2017</p>