City of Parksville

it's your City!

PLAN PARKSVILLE A Vision For Our Future

City to Host Public Open Houses to Review Draft OCP

The City of Parksville's draft Official Community Plan (OCP) will be available for public review on February 15. The draft will be posted to the City's website and available for viewing at the planning department counter and at two public open houses later this month. The draft OCP will be presented to Council at the February 18 Council meeting.

Public Open Houses – February 26 and February 28

The community is invited to drop by one of two scheduled events to review the City's draft OCP. The open houses will be held on Tuesday, February 26 and Thursday, February 28 from 2 pm to 7 pm at the Parksville Community and Conference Centre at 132 Jensen Avenue East.

Display panels will be organized in themes (Land use, Open Space/Parks, Utilities, and Development Permit Areas) and there will be ample opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. Comments on the draft OCP as presented at the February 26 and February 28 open houses are invited until March 14, 2013. Comments may be submitted at the open houses and/or through the City's website. There will be more opportunities for input as the OCP update moves from draft to adoption.

Questions should be directed to Keeva Kehler, Manager of Current Planning, 250 954-4660 or planparksville@parksville.ca

Public Open Houses to Review Draft OCP
Tuesday, February 26 and Thursday February 28
2 pm to 7 pm
Parksville Community and Conference Centre

City Services

Water Main Flushing

The City's annual water main flushing program runs from February 12 to March 29, from 7 am to 3.30 pm, weekdays. Residents should expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in water pressure. During flushing, residents are encouraged to keep a fresh supply of drinking water and to check for discolouration of water before doing laundry. If water is discoloured, run an outside tap (after 3.30 pm) until the water runs clear.

Spring Grant-in-Aid Applications

Applications for the spring grant-in-aid program are now being accepted. Organizations wishing to apply for funding should obtain a copy of the policy to ensure the submission meets criteria and must submit their application on the approved form. Community non-profit organizations in the arts, culture, recreation or social services fields are eligible applicants. The grant-in-aid select committee will make recommendations to Council and funding up to $2,500 is at Council's discretion. Deadline is 4 pm, March 1 to the administration department.

Reminders

- Business licence renewal notices for 2013, mailed to existing businesses in January, are now due. Payment may be mailed or paid in person at City Hall. Bylaw 2012, No.1483 requires that all businesses must obtain a valid licence if carrying on business in the City. As a result of the recently adopted new business licence bylaw, business owners will notice a change in fees. Fee increases are based on an average of inflation rates between 1994 and 2011.
- Bylaw No. 1284 requires all dogs (over the age of six months) in the City to be licenced and wearing a tag. Annual dog licences may be purchased in person at City Hall. Fees are $25 for spayed/neutered and $35 for not spayed/neutered dogs.

Wood Chipping Program

Plans are underway for the City's 2013 wood chipping program. Due to budget constraints, there will one pick up this year scheduled to begin the first week in April to assist property owners to dispose of tree prunings and debris resulting from winter.

Chipping piles should be left on the boulevard. Piles are limited to 5 feet wide by 3 feet high in size and the branches must be less than 6 inches in diameter. One pile per residence will be removed by the chipping crew. Do not combine piles from multiple households as it is more difficult and time consuming for crews to take apart large piles for chipping than to handle many smaller piles. When placing your chipping pile, it is important not to hinder your property's City water connection box should access be needed for maintenance.

Rocks, stumps and construction waste which may cause injury to the chipper operators must not be included in the piles. Please note for safety reasons, materials such as pampas grass and clematis and wisteria vines cannot be chipped and will not be removed by chipping crews. Pampas grass, vines and other compostable vegetation, garden debris, leaves and grass clippings should be taken to the Church Road Transfer Station.

The dates for crews to be in your neighbourhood will be posted on the City's website next week. Please direct questions to Engineering and Operations at 250 248-5412.

Around the City

PVFD Online Survey

The Parksville Fire Department invites residents to complete an online survey as part of the process to update their strategic plan. The department's mission is to provide the most effective and efficient fire protection and fire rescue services to the residents of the Parksville Fire Protection Area. The survey should take 10-15 minutes to complete; your comments and suggestions are welcomed. The survey will be online from February 14 to March 17 on the City's website and also at www.pvfd.ca.

Emergency Support Volunteers Needed

Disaster can strike at any time. The provincial Emergency Support Services program provides short term disaster relief across BC in the event of fires, floods, earthquakes or other emergencies. Oceanside ESS depends on the dedication of many community volunteers to plan and provide for the essential needs of individuals, families and response workers. This may include food, lodging, clothing, emotional support and finding loved ones.

Disaster work offers a unique opportunity to help others when help is needed most. No specific skills are required; training and experience is provided. When the unimaginable happens you would want help, find out how you can be that help for someone else. To learn how you can contribute, call Tom Williams at 250 937-0448.

City Dates

February 14	Advisory Design Panel
February 14	Coffee with Council
February 18	Council and Committee of the Whole
February 21	Advisory Planning Commission
February 21	Coffee with Council
February 26	Draft OCP Public Open House
February 28	Draft OCP Public Open House
March 4	Public Hearing (Bylaws 2000.85, 2000.86)
March 4	Council and Committee of the Whole
March 7	Coffee with Council
March 14	Advisory Design Panel
March 14	Coffee with Council
March 18	Council and Committee of the Whole

The public is encouraged to attend Council and Committee of the Whole meetings held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 pm. The public is welcome to observe the meetings of any advisory committee. Please refer to the City's website for agendas and to confirm times and dates.

How to Reach Council

MAYOR

Chris Burger..... 250 954-4661

COUNCILORS

Al Greir.....250 248-1285
Marc Lefebvre 250 248-2292
Peter Morrison.....250 240-4050
Bill Neufeld 250 954-2063
Sue Powell.....250 951-1082
Carrie Powell-Davidson.....250 954-3758

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Twitter: twitter.com/city_parksville
Pinterest: pinterest.com/cityparksville

It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the second Tuesday of the month with a copy on the City's website. We are committed to improving communications with our residents and you can help by providing your comments and suggestions to 250 954-3073 or communications@parksville.ca.