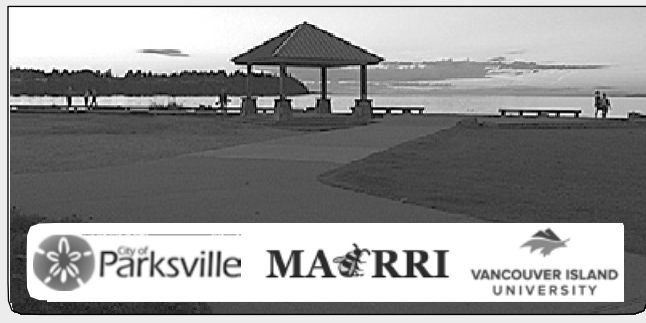


Community Park Resident Survey

Vancouver Island University students are continuing their work on the City's Community Park master plan and parks and trails project. This month, we are asking residents to complete an online survey which will assist to identify goals and priorities for the future of the park. If you did not receive a postcard in the mail with survey instructions or if you would like to complete a paper copy, please call 250 248-6144. Survey deadline is May 26.

VIU Gazebo Talks – June 8

On June 8 from 2-7 pm, VIU students will be hosting Gazebo Talks, located at the waterfront gazebo in the Community Park. Gazebo Talks is another community engagement opportunity for VIU students to present some of their work completed to date and to continue to seek input from residents and park visitors to identify goals and priorities for the future of the Community Park. For more information please contact Deb Tardiff, dtardiff@parksville.ca; 250 954-3073.



Budget and Property Taxes

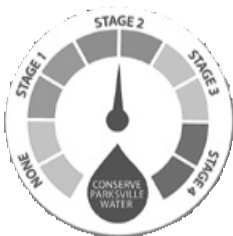
The City's 2017 budget, adopted on May 1, delivered a balanced budget for the 2017 financial year and established the 2017 tax rate increase. Council approved the 2017-2021 final financial plan and set the overall property tax increase for 2017 at 4% for all classes except Class 5 Light Industry which was set at 11.5%. This increase is higher in order to bring the light industry rate more in line with the business class rate. The tax increase is budgeted to be 4% for subsequent years, 2018 to 2021. The budget and final financial plan available on the City's website [[Quicklinks/Reports](#)], sets the financial authority to enable departments to carryout 2017 projects.

When other government tax collections are added in, the total tax increase for the average priced residential property is about 1.52%. For a home with the average assessed property value (\$340,900 in 2017), the City portion of total property taxes will increase by approximately \$51.70 from 2016. The Regional District of Nanaimo, regional wastewater, regional hospital and library taxes will increase by about \$13 and the local school tax decreased by about \$26.

Tax notices will be mailed later this month and to avoid penalty, payment must be received by the City and the homeowner grant claimed by Tuesday July 4, 2017.

Water Restriction Stage 2

Stage 2 is now in effect in the City of Parksville for the months of May through September unless otherwise advised by the City. With Stage 2, sprinkling can only occur on even days for even-numbered houses and on odd days for odd-numbered houses. Sprinkling is permitted for a maximum of two hours between 7-10 am or 7-10 pm. Although it has been a rainy spring so far, dry summer conditions will be here soon. Taking conservation measures early, before water supplies come under stress, is essential to ensure we maintain an adequate water supply through the hot dry summers we have come to expect. [[Quicklinks/Water Conservation](#)]



Raising \$\$ for a New Splash Park

The Parksville Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Parksville AM are making a splash to raise \$100,000 towards replacement of the outdated spray park in the Community Park built in 1992 by the Parksville Lions. New splash parks constructed or significantly renovated require a construction permit and structures, decks and surfaces must meet Island Health standards. Open until September 5, the splash park will be rebuilt over the winter and ready by May 2018.



The City's contribution will be \$200,000 and we are grateful the Rotary and Lions have committed to raise \$100,000 from the community. Additional funds will assist with ongoing maintenance of the splash park. The cost of \$300,000 includes dismantling of existing spray park, waterlines, drain infrastructure, new equipment to meet current regulations, new surface, installation, signage and landscaping.

Sponsorship and recognition levels are offered for individual and corporate donations. For information about how you can help is available from City of Parksville, Parksville Lions Club and Rotary Club of Parksville AM. parksvillesplashpark.com; splashpark@parksville.ca 250 954-3073

The Lions and Rotary Clubs will host a kickoff for the splash park project at noon, **Friday, May 19** at the Lions Ventureland Playground in the Community Park. Hot dogs and pop by donation.

Things to Know

PDBA Wayfinding Project

The Parksville Downtown Business Association will host a public information session on Tuesday, May 30 at the Parksville Community and Conference Centre. Residents are encouraged to drop in between 2 and 7 pm to learn about the City of Parksville-PDBA joint wayfinding system, designed to create a more pedestrian-friendly downtown while boosting economic activity and improving safety.

Permissive Tax Exemptions

Under the provisions of the Community Charter, Council may exempt land and/or improvements from municipal property taxes for the next calendar year, subject to certain requirements which in general, restrict exemption to non-profit organizations using the lands for specific non-profit purposes. Application deadline is noon, June 30. Details, form and policy may be obtained from City Hall or from the website [[Public Notices](#)].

Coffee with Council

Starting in June, Coffee with Council will be held twice a month on the first and third Thursdays from 2-4 pm. Please check the website for changes or cancellations.

Community ReGreening Program Funding

The City of Parksville is grateful for the support of BC Hydro and TreeCanada for the grant provided to the City through BC Hydro's Community ReGreening Program which will allow the City to build on our urban reforestation project. Many of the City's urban forests have been in decline over the past few years and we have seen significant necessary tree removals. This fall, the funds will be used to continue the replanting program.

Emergency Preparedness Expo 2017

Saturday **May 27** 9am-4pm

Learn about the challenges we will face in an emergency and how you can be better prepared. Expo 2017 features displays, demonstrations and workshops. Local emergency services (RCMP, regional fire departments, BC Ambulance) will be joined by agencies, organizations and businesses such as Arrowsmith Search and Rescue, Aztec Off Grid Solutions, BCSPCA, BC Hydro, Civil Air Search and Rescue, Fortis BC, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Island Health, Outsider Adventures, Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue, Red Cross and Wholesale Sports.

Saturday, May 27 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Parksville Curling Rink. Workshops will be held from 10 am to 2 pm on topics such as Adventure Smart – Outdoor Safety for Recreational Walkers, Importance of Insurance in Emergency Preparedness, Disaster! Surviving the First Few Hours and Preparedness Challenges at Different Stages of Life.



City Dates

May 18	Coffee with Council
May 19	Splash Park Project Kickoff
May 22	Victoria Day (offices closed)
May 25	Coffee with Council
May 26	Community Park survey deadline
May 27	Emergency Preparedness Expo
May 30	PDBA Wayfinding Info Session
June 1	Coffee with Council
June 5	Council Meeting
June 8	Gazebo Talks
June 15	Coffee with Council
June 19	Council Meeting
July 1	Canada Day
July 3	City Offices Closed

The public is encouraged to attend Council meetings held on the first and third Mondays of the month and may observe advisory committee meetings. Refer to the website for agendas, meeting highlights and minutes.

How To Reach Council

MAYOR

Marc Lefebvre 250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS

Mary Beil..... 250 927-4097
 Kim Burden 250 951-6420
 Kirk Oates 250 802-2059
 Teresa Patterson 250 954-9488
 Sue Powell..... 250 954-3070
 Leanne Salter..... 250 248-8097

citycouncil@parksville.ca
 City Hall, 100 Jensen Avenue East
 P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3
[facebook.com/cityparksville](https://www.facebook.com/cityparksville)
twitter.com/city_parksville
[pinterest.com/cityparksville](https://www.pinterest.com/cityparksville)

It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the third 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.