

Parkville Resident Survey 2010

QUESTION #44

(sorted by ages)

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 18 to 24

Response Count

8

answered question

8

skipped question

10

Response Date

Final Comments - Ages 18 to 24

May 22, 2010 4:06 AM

The Gateway to Parkville should be greenspace, a park stretching from city hall to past the firehall. A Gazebo, apicnic area, some public art, a place for seniors, a family oreinted area to enjoy leisure activitys.

May 25, 2010 9:49 PM

We need more awareness of the dangers of allergies and what precautions people need to be taking in; schools, restaurants, day cares, kid functions, concession stands, etc.

May 27, 2010 8:21 AM

We should enhance the city's natural beauty by complimenting it with more greenery and stylized buildings and sidewalks. I think that a street, like craig st., Could look very nice if it were fixed up similar to that of a Parisian street with cobblestones, outdoor cafes and buildings with a cozy rusic look.

May 28, 2010 4:46 PM

For question #30, we feel that the police do not fully abide by the laws they enforce. The biggest example is the speed limits within the city. If they would follow the rules, perhaps everyone would also.

May 28, 2010 8:24 PM As a city in the Georgia Basin, Parksville has a rich and diverse natural environment with a tremendous variety of species and ecosystems.

Our natural environment is the foundation of the quality of life in our community. We need to identify and protect our diversity of habitats to preserve what is central to our community; our clean water, rich natural areas and abundant bird species.

We need to protect our remaining upland forests and wetlands to preserve the full diversity of species and ecosystems that define our community and provide critical ecosystem services, making it special, livable and a destination for birding and wildlife viewing.

We need to do our part as a city for conserving biodiversity in a world that is facing extensive biodiversity issues. We need to be a leading community and model for conservation.

We need to reassess our zoning, allocate money for acquiring key natural habitats and support efforts to reduce our environmental impact.

Of all matters warranting our attention and requiring work, investing in the protection of our natural environment secures our foundation, our priceless, irreplaceable natural assets and is the wisest choice we can make.

Jun 8, 2010 4:57 PM Take a deep breath, calm. I know it must be hard to read all of these. Take another breath. Okay. You are doing a good job and I appreciate what you are trying to do.

My final comments - just remember why you're doing this. Being the voice of the people is hard when you're not also the ear. It's not about your opinion, it's about "ours". Not mine - not his - but everyone's. Which means everyone has a say. That's what living in Canada is all about. It still is a free country, we still have free speech and you have chosen the noble profession of freeing that speech. Your voice should be the one backed by the masses. I think a lot of politicians got into the job for the power, forgetting the reason we have government. It's not about your opinion - you are just the voice.

Jun 16, 2010 4:32 PM Break and enter crimes should be publicly dealt with: community work and physically hard work. Curfew at 11:00 pm for 16 and under. 65 and over re-test annually for driver's test. It is scary riding a bike on these roads in Parksville, especially for kids.

Jun 17, 2010 9:36 PM You need to rename Humphrey Road because it is no longer hump free. Also you should have made Oceanside Place with 2 sided seating that was stupid and now we are stuck with a small rink that greatly limits what we are able to do with the facility.

Parksville Resident Survey 2010
QUESTION #44

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 25 to 34	Response Count
	30
<i>answered question</i>	30
<i>skipped question</i>	30

Response Date	Final Comments - Ages 25 to 34
<p>May 7, 2010 9:16 PM</p>	<p>I feel that the City Administration manages the city too tightly. In some communities the Council pushes the agenda forward based on community and Mayoral objectives and the City works on behalf of Council, it is the other way around here and it's not working.</p> <p>This will be the 4th OCP, none of which have been utilised. Even the revitalisation strategy of 2006 has been dropped. The city needs to do less strategising, it's starting to look like they'll strategise until they get a result they want. Figure it out, make Parksville a working City - everyone knows the issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of shopping - lack of connectivity between beachfront and downtown - lack of community engagement and activity
<p>May 11, 2010 11:02 PM</p>	<p>...everyone knows the issues - lets fix them together; it's not only the City's job, let us help!</p> <p>Efforts to change the preception of Parksville as a retirement/vacation town would go a long way to helping develop a more diverse, vibrant economy. Focusing efforts on identifying and developing the areas unique economic proposition would help the process of evolving the economy.</p>
<p>May 17, 2010 6:09 PM</p>	<p>The land beside city hall should be made into a community garden, regardless of whether the original still operates; grown vegetables could be sold to residents. Scotch broom follows the destruction of natural habitat during development. The special events broadcasts at city hall were great during the Olympics. The City should support any medical marijuana dispensaries/compassion clubs in the area. Stop building along the waterfront, please. Please create more natural greenspace. Support the Arrowsmith Biosphere Reserve. Please build sidewalks on Corfield Street down by Thrifty. Parksville should strive to remain an attraction for people who want a natural getaway with all the amenities of a medium-sized town/city. Preserving our shoreline and watersheds has to trump development interests. Our mayor and council have shown their interest lies in development and economic attraction instead of building a quality community for residents. Development only benefits those with interests at the expense of the populace.</p>

May 17, 2010 10:36 PM Please don't turn this into a sleep"ier" retirement home. This should be a vibrant fun, exciting city with lots of entertainment, tournaments, etc.

May 19, 2010 4:51 PM I want to emphasize that the proposed changes to the highway (19A) would be detrimental to our ability to shop, attend events downtown and just do daily chores. It would impede us from getting downtown, especially if we wanted to use the community park. We would have to go from our place (Banks Ave. W.) to McMillan over to McVickers and back up the highway--a lot of extra driving that's not necessary. I see Parksville as being similar to Kelowna with the highway running downtown--maybe you could get ideas from them. I also want to point out that I think you did a fine job of the Beach Club as it is definitely an improvement over the Island Hall. I do like the colour scheme that the buildings seem to be changing to. I think that the Alberni highway was fine before the sidewalks were widened, as it is a highway and should be treated so rather than re-routing people and vehicles to McMillan. I am a volunteer on the board for the Parksville and District Association for Community Living and numerous times I have seen people be almost hit at all three of the crosswalks on McMillan. It definitely needs improvements to slow traffic--pedestrian lights, stop lights, flashing signals, something! I think there is a good

May 21, 2010 6:32 PM I think that Parksville is a wonderful place to live. I think that the biggest improvement would be for the Mayor & City Councillors to listen more to the community. I don't think that most of them do this at all! They all have their own agenda's and the community as a whole is suffering because of this.

May 22, 2010 6:28 AM as a young / poor youth i grew up in parksville, there was a lot of outdoor things to do , but what do u do when it rains ? remember the youth one day they will be in charge of these sorts of decissions and they might remember how little we do / did for them. if your city plan is to reduce water comsumption why dont you implament some of your own suggestions throughout the community, why is it ok for the city of parksville to waste water watering the shrubbery on the sides and the middle of the roads, stonescapce some of these spaces, you will be leading by example which might make some people follow suit. i do my part and i would expect you to pratice what you preach. maybe we could make it a parksville thing, water smart parksville the city of stone, chemainis has the murals , duncan has the totems, what do we have ??? a city that wants you to do whatever you can to be better to the community yet as far as i see dosnt do much themselves

May 23, 2010 12:33 AM I am looking forward to hearing what the City will do with the block of empty lots between City Hall and Highway 4A. My preference would be to see commercial space at street level combined with residential condos/apartments above, along with some green space.

I must commend the City for updating the City's brand, including the new City of Parksville logo, and especially the recently installed welcome signage and parks signs. This signage looks very high quality and "classic" and helps to position Parksville as a high end tourist destination. This signage is a vast improvement on the LED community park sign (the one with the kites that hard to read) that was installed a couple of years ago.

Generally speaking, I think Parksville is a great place to live. We have a young family and there is lots of local activities to do, and plenty of parks and trails to explore.

One last thing to note, this survey takes much longer than 20 minutes to complete, especially if you want people to provide any meaningful feedback, which I assume is the goal. I also found a number of the questions (and the answers provided) were very poorly worded; that said, I'm happy the City did the survey as a way of obtaining public input and feedback.

May 26, 2010 6:15 AM There are some online tools such as Yelp! and Google maps that will allow Parksville to show off the great services they offer. I would like to see a combination of tourist and year-round sustainability programs being implemented for both a box store and Morrison Ave modernization.

May 27, 2010 8:30 PM Parksville is one of the best cities to live in on the planet. I feel privileged to live here. You are doing a great job and I really like the art you have now applied to the power boxes in public areas. The beach is amazing and although I think your urban planning is terrible, I am in awe of the parks that have been preserved in subdivisions around Parksville.

May 27, 2010 8:46 PM Also, the police in this town are lazy. My house got broken into last year. I called the police and they said it would be over an hour until someone can get there. I waited and waited and waited. No one showed up. Talking to my friend, she said she had just seen 7 cops at Tim Hortons, so I went there to talk to them. Ended up getting pepper sprayed, handcuffed and threatened to be tazered while in handcuffs. And all I said was maybe you can put down the doughnut and do your job.

May 28, 2010 10:07 PM We should re-locate our old Parksville sign to somewhere in town or donate it to the museum.

Jun 1, 2010 4:42 PM Water limits should be increased, especially for large families. The large family discount wasn't adequate.

Jun 1, 2010 8:12 PM We have a good town, so let's not overdevelop it. But at the same time let's not forget about what we have. Keep existing buildings fresh and attractive. Also get rid of the traffic circles along Temple. When your city buses don't know to yield to the person on the right, you are taking my kids' life into your hands.

- Jun 2, 2010 5:18 PM** Parksville is a beautiful area with an identity crisis. A more charming downtown core would make this a first rate town. Also, to promote healthier, happier residents we should have a recreation facility. And please, no more fast food. These companies are toxic to a community.
- Jun 3, 2010 4:08 PM** Nice to see survey. Keep working to improve downtown area to make it an attraction.
- Jun 3, 2010 6:12 PM** Change is going to happen in any community. I think Council should focus on growth instead of trying to preserve what we already have. There should be more green space and there should also be more stores and even though some people may not want big box stores, I can guarantee they would shop there if they were built. Save the retirement community for Qualicum Beach. Parksville still has life in it.
- Jun 4, 2010 8:12 PM** I have only lived in Parksville for one and a half years. Before I moved to Parksville I thought of it as a retirement community. I know that there is a growing number of young families living in Parksville as well. I would love to see Parksville "bloom" because we have so many natural resources to use towards promoting the city and therefore benefit the economy.
One of the things that I miss from the mainland is having a leisure centre, a movie theatre and good restaurants. We need to help Parksville shine because we have the natural resources to do it.
- Jun 4, 2010 9:34 PM** I think an intersection and sidewalks are needed where Finholm meets the highway. I live on Forsyth, have two young children and walk most places with a stroller. We like Munchkinland, but since it's across the highway, it's quite inconvenient to get to safely. The Temple 'convenience' store also isn't very convenient. Also, I have lots of friends and family who live in Nanaimo. They all love Parksville, but say they wouldn't live here because there isn't a hospital.
- Jun 4, 2010 10:23 PM** Parksville needs to improve.
- Jun 4, 2010 10:28 PM** We all have dreams, big and small. But with honest planning and information mixed with community input may be we can all agree on new additions and changes that will keep this City beautiful, fun and inviting for all ages and hobbies, whether it be shopping, sports or sitting back and enjoying the scenery.
I believe honesty from the community and officials is the key. Thank you for the survey, more in the future would be appreciated.
- Jun 7, 2010 4:39 PM** The City commissioned a beautiful new sign for Parksville but it was severely overpriced. If the Council makes this poor of judgement over that decision, I am curious to look at others. For instance, software purchase for the City is in the neighbourhood of six figures. Taxpayers should be privy to a breakdown because that is overly indulgent in my opinion.

- Jun 7, 2010 5:01 PM** Being here for 2 1/2 years I feel that Parksville is a very good choice for us to live. I am fortunate to have a job that pays enough to allow us to buy a home and raise our 2 children. I feel that a lot of others aren't so fortunate and struggle just to make rent vs. mortgage payments. Jobs and the high cost of housing were really a shock for us as we come from a small town in Manitoba with housing at less than half of what they are here with wages the same.
Thank you for reading our views.
- Jun 7, 2010 5:55 PM** Now that there is parent parking on Stanford across from Parksville elementary, why did they take away/move the crosswalk? It was in an ideal location before. People still cross there every day. More policing at the schools would be helpful. There are lots of speeders down Craig and Stanford. There was an officer there the other day and he was busy!
- Jun 8, 2010 6:31 PM** Thank you for you time. Hope the survey helps. We really, really need more for the younger adults and the children. This is so very important. Thanks again.
- Jun 9, 2010 6:55 PM** Bring more to Parksville, smaller towns have more than we do and we are a City. Not everyone that lives here is over the age of 65. We need more for young families. I love Parksville but we are thinking of moving because of these reasons. Nanaimo has a lot to offer plus lower house prices and I know for a fact we aren't the only ones that feel this way.
- Jun 9, 2010 8:42 PM** Support local organic farms
- Jun 11, 2010 3:47 PM** I appreciate the opportunity to provide my opinion. I think your website is a great resource. I visit it often for things such as watering restrictions and bylaws. I think Parksville's landscaping is beautiful.
- Jun 11, 2010 8:29 PM** Additional parking downtown a must. Also need more and safer pedestrian crossings. I walk to work every day and almost get hit every other day on a pedestrian crosswalk.
- Jun 14, 2010 8:24 PM** More and better parking at beach.

Parksville Resident Survey 2010
QUESTION #44

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 35 to 44	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	58
<i>skipped question</i>	74

Response Date	Final Comments - Ages 35 to 44
May 11, 2010 11:34 PM	More sidewalks in the older neighbourhoods.
May 14, 2010 3:06 AM	We live in wonderful town/city and are very lucky to be located on the ocean with a view of the mountains and living on Vancouver Island. We have the convenience of a larger town with Nanaimo close by so we don't need to grow our downtown core to compete with that, we should focus on what we have to offer. Our community has a great small town feel and we should make sure we don't lose that in our rush to develop. Endless growth is not inherently sustainable so we may as well grow in a way that benefits us the most. We need to make sure our limited assets and resources are utilized in the best way possible for the benefit of the entire community not just a few. I think we have pretty good services overall but I am not happy that City hall is often looking towards debt or increased taxes as a way to supply services or develop new infrastructure that we can't afford. If we were collecting appropriate fees for all of the new development that has gone on in the city in the last 10 years we would not be in the tax crunch we are now.
May 14, 2010 8:26 PM	The city should not be so focused on downtown revitalization, this is of primary benefit to the businesses Somewhat disappointed that funding has been revoked for the flower display on the corner of Pym & Old Island Highway.
May 17, 2010 5:40 PM	Distribution of this survey was verty poor.
May 18, 2010 6:09 PM	The long term residents of Parksville have stayed because we like it without skyscrapers and big box stores. If we keep getting them pushed onto us we will likely move Qualicum for some peace.
May 18, 2010 6:57 PM	Don't put the future of Parksville into the hands of developers whose goals are profits and not the maintenance of 'small town' character. Re: noise pollution--One night we were kept up all night by loud aggressive partiers. When police were called, the police took the partiers' side and said they would let the party go ahead! Note: this was extreme noise covering kilometers!
May 18, 2010 7:59 PM	Town planners should learn how to plan. Parksville has no concept of how to manage growth and plan for a community to evolve into something nice. Priorities seem dominated by Chamber of Commerce special interests and short-sightedness. Qualicum does much better job.

- May 19, 2010 10:01 PM** I find it frustrating to shop and play here. I cannot buy clothes for me or my kids. As well, finding recreational programs in our area is difficult. Parksville is a wonderful place to live, but allowing it to grow commercially would benefit us all.
- May 21, 2010 6:20 PM** Keep big Beach Club like developments from marring the waterfront.
- May 21, 2010 7:55 PM** Stop wasting money on surveys.
- May 21, 2010 10:46 PM** In order to move Parksville forward into the future, what the majority in our community prioritize must be taken into consideration by our elected officials before they decide what is the best way to proceed. This is not a city for the developers and business, but one for its citizens and community. If it wasn't for the existence of the latter, the first two wouldn't exist.
- May 23, 2010 7:21 AM** Putting reaurants in the south of 19a really don't add to the city. everybody has to drive to get to them. Have to get them downtown, closer to where people live. A gym being in the industail area does not make sence again u have to drive there. If the fire chef thinks he needs a new building, then just build it. Sometimes you have to somthing unpopular. Once it is done everybody will like it. might loose a few votes but oh well, a least you will know you did the right thing, to keep our fire fighters safe. Police on the beach and downtown will help get people down there more.
- May 24, 2010 5:04 AM** Please remember that many of us moved here for the serene beauty of the community and the natural lifestyle. Do all you can to preserve the natural beauty of the community..remember that is why everyone lives here both young and old.
- Do not impose restrictions on water for those who garden their own organic food, for those who have families greater than 4,
- May 24, 2010 6:25 PM** Please focus on economic development to attract new working residents.
- May 26, 2010 4:31 PM** A proper intersection at the Temple Store highway location. There have been accidents there and could easily be more.
- May 26, 2010 6:23 PM** Overall, Parksville is a great place to live and to raise a family. I believe the key is strong, steady, planned growth starting with downtown. Attract the right type of companys, create a solid commercial tax base. The rest will fall into place.
- May 26, 2010 10:02 PM** Would love the City to consider some beautification work on 'Nickels Park' (corner of Pym St and Nanoose Ave). A few simple changes would make a big difference.

- May 26, 2010 11:05 PM** Parksville needs to fix the downtown core. Make it an appealing place to walk around and shop. Try and attract more stores. Parksville shopping is too spread out. We need to have a downtown square. We must protect the beach. A board walk from one end of Parksville all the way to the end of the Estuary would be amazing! Town needs to become more bike friendly. It is totally unsafe for bikes to ride on the highway with no shoulder. Our existing roads are in bad shape. My road is in terrible shape and isn't going to be fixed for several more years. Why would we spend our money putting in new roads when we can't fix the ones we have?
- May 27, 2010 6:28 AM** Downtown (ex: Craig/Memorial Street) businesses need a new look. Stores are looking run down & shabby. Downtown revitalization will generate more locals & tourists to shop and dine locally. Parksville needs more trendy places to shop & eat to attract more of the younger generations. Downtown Parksville could use a good face lift! Other than that, Parksville is a wonderful place to live and raise a family.
- May 27, 2010 4:55 PM** Please keep families in mind who like to own their own property so their children have a back yard to play in. It seems that your focus is more in multi family/townhouse/condo living.
- May 27, 2010 5:49 PM** Overall I would like to see stores like Canadian Tire, Staples, etc. come in. I would like to see the waterfront developed like Victoria--residential/commercial mix appealing to tourists more. We need a pool and youth facilities. A movie theatre would be nice. Support to local food suppliers.
- May 28, 2010 3:36 AM** Show a little more respect for the Residents that you are supposed to represent. Too often the impression that comes across is that individual ideas and possible financial gain/other benefits are more important than listening to Residents and realizing their ideas of how Parksville should look. Ideas like the Jensen road extension and changing the Highway to one way or one lane while claiming it is the will of the people seem to just highlight how out of touch parts of this city council seem to be.
- Make an effort to attract and keep young people, couples and families because they will be the ones that help keep this town growing and improving in the years to come.
- May 28, 2010 5:37 AM** The intersection at Hirst and McMillan is a death trap. Please address this with at least a four way stop or at most a traffic light?? This intersection is too dangerous. Also, please allow parking along hwy 19A between the entrance to the community park and the orange bridge. You could have no parking during busy/rush hour times but by allowing parking along this stretch, you make this part of the hwy more pedestrian friendly, encourage people to walk and would slow the traffic down. Good Luck!
- May 28, 2010 5:30 PM** I love Parksville and its small town feel. However, more younger people are moving here with families and we need to create a city that keeps them here--shopping, movies and recreation. The retired community go south for 6 months and have often had more say in how Parksville is to grow or not. There has to be a comfortable medium for all of us.

- May 28, 2010 5:45 PM** Need to add some local neighbourhood parks for kids, like new Trill subdivision.
- May 31, 2010 5:02 PM** Ballenas Secondary School (grounds and building) looks like an inner city slum school.
Quit looking at what can be done for all the elderly and start looking at our youth!!
- May 31, 2010 8:35 PM** This city has so much potential. We need to start thinking about the young people and recreation and activities for them. They have nowhere to go and nothing to do and that equals trouble.
- We need stores--clothing and shoe. Brand name stores, box stores. Things that actually interest people. No more knick-knack stores.
- Night life other than the Rod and Gun.
- Jun 1, 2010 5:53 PM** Parksville is a wonderful community. If City council continues to be open minded and forward thinking, the community can only remain a great place for families. More options for teens would be great.
- Jun 1, 2010 8:35 PM** I do believe the downtown core needs to be improved. We need to make it a destination. One of the things that would do this is a theatre, businesses around the area would benefit. I also think we need a place to go to get our STUFF. Day to day plus extra's rather than driving to Nanaimo.
- Jun 1, 2010 9:03 PM** I feel quite strongly that Parksville must do everything it can to maintain what little natural beauty remains. I actually shed tears when I observe developers coming in and clearcutting large areas of forest. I moved here for a quiet, healthy lifestyle. The outdoors mean a great deal to me. I moved away from Alberta because I constantly saw profit over nature. I do not want to live in a flat, barren field surrounded by industrial pollution and toxic waste. When I go back to visit relatives, I smell and taste the difference in the air. There are some neighbourhoods in town that are starting to resemble the prairies. I despise those developments. We do not want urban sprawl and highrises. That is why we moved away. We are here because the air is clean, and we spend a great deal of time outdoors. If anything, Parksville should be hanging onto and maintaining what little green space we have left. More playgrounds for children and more nature trails for adults. When I ride a bike with my son, it is very difficult to get from one side of Parksville to the other without taking your life in your hands at some points. More bike paths and safe sidewalks for pedestrians should be a high priority for the City. I also believe the youth
- Jun 2, 2010 5:27 PM** Would like more shelters in the community park. More bike trails/linear trails. Would like to see Jensen extension completed. Would like to see Council follow a plan instead of playing politics all the time. A lack of vision is stopping progress and is what causes our lack of progress (generally).
- Jun 2, 2010 6:10 PM** The Aquastar program for water conservation seems draconian in its ideas. We live in and around a coastal rainforest. There should be water everywhere, for everyone. This is not Dubai. Build a bigger dam, or another dam on the other side of the mountain. I like my lawn green.

Jun 2, 2010 8:58 PM A lot of water appears to be wasted during seasonal watering of baskets, gardens. Ensure sprinklers don't water the street. Enforce water restrictions.

Suggest police don't take all breaks at the same time. What other business allows all employees to break at T.H. together?

No more Beach Club eyesores. No one way ring road--bad idea.

Jun 4, 2010 5:43 PM Overall, problems are not huge

Top Issues:

- housing and jobs for young people - young facilities

- affordability

- don't let this area become a retirement community of expensive homes that working people can't afford.

Otherwise your staff and service people won't be able to afford to live here, the people who can afford it will not have any services or staff to do their work for them.

- the downtown needs shops, boutiques, bistros and stuff for tourists to spend money on. If not here, they'll go to Qualicum Beach or Coombs and spend their money there.

Jun 4, 2010 6:43 PM I see more and more seniors trying to bike. It should be reasonable to ride from community to downtown without safety concerns. The jutsouts on Hirst are dangerous for kids and seniors on bikes.

Jun 4, 2010 6:52 PM We need to encourage more business and industrial growth to spread out our income streams more. Our children need more reasons to want to stay here when they are grown up.

More needs to be done for youth. More programs, more facilities, more support for young families.

I don't mind development and growth but it must be well thought out and honour the community's ideals.

Jun 4, 2010 9:48 PM I recently moved to Parksville from a bigger city due to its small 'city/town' appeal. I believe that to attract people of my age group to move to Parksville, you must maintain its 'quiet' appearance. Baby boomers are slowly dying off. You'll need younger taxpayers pretty soon.

Jun 7, 2010 4:45 PM I am very happy to live in Parksville and enjoy what we have. I particularly enjoy going down to the park and having it well maintained/cleaned.

Jun 7, 2010 5:07 PM I really feel the City of Parksville doesn't have a clear idea of what it will look like or wants to look like in the future. There is no identity. The greatest asset Parksville has is the beaches. I'd like to see this preserved and enhanced to attract more tourists and residents. Further from the beach, we need industry to employ more residents. Many working age residents work outside the community, which also promotes shopping outside the community. If you work in Nanaimo, you might as well shop there, too.

- Jun 7, 2010 10:14 PM** The beach and community park are now much more accessible to us with the new boardwalk. It is much nicer to walk along Morison, down McMillan to the beach, and walk to the play park without having to walk along the highway with small children. Thank you!
- Jun 8, 2010 5:46 PM** How many of us really know exactly what you do? No one, or few, will make the effort to go and find out what the OCP is or what the plans are. Email, send out however, but send the information out in layman's terms. I still don't understand what the OCP is. What are the standards or qualifications to allow big box? As a family working, we don't have time to go to meetings in the morning; work the afternoon; work the evening; kids, dinner, school activities. Send the info out!
- Jun 8, 2010 8:15 PM** Parksville needs public transit so kids can take a bus to school and sports, and people can use it to get to work. Parksville subdivisions are creating big homes on small lots, putting people on top of each other. This needs to stop. Bigger lots needed. Activities for teens are needed. More community events like movie night on the beach.
- Jun 8, 2010 8:38 PM** I am not in favour of large, obstructive developments in the downtown core that will obstruct access and views and create extra traffic (car and pedestrian) in an area that has not yet been developed for increased use. Visual obstructions are not favourable in downtown core.
- I would like to see Parksville remain as a natural tourism attraction, not a Tofino style resort town, accessible by families, campers and low to mid income people who love the beauty of this area.
- Jun 9, 2010 6:08 PM** Good job for taking these surveys. I believe this is the best way to get information from the towns people. Could we go paperless with this perhaps next year. Give us the option to write it like this or go onto the City's site and complete online. Good job though.
- Jun 10, 2010 3:26 PM** The new Parksville signs and modernized highrise building are absolutely beautiful. It makes the feeling of a 'richer' resort area.
- Jun 11, 2010 5:43 PM** Council keeps talking of extending Jensen avenue. Why not fix what we have first ie. painting adequate lines to define lanes at the main intersection. Put a pedestrian controlled crossing light at the bend where Jensen meets McMillan? Too many kids have been hit or nearly hit at that crosswalk!
- Jun 11, 2010 7:00 PM** Firehall needs more money and support, as well as our doctors and ambulances.
- Jun 11, 2010 8:39 PM** I work in the construction industry and I'm disappointed to see the crap the City is allowing to be built here, and turning good developers away by choking their projects with red tape. It's no wonder the residents are so anti-development, when you give them projects like Maple Glen. They've never seen a good development. I'm not the kind of person who just complains, because then I'm part of the problem. I would like to participate in City meetings and/or a design panel.

- Jun 11, 2010 10:02 PM** Overall, we enjoy living in Parksville. Improvements have been good to make it appealing: curbs, gardens, flowers and building upgrades.
Although the Beach Club is attractive we are really unhappy about the 9 stories. It does not suit our City.
One improvement I would like immediately is crosswalks on Chestnut Street. There are none. We need them at Despard and Hirst. I love and use the walking paths twice a day with my son. Thank you for the 40 mph signs.
- Jun 14, 2010 5:42 PM** Listen to ratepayers.
- Jun 14, 2010 6:43 PM** Raise speed limit on 19A to 60 kph except downtown core (it is 80 kph in Nanaimo). Remove a few of the 4 way stops on less busy streets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Need more bike lanes and wider bike lanes. Make speed limits in residential areas consistent throughout city. No higher than 2 storey building beside Beach Club.
- Jun 16, 2010 6:45 PM** Work with developers to encourage multi-purpose developments.
I support development that will increase jobs/economy, getting people out walking, supporting local business and provides new housing for all income levels and recreation and commercial opportunities.
- Jun 16, 2010 8:27 PM** Becoming a tourist town is ridiculous economically. Who wants to live in a tourist town?

Less than 300 square feet for over \$600 is not what I consider affordable housing.

McMillan, Jensen and McVickers into highway? Lunacy. There should be a referendum on all large developments. This should occur during elections.

Sustainability does not mean a few years. We need local food production.

Our mayor and council should have to live in Parksville.
- Jun 17, 2010 6:23 PM** We need a new mayor. Any current council members in full support of the mayor should be removed as well.
- Jun 18, 2010 6:41 PM** No more Beach Clubs or waste of taxpayer money, ie. City Hall, beach walkways, roads.
- Jun 18, 2010 9:51 PM** The Aquastar program will turn this beautiful tourist town into a brown desert on one will want to visit.
- Jun 21, 2010 3:03 PM** Reduce water restrictions for those with families greater than 4. Preserve our natural beauty. Support those who grow their own food. Tourism supports our economy. Leave the beauty alone and they will come.
- Jun 21, 2010 5:34 PM** I feel that the City is being sneaky in what is happening to the Ermineskin First Nations land at the end of Despard/Chestnut and along Hirst/Renz Rd. If it is in the ALR, why has the City created an access road within the land?

**Parksville Resident Survey 2010
QUESTION #44**

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 45 to 54	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	107
<i>skipped question</i>	107
	128

Response Date	Final Comments - Ages 45 to 54
May 12, 2010 7:23 PM	Council seems dysfunctional and cannot reach a consensus on major issues.
May 16, 2010 5:42 AM	<p>There needs to be a vision for the City what should and can it look like. Once this is established then both council and senior staff needs to work towards that vision. Right now there is not a vision or consensus on what the City "aspires" to be. Hopefully an OCP Review can flesh this out and through community involvement in this process there will be "buy-in" for the vision.</p> <p>I am a new resident to Parksville having only lived here for one year so it is a little difficult to comment on some of the questions. This is a great little city but I have found it difficult to learn my way around because it is too spread out and disjointed to explore on foot and you just shoot by things when you drive down the Island Hwy. Some of the restrictions on turning direction on the roads in the downtown area make it difficult to reach your destination. It is easier to just drive to Nanaimo to shop but it is very inconvenient. I am suprised at the lack of chain stores in the area when you have so many car dealerships and car parts stores. There seems to be a strange balance. I can buy anything I want for my car but not for me. Small stores are nice for the tourists but not very practical for moms with children. There should be a Walmart, Canadian Tire, Rona and other stores in a small city this size.</p>
May 16, 2010 5:55 PM	<p>This survey is a very good idea to get community input. However, it should not be in place of an official community plan. I think the mayor and a few counselors are finding out that they cannot ram their visions down the throats of the citizens. Bullying works well in big business but not in a small town.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. I shall continue to contribute to the well being of Parksville through my work and volunteer work. I'd love to have a chat with Ed and Al at the new community gardens one day:~)</p>
May 17, 2010 6:52 AM	We were wondering what this survey is costing tax payers. The cost should be published on the city website.

May 17, 2010 7:03 PM Parksville really functions in many ways like a suburb--bedroom community of Nanaimo. It has to decide to stay a parochial, backward, small town or go forward with growth that will attract more than just retirement. One of the reasons we will be leaving Parksville is that it is not in the end a city with enough for teens and older families. The high, high percentage of seniors makes it a safe but oh so dull place. It doesn't have to stay that way, though. Thanks for listening.

May 17, 2010 10:44 PM I think we need to get wihit it and grow like Courtenay/Comix is. So many people are paid nothing in nothing positions. We need to create a tax base soon! Let's bring in business and work! So people can afford to live here!

May 18, 2010 5:08 PM I have an issue that people can defer their house taxes and still benefit from what the City provides with the money they collect.

May 18, 2010 5:16 PM I really like the idea of this survey. I hope it provides the City with valuable information.

May 18, 2010 5:33 PM We need a proper art gallery to meet the needs of local artists. Need sidewalks through the entire city!! In spite of our both being self-employed this is mainly a retirement community. Our street sees walkers year round. Butler and Craig both need sidewalks. Put them in. Adjust expenditures in such a way as to be able to put less financial burden on home owners. Take responsibility for damages caused by water/sewer line breaks, not leaving it to business owners.

May 18, 2010 5:52 PM Many friends of mine in Parksville have not received Resident Surveys (just as I did not) while others outside the city did, so how can you say the survey has any validity when the cover is poor?

May 18, 2010 10:01 PM I think Parksville is a fabulous City to live in. I love the people of this community. There are times I wonder if we have a long range plan as to what identity our City is wishing to have. We need affordable housing for families especially those in the tourist industry. Wages do not equate to the cost of housing in our community. The Beach Club may be good for the economy but does the structure fit with the identity of the City? I am not sure towers fit our profile nor landscape. As well many of our roads need repair especially with the constant development and tearing up of roads to support these developments.

May 19, 2010 9:48 PM It annoys me to see constant examples of wasted tax dollars on fancy new equipment under used and projects using double amount of labour you would expect. It appears Parksville council still supports free spending on services at any cost. Stop waste. Manage the tax dollars as if it were your own, not as an unlimited supply.

May 19, 2010 10:08 PM If we keep building along the water it won't look natural and that's what everyone loves. But having elders in the town they will always want restaraunts and little things that are never needed. What we need is natural things, flowers, trees. Crowding this small town won't make it better at all. I love this town - the smallness is cozy and always homey.

May 19, 2010 10:52 PM Change highway 19A to 'Oceanside Boulevard'. Move the through traffic to highway 19 and have one lane each way or two lanes one way through town. Reconnect the town to the waterfront, park, etc.

May 20, 2010 7:00 PM My only frustration in this area is that we are not all seniors and I feel that we are viewed totally as this seniors community. Youth are the future of this community. Young people start businesses, bring new money, spend more money and I feel we are not treated or considered the same as the senior community. If you want young people to grow up and stay in our city, we need to ensure there are reasons for them to want to stay and raise their families.

May 20, 2010 11:17 PM The one thing I find very odd about Parksville is that there is no hospital here. With the amount of rural and elderly residents here it seems ridiculous that emergency services are in Nanaimo. Even a small "emergency only" facility would bridge the gap in health care services around here. A person could bleed to death, or die of a heart attack by the time they get to Nanaimo.

I moved into Parksville from Whiskey Creek because there is absolutely no way to get to work if you don't have a car because there is NO public transportation to a community that is very much a bedroom community to Parksville. The buses go to Nanaimo but not to any of the areas that feed Parksville (Coombs, Errington, Whiskey Creek). If you want residents to shop local and stay local then you have to make it easier for them to get into Parksville.

Do something about Alberni Hwy from Jensen to the waterfront. Crazy jaywalking pedestrians and trucks bearing down on you when you are trying to parallel park...it's a nightmare!

May 21, 2010 4:39 AM Would be good if City Council members would make the decisions for the city instead of having city staff to run and make decisions for the city (Gail Jackson, Fred Manson). I believe our current mayor and council are doing a great job! problem lies with city staff.

May 21, 2010 8:42 PM We have a large family and get penalized by having to pay for extra garbage pick up.

May 22, 2010 4:43 PM Thank you for initiating this survey. It enables me to have my input, despite a busy life. The survey was easy to answer and the questions were well thought out. Good on you!

Kristin Nickells

May 23, 2010 2:15 PM I love the small town community of Parksville. I have many fond memories of growing up here in the 60's and 70's and that is one of the reasons that I moved back here. After living out east, I have seen what happens with rapid "progress". It is important to keep our green spaces and that beach town personality that Parksville has always been famous for. I acknowledge that Parksville is growing but we must protect and beautify the assets that we have. We do not need box stores or high rise developments but need to keep the west coast ambience that attracts visitors from all over the world!

May 23, 2010 4:14 PM We live in such a beautiful area with beaches, mountains, forests, decent climate; yet we force our residents to travel to Nanaimo far too frequently. We discourage businesses from coming here, we chase away our youth (call it our future) and for those who do stay we treat them poorly with age discrimination. We don't encourage people to ride bikes to work because the roads are too dangerous. We send people away who'd like to watch a movie in a theatre and we allow current business to treat us poorly. Have you ever had a flat tire on a Sunday in Parksville? Hope not because if you had then you'd know that you CANNOT get it fixed on that day. Nope you can't. You know, if someone within the city offices would only have the courage to stand up against the naysayers who write to the papers seemingly to complain about everything and everyone, then perhaps we could see something like a CTC built here. With that we could fix our tire 7 days per week, we could buy that toaster, a new set of dishes, a fishing rod, shoulder pads for our son. We could see our sons and daughters work there and develop. We could meet new neighbours, with kids, and heck we might even have to stop while those kids moved their hockey nets away....but no, right now we get to see the neighbours walk their dogs (with their parkas on) and we get to see perfect lawns, water wasted, and we get to read nasty complaints by this same group who say

May 25, 2010 7:01 PM Share the accumulated data from this survey with the general population.

May 25, 2010 9:19 PM The City watering wastes so much water. Can a rain sensor not be used? They also water in the late afternoon in areas.

May 25, 2010 9:49 PM I would love to live in a recreational property, but the bylaw reads 180 days max. These smaller condos are perfect for a working couple, but we can't buy one to live in year round. So I would like to see more properties come up in these areas with the zoning changed so we work and live in this beautiful town.

I also would like to see bylaw people out in areas to follow up with residents that don't keep up their yard, keeping broken down vehicles and trash all over the place.

Love that Parksville is a dog friendly town, and appreciate when there are doggie bags and garbage cans at all the parks.

Parks do a great job.

May 25, 2010 10:15 PM I find it disappointing (but not at all unexpected) that nowhere in this survey does it address cost cutting, streamlining, or the need to increase productivity within the City budget. This typifies a 'tax and spend' attitude of local government that has very little regard for tax payers' money. While households cut back and the cost of living increases, the individual is required to do more with less. I suggest that local government reflect the same realities of its taxpayers instead of increasing taxation and spending. Efficient use of taxpayers dollars, not wasting money on OCP reviews, simplifying planning and procedures, using technology and promoting business would go a long way to restore confidence in the people that their tax dollars are being allocated appropriately. But I have no confidence that this is what will be done. It's so much easier to spend other people's money and increase taxes than be economically prudent yourself. I also believe that what I have said will fall on deaf ears and thus the reason I rarely participate in public matters.

May 25, 2010 11:27 PM Need to be certain that actual residents are the only persons who are able to submit to this survey process; what method are you using to validate the data if you cannot track where the survey information came from and who is making the suggestions and comments. IT concerns me that like the local paper you value the opinions of persons outside this tax base and we seem to cater to residents opinions and "desires" that are definitely not residents or taxpayers of the city of Parksville. Heck the Mayor and half the staff are not even residents.. why cannot the residents be the ones to weigh in ; why are we constantly the source for Coombs/ Nanoose or French creek residents- they should form their own communities or is it because they do not want to pay the higher taxes for services when they can simply use Parksville taxpayers paid services and then be armchair critics through their letters and actions at Council and in the local papers. I feel bullied by the local paper editorial staff; who also likely is not a resident!!

May 26, 2010 2:14 AM Stop ring road and any waterfront development. Buy more park land and keep the Mayor and council agendas in the open for the residents of Parksville to view.

May 26, 2010 6:30 PM I would hope that Hwy 19A does not become a two lane highway. There is enough congestion in the summer now. Making it two lanes would make the congestion even worse.

May 26, 2010 8:24 PM We are a working middle aged couple. No kids at home. We find ourselves going to Nanaimo to shop due to lots of variety. To theatres or pubs. Coffee or walks along the seawall, etc.
We enjoy all seaside towns but it is time Parksville forgot about downtown revitalization (nothing has changed except a few benches and gardens) and turned some attention to what could be a great seaside town. Get a vision for the seaside which includes private development which in turn could provide Parksville with what we are lacking. We like the Beach Club better than the derelict Island Hall. It is nice to sit and have a cocktail on the patio overlooking the beach on a hot summer day.
Tired of (anti) attitudes about change. It is coming whether we like it or not.
Lets see some action.

May 26, 2010 9:29 PM I am very concerned about Parksville having the water to sustain new growth. I also don't want more stores here. I think we should look at how beautiful Qualicum Beach is, how accessible the waterfront is to everyone, and try to look more like them.

May 27, 2010 3:50 AM I hope we will get some feedback on comments that we have taken the time to submit during this survey in a timely manor and that major decisions regarding beach front development will be halted until the survey results have been distributed to the public.

I would like to see these comments available online so we can all see what people who have completed the survey think are the major issues facing Parksville in the future.

May 27, 2010 5:48 AM I have read about cutting down the local highway. We used to have two lanes, there is a reason it is now four. The narrowing of the Alberni Highway is not a nice piece of road to drive or get out of your vehicle now, and I avoid it all the time. Doing the same or similar I see as only forcing people to do the same and will then go and shop elsewhere, and we know where that is. I thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this process, and finally what a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Regards.

May 27, 2010 6:43 PM Parksville needs better shopping. The city is changing so the shopping needs to change to keep locals shopping in Parksville. Why give Nanaimo all of Parksville's business? Parksville needs to have more recreation centres like a swimming pool, squash courts and better young people's programs. One other thing--we need a better mayor on the board. We need someone who knows how to think city, not donuts.

Better shopping. Better rec programs. New mayor. Better parking. Better downtown core. But most of all, BETTER SHOPPING. Keep locals local. Weed out the old stores; bring in the new.

May 27, 2010 8:17 PM Parksville is a beautiful place to live, and the mayor and council need to start to listen to the residents and not just try to please visitors. They are only here about 5 months a year. We are here all the time. You also need to stop with the personal agendas. We do not want a 2 lane highway through town or one way streets. What a nightmare that would create. Your so-called 'improvements' to the Alberni Hwy have already caused enough of a problem for us. Larger vehicle traffic can no longer navigate it (both commercial trucks and RVs), so they now take to the residential streets which are less congested with parked cars and bulging sidewalks. What a mess. And any parking on Hwy 19A would be another nightmare for both residents and emergency vehicles. I for one would no longer go downtown if that happened. As for having people live downtown, I have never heard anyone say it was something they wanted. Some quality shops and services would be great, and nicer looking buildings maybe, but other than that, downtown is fine. What I would love to see is Wembley mall developed better with some good anchor stores (Canadian Tire, London Drugs, etc.). Big draw for residents and it'll keep them shopping local.

May 27, 2010 9:17 PM Do you have the Shaw Cable 4 video crews back in Parksville Chambers or Qualicum Chambers, to let general public know what is actually going on in their community? Especially the seniors that are shut-ins that can't get to the public meetings to give their own experiences and opinions of what it's like when they can actually get out and enjoy the community without being bullied, harrassed, intimidated and so forth. And it is not just the seniors that are having problems in this supposedly nice community. Just scratch the surface, all kinds of disturbing things are happening in this area. 'Don't see, don't tell' mentality when issues of certain individuals are taken and complaints put into the local detachment, amazingly nothing is done about it. Other individuals complain about whatever problems they have and amazingly something is done about their situation of distress. Now how does that work when both individuals pay taxes, etc?

May 27, 2010 10:58 PM We need more off-leash parks and the people building and maintaining them should consult vets or dog owners about how they should be designed. You put pine trees in a dog park, dogs eat pine cones and can be injured by them. I have to pick up the cones before my dog can enter. Also, a picnic table is stupid. A bench was much better. You are at the park to exercise your dog, not have a picnic. Dogs want to eat what is on the table, or get on the table.

You should enforce your bylaws, such as backyard fires. I have had three neighbours in the Temple/Rushton area that burn all summer long. They have outdoor seating and fires.

May 28, 2010 4:40 PM Keep spending in check.

May 28, 2010 8:37 PM The City needs someone with some vision and ability to develop the downtown area so people can safely walk around and get to the waterfront.

Business people need to hear 'How can I help you?', not 'Here is the list of things you are doing wrong. Do not come back until you have solved them.' A positive attitude makes everyone feel better.

May 28, 2010 9:18 PM I think that the City initiated improvements in the core area are welcoming, eg benches, events, etc. People look forward to walking, biking downtown now. Continuing to encourage social groups to connect through social areas, transportation and healthy living will strengthen Parksville. In turn, this will increase loyalty to support local businesses. I bought my car here. Why? I like Parksville and want to see it continue to thrive. In turn, I expect and hope the business community to respond to the needs of the citizens.

May 28, 2010 9:21 PM Commercialization of waterfront with affordable apartments above in retail locations. Low level stores with apartments above in between The Beach Club Resort and the Community Park.

May 28, 2010 9:36 PM There is a frustration in the community that started well before the current administration that nothing gets done. I take my hat off to the current mayor who is trying to get the ball rolling (right or wrong/ agree or disagree with the direction) but at least there is something happening. From my limited time in Parksville, my opinion is that some council members have been there too long or for the wrong reasons and this is the biggest problem.

I understand that this is a retirement community, however it will never grow or prosper if those who we have empowered to run our city are only looking out for their own future votes and not the well being of an area where we would like see more than just retirement homes.

May 31, 2010 4:47 PM We need a bigger cemetery, and maybe road instructional classes for some of our older citizens to refresh their driving skills.

May 31, 2010 6:12 PM Great questions. first time I've ever don one of these in any city I've ever lived in. Well done.

Note from question 24: Some of the buildings along Island Hwy are so ugly--the block south of Dairy Queen--yuk.

May 31, 2010 8:49 PM Surveys like these are great!

The key to a successful community is to have a balance between left and right, short and long term thinking, and development and nature. You can't have one without the other.

May 31, 2010 9:54 PM I feel the residents of Parksville were lied to about the development known as the Beach Club, and I have little to no confidence in our current City council to not develop the beachfront more. I would like to see the beachfront kept as it is. No further resorts are needed. I would like a place for my kids to continue to play at the beach.

I believe that green space is necessary and would recommend that the community garden be reinstated.

May 31, 2010 9:54 PM The "naysayers" are always the loudest. It's always easier to oppose than propose. Council is the decision maker. Listen, analyze and then decide.

- Jun 1, 2010 5:16 AM** I think Parksville has a lot potential! I feel that this council is working towards improving communication with the public and are genuinely interested in making long term plans that we can all be apart of and proud of.
- It would be really nice to see the trail system from the suspension bridge park area connect to a trail system to Rath Trevor beach and to Parksville down town and beach front area. The suspension bridge park really needs public washrooms and more garbage cans and some park patrol to supervise the area as it becomes more popular with residents and tourists, it is a beautiful area that needs to be looked after more.
- Jun 1, 2010 5:08 PM** Thank you for the new signage around town. Also, the flowers in summer are fabulous!
- Jun 1, 2010 6:27 PM** Bigger is not necessarily better. Please keep the parks and green spaces in Parksville. Development should not exceed the City's natural resources. The water rate being so high prevents those with fruit trees and gardens from properly caring for their trees and plants. Rather than becoming self sufficient most people we have talked to said it will be cheaper to buy produce than to grow your own at the coming water rates. Most people have come here for the smaller city atmosphere, lets not loose that.
- Jun 1, 2010 6:54 PM** I think Parksville just needs to look to its neighbour, Qualicum, and take some of their ideas. Everyone loves to spend a day in their lovely town. Stop playing around with the beach. Fix Alberni Alley.
- Jun 1, 2010 10:41 PM** There are no activities for the adults, either. The children have nothing to do but be disruptive/a nuisance.
- Jun 2, 2010 4:50 PM** My taxpayer dollars should be spent on preserving what we have - not building bigger and better (eg. the Beach Club and now the Parksville Beach motel development). Our green space within city limits/beach and river accesses should be preserved and enhanced - money should not be spent on futuristic guesses as to traffic flows problems etc. such as the Jensen Avenue extension debacle.
- Jun 2, 2010 5:31 PM** There are too many in-ground sprinklers being on and it's raining at the same time. Why?
- Jun 2, 2010 6:46 PM** I believe the mayor has wanted to move this city forward, but a small, vocal minority are stuck in the past. This city can't survive unless things change. Help families have jobs and accommodation in the town (city) or they'll move and stay in Nanaimo.
- Jun 2, 2010 8:23 PM** No more big developments on the beach. Beach Club did a nice job with their exterior, but it's way too big for that spot. Should not have been allowed to build so high. We were shocked that was allowed. It's really a shame it ruined our beach view for the residents of Parksville. Beach Club belongs on Resort Way, not where it was built. Please, no condos on the beach, either. Maybe the City should purchase the property and maintain the beauty of our world famous beach.
- Jun 2, 2010 8:39 PM** I believe we all need to find ways to manage our resources better, including municipal government. We must find a way to reduce taxation and still provide necessary programs. Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback.

- Jun 2, 2010 9:56 PM** You have to stop spending dollars period. Most of us cannot afford the continued tax increases - especially for a City this small.
Take a lesson from Qualicum Beach on looks and how they develop their space.
Stop spending on stupid things - like the Port Alberni Highway fiasco. It's a highway and people can barely drive on it anymore. Sure it looks nice but what a waste of dollars. Not necessary at all. Very stupid. Like a lot of other ideas I've heard of.
You have to stop the constant big developments - we have very strained natural resoruces and how can they keep up with more and more development. Where are you going to get more water? Errington? They need their own water.
- Parksville could have been so nice - but over the years I've seen such mismanagement and stupidity from Council that I just give up. The last straw was that monstrosity on the beachfront. Doesn't suite the area at all. Who got paid off for that one?
I think you're all a waste of my tax money. We should just let Qualicum Beach run our town too. They seem to have a brain or two - for government anyway.
- Jun 3, 2010 5:25 PM** We like this, but follow-through is key. Listen to the results and implement.
- Jun 3, 2010 9:44 PM** The survey is a great tool for making change. This was a good survey. Please make the building department more approachable and cooperative. This is not a win/lose situation Parksville can afford. Make development a win/win situation for the community.
- Jun 3, 2010 10:16 PM** I don't think there should be any more one way streets in town. Highway 19A should not be changed, but I would like to see the Jensen extension done. I also disagree with another road out of the park. The entrance into Parksville has to be more attractive from the south. The Parksville beach resort on the waterfront has to be developed. It is a real eyesore, but no more highrises. The City should not be pushed around by small groups of people who want everything their way; eg the community garden people. I don't get a break on my property taxes for my garden. If they want it, let them pay for it.
- Parksville is a great place, and you cannot stop people from moving here. All these people that don't want any more development seem to forget that where their house sits was once undeveloped. But they are here and have what they want, so screw the rest, is what they think. Ed and Al seem to be the only ones on council with any vision. The rest just go with the flavour of the day so they can get votes. We are very happy living here in Parksville. It's the best move we ever made. Don't change things very fast, and do it when the money is there and
- Jun 3, 2010 10:25 PM** Get rid of mayor. We don't trust him with our tax money. Support and provide land for the gardening community and stop discouraging such a positive program.
- Jun 4, 2010 3:12 PM** We love Parksville!

Jun 4, 2010 4:24 PM I think we really need to have a large recreation centre by the skating rink at Wembley mall. Indoor swimming pool, exercise room, recreation room for kids/teenagers. This type of facility would promote healthy lifestyles and proved a place for our youth who can't afford to be in hockey, or that do not enjoy soccer/baseball.

Jun 4, 2010 5:24 PM We have only lived in Parksville a short time, but previously lived in the RDN and are lifetime Island residents. We love it here. Only complaint: land taxes way too high.

Jun 4, 2010 5:49 PM Parksville is quickly losing its small town atmosphere. Horrible mistakes like the Beach Club Resort must not happen again. What an ugly site to see. It blocks ocean views. Not enough public beach access.

Jun 4, 2010 5:59 PM

- Do not build on our beaches
- Do not think that a boardwalk is adequate
- Do not cater to the rich or welfare
- take care of the working people

I could not believe you allowed construction on our beautiful beach. I never thought that would happen. What poor planning.

Jun 4, 2010 7:01 PM Parksville needs to maintain its waterfront and parks for everyone. Downtown revitalization goes with support for local businesses not box stores.

Farmers markets and the street market on Tuesdays are great.

Jun 4, 2010 8:55 PM Perhaps find a way to reverse the tax relief given to the Beach Club after you thought you'd hit the cash cow. Why no effort to collect original tax amounts estimated before it was built? You need to start making better use of the tax money you already get. Everyone else is downsizing or decreasing hours. Perhaps City Hall and council should too.

Please listen to the people. Previous mayors have made major changes without public's nod and they remain an eyesore and difficult to navigate (Hwy 4). You promised to listen. Now be honest, communicate your ideas, listen and go forward under advisement. No one way highway. Stop thinking only about money and the Chamber. These businesses need to realize they may be shooting themselves in the foot. I have stopped shopping at those which support the Beach Club. Yes, Close to You also is no my list of no goes.

ps--You should be ashamed about the community garden.

Jun 4, 2010 10:16 PM As long as growth is ahead we will need a new fire hall. Safety is more important than flowers or shrubs around the City and more housing affordable in the community. Too many senior housing being built. The area has a lot of youth that have nothing offered for them. They are the future and all I see is vandalizme because there is nothing for them at minimal cost. Also there is a lot of drug problems that are not addressed with youth. All in all stop senior housing and start thinking of the future. No more catering to seniors.

Jun 4, 2010 10:56 PM Parksville is a nice place to live. The taxes here are far too high. The water bills are ridiculously high. I fear the taxes will scare away the younger working people and single income families will not be able to afford to live here.

Jun 4, 2010 11:02 PM We need to work at keeping Parksville the small, beautiful town we moved to. This is a beautiful place to live and raise a family. Don't make unnecessary changes. Use our money to work on the environmental issues.

Jun 7, 2010 4:16 PM I know this is still considered a retirement community but if you keep doing what the less-progressive elderly people want, there will be no growth. The population will be stagnant or drop. The growth has already dropped from 2001-2006 as the census showed. Nothing is being done to make this area appealing for young families. To get a job I had to go to Nanaimo. For my kids to learn to swim, I have to go to Qualicum. To get a selection of family household products at a good price I have to go to Nanaimo as that's where Walmart and a mall are.

Jun 7, 2010 4:21 PM Much rather live in Qualicum Beach

Jun 7, 2010 5:59 PM How about some xmas lights like Ladysmith. People would visit and spend some money over the winter in town, or build more shops like the Beach Club (that's so pretty). I miss seeing people just walking along the streets, popping in and out of wee shops.

You know if you did no changes at all I would still love living here. We are so lucky to live anywhere on this island.

Jun 8, 2010 4:51 PM Tourism helps the economy, but it's only for 2 to 3 months. What about the rest of the year? Families cannot live on \$10 an hour jobs.

Do not want the connector. I like the community garden and would encourage more.

I'm being pushed further and further out, trying to find areas to walk my dogs. Because of two Brants I can't take my dogs to the beach anymore. And what happened to the sand dollars? More and more development and uptight people.

We moved here thinking it was a good place to raise a family, but the city's focus seems to only be tourism and seniors. Yes, we must all get old, but Parksville should be different from Qualicum and be for families. Where do the locals go? The beaches seem to be geared for tourists.

Jun 8, 2010 6:03 PM There are two mindsets here: unrestricted growth, and keeping it the way it is. I fall into 'keeping the way it is' camp. Once it's paved, it's gone forever. The attraction to this area is nature. Concrete can be found anywhere in the world. This city should take a cue from Etobicoke, Ont.--100% self-sustaining. Why build new homes when water shortages dictate otherwise?

Transparent municipal government--do what you say when being elected. I can't help but feel that palms are being greased to pass commercial interests.

Driver's re-education for the geriatric. This is the most dangerous place in Canada to drive.

More B & Bs; less 9 storey hotels. The beach is public property. Keep your hands off. It is not necessary for us to grow to survive. We have natural beauty that will always attract tourists.

We need a comedy club somewhere. We need evening entertainment, not just another bar.

Jun 8, 2010 6:51 PM Thanks for asking us. I've lived here 31 years and I think this was the first time I've been asked for my opinion.

Jun 8, 2010 8:58 PM We need a community plan similar to Qualicum--a town you want to walk through, not just drive by.

Development needs to pay for itself. Let's take pride in Parksville before we lose what we like about it.

Jun 8, 2010 10:36 PM When the City council has a decision to make on a topic they are not comfortable with, it will always go to a long drawn out study, and perhaps we will hear about it again in a few months. People wanting to invest in the city will go elsewhere. People have to be shown that, if we as a city constantly make it difficult to 'set up' in Parksville, without these investments no new money is coming into the city to cover our tax base. Unfortunately tax rates will have to go up, which most of our retired community won't be able to afford.

Jun 9, 2010 5:55 PM All in all, a beautiful place to live.

Jun 9, 2010 6:02 PM Building across from the Rod and Gun on the Alberni Highway has to go - its too much of an eyesore.

Jun 9, 2010 6:42 PM Parksville must take bold steps to change now. We have an opportunity to create something very special. No more traffic or commercial development downtown. The setting and natural area are the greatest aspect. They need our protection and our vision to limit the pressures by poor planning and vision. Let us think about the future - 25 years from now. If we do not change current patterns this will be a disgrace.

Let us wake up and see beyond our own self interests.

Jun 10, 2010 4:31 PM Open houses, workshops, town hall meetings and public hearings are often 'stacked' with a group of people (residents or not) that are trying to sway a certain point. I prefer the method of mail--an individual's viewpoint--or email. If many people feel the same way, they could sign a joint letter. Many, it seemed, were against the Beach Club development. But in fact, it cleaned up the beachfront and provided jobs.

I have two comments about water conservation: It's a great incentive for low-flush toilets, but we could take water conservation two steps further. 1. Encourage residents to purchase rain barrels. This could be in the form of a rebate from the City. 2. Encourage residents to not install water sprinkler systems, have less or no grass, and plant indigenous plants and shrubs.

Jun 10, 2010 9:26 PM We didn't realize when we moved here that quality medical care and medical services are not available. There is a lack of specialists and diagnostics (even in Nanaimo). Travelling to Victoria or Vancouver for almost everything (testing, diagnosis, evaluation etc.) is a travesty.

ie. no gastroenterologist in Oceanside or Nanaimo

no neurologist

no allergist

We are not seniors. Medical care here is almost Third World.

Otherwise we love Parksville - great town with lots of parks, ocean, mountains - beautiful.

Jun 11, 2010 4:30 PM Stop the insanity. Stop issuing permits for large subdivisions and resorts when we don't have the infrastructures to support them (or the water to provide them). Manage what we have and stop scheming about grandiose plans. people come here for the beach - "kiss" (keep it simple stupid).

I would like to see more money spent on disaster management plans.

Jun 11, 2010 4:55 PM We have a beautiful place to live, let's not ruin it by allowing further development on our beachfront, which obscures our wonderful views. The Beach Club is enough (to much), we don't want condos on our beach. People who come to visit, and those of us that live here like to walk down the street and view the ocean as we stroll along. It's one of the main things that make Parksville such a special place. Let's not block our paradise or wall it away for only a few select to see.

Jun 11, 2010 5:56 PM With all the traffic in the summer the Hwy 19A should be 4 lanes with left turn lanes and bike lanes and more regular buses. We have a lot of youth in this community and youth tourists - they need places to go beside hanging at the park.

Jun 11, 2010 6:59 PM Please don't allow anymore building on the waterfront that exceeds a couple of stories.

Jun 11, 2010 8:15 PM Why have you sent an old fashioned survey out with all the costs associated with this? Waste of taxpayers' money.

Jun 11, 2010 9:00 PM The bumpouts on the Alberni Hwy are silly. So many tourists are already challenged by driving, and having those bumps in the sidewalk are a constant complaint that I hear, especially the one by CIBC.

Jun 11, 2010 9:18 PM I am shocked at how many garden crew are used to tend parks and green space--6 to 8 people in one section regularly.

Jun 11, 2010 9:31 PM We like Parksville but the taxes are a killer, subdividing costs and building permits are too expensive. French Creek should be part of the City as well as San Paniel. Why do they pay elss taxes and use all the same services?

Jun 11, 2010 10:54 PM I do wonder how much this costs and hope its worth it.

I am baffled by Jensen Avenue

The Aquastar Program cost also concerns me. The information in the brochures sent with utilities bill is already out there. Overkill, overspending. Lots of people don't care about water use - they want green lawns. It's like taking your own bags to the store; everyone has them but they don't use them.

What you did to the Community Garden was appalling.

Jun 11, 2010 10:56 PM I love the look of the Beach Club--very appealing. Disappointed that the view corridors weren't as promised, though. The walkway is great. Would like to see it extended. I realize that development on the waterfront is inevitable, but I'm hoping that future developments will be restricted to perhaps three storeys.

I'm hoping that 4 way stops will be put in on Hirst Ave at McMillan, and Hirst at the Alberni Hwy, as these are very dangerous, intimidating intersections for pedestrians.

Jun 14, 2010 3:06 PM The planet is running out of cheap, available oil. Within a few years, prices will rise and shortages will occur. Any plans we have for our town will be disrupted. There will be interuptions of food and goods delivery. We cannot grow our community in size and should not. We must realize that we cannot over extend our infrastructure. We must repair and upgrade what we have, not build anything more. We need an OCP review.

Jun 14, 2010 9:21 PM We need palm trees. There is more to this idea than meets the eye. I'd like to see us create community branding and a tagline that results in an information package with input from other community groups (ie, Chambers). Such a package would be a snapshot of our community for anyone interested in moving here and investing here. I see our year round warm climate and outdoor living as a key part of that, and to celebrate being the Canadian Riviera we should plant palm trees. Purchase vacant lot at Island Hwy and Craig, put in tourism kiosk and picnic area--community space. Encourages people to walk around downtown and supports tourism. Partnerships with other groups need to happen to show collaboration towards the community goals. We all want our community to grow in a positive way, and presenting a united front is good for business and residents. Together, we are stronger. Together, we make things happen.

Jun 15, 2010 4:00 PM I am pleased with the survey idea. I feel that more people's thoughts and opinions may be taken into account.

Jun 15, 2010 10:01 PM We moved to Oceanside seeking small town life and to return to family. Over the past 7 years I have seen more and more land/trees gobbled up by builders. There is something warming about small town lifestyle. It is slowly eroding in order to satisfy greed. People want a safe place to raise babies. Our current crime stats are way too high. If we continue to grow, we will lose our small town feel--safe haven for kids and elderly citizens. Stay small. It is truly okay.

Jun 16, 2010 3:47 PM Please consider allowing chickens to be raised in back yards.

Jun 16, 2010 8:45 PM Development must be done slowly, carefully and guided by the OCP. The mayor and council must act in the interest of residents, not primarily business. The city will be around much longer than any administration. Administration goals and vision are of little importance if not shared by the community.

Jun 16, 2010 8:51 PM A troubling community to live in. Bored youth, vandalism, theft, drug use. Stagnant. Poor wages with no benefits. Unscrupulous employers.

Jun 16, 2010 9:52 PM

1. Stop bowing to developers requests over citizens objections or concerns.
2. A developer puts in a project, sells it and takes his money - we the tax payers are stuck with the long term infrastructure cost like with McKinnon.
3. We need, as a community, to look at being an economically sustainable community - this concept is lacking at the City, be it an elected person or paid employee
4. We only get to plan the future once
5. We need senior staff who live in Parksville who care about its future vs. counting down the days to their pensions (this may not be true but appearances say a lot)
6. Save our beachfront for future generations use and enjoyment - save this by not allowing projects such as the one next to the beach club. Over time the residents will (and I know from living elsewhere) start to view the beach area as their own and will make people using the public beach feel most unwelcome.
7. We need to start Planning the community for the future - we are limited as planners and engineering staff should have started this in the 1980's and 1990's but it is not too late to truly look at the future and how the City will interact as a whole - not just this area or that area.
8. the "my mind is made up - don't confuse me with the facts" we have seen with previous Councils and 2 of the current Council members is unacceptable.
9. It is our tax dollars being spent and we need to have real, not "lip" service input

Jun 17, 2010 6:29 PM Don't make rash decisions which the community may not be able to change in the future. Take a balance approach to change and development.

Jun 17, 2010 10:33 PM I moved to Parksville 10 years ago after I was transferred from the interior to Nanaimo. Parksville was an easy choice as a place to live, especially with the quality of schools. For anyone wishing to be involved in their community, there is ample opportunity to volunteer. I have spent a number of years volunteering with minor hockey and have enjoyed every minute of it. All my dealings with City staff have been pleasant. Staff do an excellent job keeping the city neat and clean.

No more big towers on the waterfront, please. Restrict any developments to heights that will not obstruct views of the beautiful Georgia Strait. Events like Canada Day and Kidfest really show the spirit of the community.

The RCMP provide an excellent service keeping the city safe. The volunteer fire department provides top notch service. My experience dealing with them shows they are a well trained and dedicated group who do a lot for the community in addition to their regular duties. Overall, Parksville has been a great place to live.

Jun 18, 2010 8:36 PM Parksville needs an acute health care center. We know this is in the works and hopefully will be a reality soon.

Jun 18, 2010 10:01 PM Thank you. Let's bring Parksville out of the depressing '80s.

Jun 21, 2010 4:57 PM We live in the most beautiful community. We just need some balance. Not all one type of person--elderly/ill; or one type of business--hotels/RVs. Let's mix it up--height with commercial in the downtown. Let the Parksville beach resort and the Sea Edge develop like Wickaninnish in Tofino. Let the parks staff have more funding for parks and gardens. Purchase the Park Sands trailer camp. Zone Surfside as residential or evict those year round campers. Create a shuttle bus from the Visitor Center/Chamber to downtown along 19A; that will calm traffic. Nothing slows speeders except consequences by the police. I like the new RCMP visible presence.

Parksville Resident Survey 2010
QUESTION #44

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 55 to 64	Response Count
	217
<i>answered question</i>	217
<i>skipped question</i>	261

Number	Response Date	Final Comments - Ages 55 to 64
	May 8, 2010 1:42 AM	I would like to see Chris Burger run for mayor. He would have my vote
	May 8, 2010 5:17 AM	Parksville is a great place with great people, quite frankly I just find that our downtown core is ugly, outdated and any building that is done needs to have some character in design. Also I think it is time to have a zero tolerance program against vandalism and street punks.
	May 8, 2010 7:51 PM	I love this place, but over the years i have witnessed several changes along the beach front which have been a shame. The changes have definately put a dent in my opinion of the "people in charge" of the future of this wonderful city. I am truly hoping that the majority of people feel like I do, and that money and development shouldn't get in the way of doing the right thing. In my opinion nothing should be done which would further destroy the character of Parksville.
		Please share the results of this survey!
		Thanks for doing this.
	May 10, 2010 5:38 AM	This survey on line is too long, too illegible, and too open to abuse of process. Also, the spread of the postal delivered surveys was too great for many nonresidents of Parksville received the questionnaire survey in the RDN, such as those in Errington and San Pareil. Therefore, the conclusions may be of little use, if the Mayor and Council really wanted to know what the City of Parksville residents want. r
	May 12, 2010 3:19 AM	Great little city - it requires an attractive down town centre.
		THANKS

- May 13, 2010 5:06 AM** I love the way Qualicum Beach looks and protects its charm. Unfortunately it does very little for the Oceanside community because it has very few businesses and does not 'pull its weight' to meet all the needs of the area. Parksville caters to a much broader demographic and I applaud that and sympathize with the resulting development mess.
We need to marry the best of these two worlds and not allow them to continue on their separate paths. We need to have an amalgamated Oceanside municipality to achieve this end.
- May 15, 2010 7:50 PM** Keep our city green and don't be in a rush to develop everything.....
- May 17, 2010 3:58 PM** Hate the Beach Club.
- May 17, 2010 5:37 PM** Losing the nice wide street between the Chevron and the Royal Bank is a detriment to our downtown. It was so much safer feeling, parking your vehicle and opening the door before the streets were redone.
- May 17, 2010 8:11 PM** Someone needs to be appointed to occasionally inspect properties for trash--stuff stacked in piles in their front and back yards. Rats need to be discouraged. I am a senior and manage to keep my place clean and tidy. Make others do the same.
- May 17, 2010 8:49 PM** When I decided to move here 5 or 6 years ago, it was because of the small-town feeling and lifestyle found in Parksville. Since then the city has grown much more than I wanted it to and I am tired of seeing our politicians pushing for more and more growth. Let's concentrate on improving the city we now have rather than bringing in more people and businesses which just puts more pressure on our existing infrastructure. Thank you for having this survey.
- May 17, 2010 8:51 PM** Parksville is a great place to live but should be proud of our downtown not embarrassed by it.
- May 17, 2010 9:24 PM** Have the people who are against waterfront development create a co-op (sell shares) so they can buy all the waterfront real estate they want at fair market value, and we should be done with this time/energy sucking topic. Provide a decent space for the community gardener (it's ok to humour people once in a while to shut them up). Stop changing the rules!
- May 17, 2010 10:59 PM** I think it is important to remember that people that work 5 days a week do not find it easy to get out to council meetings (generally speaking), so delivering information in alternate formats is important.
- May 18, 2010 3:38 PM** Need more palm trees on 19A (e.g. community park entrance)
- May 18, 2010 3:51 PM** I am happy to read that the Jensen project is 'off the table'. It was the most ridiculous proposal I have heard of yet! If the residents had not screamed as loud as they did, you probably would have pushed it through. Too bad the 'cement abortion' on the Parksville beach wasn't stopped! What a disgrace to see our beautiful waterfront.

May 18, 2010 4:37 PM Over all I am very happy to be a Parkville resident and feel that the council and staff are doing a good job. I know it is a very hard one trying to please all the people. I think Parkville has a small town feel and I would hate to ever loss that. I think that people come here for that relaxed feeling and the great beaches and Parks.

Thank you to all for your hard work.

Donna

May 18, 2010 4:53 PM This is a wonderful small city in which to live. If traveling to Nanaimo for a major purchase is necessary, then so be it - it goes with the territory. However, that is no reason for the city to stagnate. I am tired of hearing from naysayers who want to live in the past by not allowing the city to progress. Not with big box stores or (please, no more) car dealerships, but with a social environment that allows easy walking and enjoyment of the natural beauty. Get the traffic off 19a, and thereby make the beach part of downtown, parking easier, and the ability to browse hopefully improved small stores.

May 18, 2010 5:39 PM We moved to Parkville after considering many other communities. What brought us here was the beautiful downtown waterfront, the community park, the size, greenspaces, low traffic and how clean it was. These are the things that we would not like to see changed. The beach club spoiled an otherwise pristine area of waterfront and that type of hirise development does not fit in Parkville.

May 18, 2010 5:44 PM Enjoy living in Parkville as retirees. We like the city as it is now and are against future development. Not happy with the plan to change the traffic patterns as we feel it is just fine as it is. Besides, that money could be better spent...perhaps more boardwalks and nature paths??

May 18, 2010 10:33 PM Parkville is a small town, and I hope it stays that way. Most of us live here because we like living in a small town, and while change is inevitable, it must be change that the majority can live with and like. Council should not underestimate the importance of green space within the town limits, not every space needs a building on it. At the same time, the inclusion of larger businesses, eg. Canadian Tire, should not be dismissed in selected areas of the town as their presence will encourage more locals to shop locally. I also think that having a small health care facility here is a waste of both money and effort on Council's part, and should not be encouraged.

May 18, 2010 10:36 PM I'm sick and tired of the construction through Parkville by the Beach Club. Who's the idiot that wants single lane traffic anyways? Where are the view corridors by the Beach Club? That was all BS. There's nothing wrong with development if it's done right. Quality Foods is a fine example. Why did they build a nice shopping centre then cheap out on the parking? The town's engineers and planners should have known the parking would suck. All in all, not a bad place to live. It was nicer before the Beach Club was built though--wrecks the best beach in the gulf.

May 19, 2010 3:55 PM We moved here from Surrey to avoid high crime and lack of City services, mega houses, etc. So far City services are very good, especially snow removal which has been fantastic!

1. My major beef is too many residents are parking big boats, motorhomes and old cars in their front or side driveways. Just like Surrey.

2. Why do City planners allow subdivisions with 95% of the buildings as single level homes and then intersperse them with two storey homes? This throws out neighbourhood harmony between neighbours.

This survey is fantastic. Let's do it every year!

May 19, 2010 4:20 PM Build the Jensen extension and create a read downtown core.

May 19, 2010 4:48 PM I am glad I moved here in 2004, nice place, people, water was good, air clean, fewer cars, places to park near ocean on McMillan. Hope that stays. Waterfront looks real nice now. Future improvements - a Nanaimo Aquatic Centre equivalent at Wembley Mall.

May 19, 2010 5:04 PM Maintain and enlarge the community garden, extend the wooden walkway

May 19, 2010 5:23 PM Keep moving us forward. It may not be easy but somebody has to do it.

May 19, 2010 7:26 PM My wife and I would certainly like to live the rest of our days here but unfortunately, the cost of living is already pretty high for us and now that the HST is coming, we just don't know how long we will be able to afford living here. The price of food along with other necessities is just becoming too expensive.

Our pensions just can't keep up with the cost of living here in Parksville.

I had Angina some 2 weeks ago and had to go all the way to Nanaimo to find out that I had suffered a mild heart attack. This could have been done here if we had a Hospital with a small emergency ward.

Now, I'm somewhat worried about having a full heart attack this far away from an emergency ward.

Oh yes, even the local farmers markets are expensive, they charge the same as the grocery stores.

It seems that all the merchants want to make as much profit as possible in the shortest amount of time.

May 19, 2010 8:14 PM Council never listens to these surveys anyway. In my opinion they don't really care what the residents think. They are going to do their own thing anyway and then wonder why they aren't re-elected for the idiotic choices they have made.

May 19, 2010 9:37 PM Corfield Glades--in particular bylaw enforcement 1. loose dogs in neighbourhood, on the beaches; 2. permanent RV parking in front of homes; 3. unkept and undeveloped yards.

The previous and incorrect decision to build the waterfront condos must never be repeated. What was the previous administration thinking? This has ruined the Parksville waterfront immeasurably. Please, please never even consider a repeat.

Parksville is home to many retirees. Why did they move here? Not to see the location 'developed' but retained as a resort area.

May 19, 2010 9:57 PM Thank you for the opportunity to remind me that we are all in this together and that my feelings and concerns are important, too. Like everyone, we sometimes need a bit of a push or a nudge to get moving and let our thoughts be known.

May 20, 2010 1:25 AM Don't have anything, as you never listen to as little people, and do it your way and take more money out of my pocket. Have a good day

May 20, 2010 4:30 PM The vacant lot next to the Chevron station is an entrance to the downtown area and yet nothing is done to make it attractive. Is it possible to make this an area for benches, fountain, statue, shrubs, etc.

May 20, 2010 5:17 PM Ensure that the community garden be guaranteed.

May 20, 2010 6:36 PM I have mentioned that I would like to see the development of the waterfront, in particular the Parksville Beach motel site. This is an old site and replacing the motel with full time dwelling places, tastefully landscaped would be an asset.

Extending the (lovely) board walk to the Bayside would be very nice. To extend it all the way to French Creek would be an asset to the residents and to tourists.

I hate to see all the car/second hand car dealerships along the highway. Necessary maybe but it does not improve the ambience of the highway.

Parksville has some of the most unattractive buildings (flat roof old buildings) so if they are ever replaced then adhere to a building plan and try to make the commercial buildings more attractive. The Lordco building on the highway could have had a better design and a different paint colour. I am not suggesting we try and look like Qualicum Beach but we have to recognise that the layout of the city more or less ensures that it can never be a compact attractive shopping place. Let's provide the shopping services that other communities have done.

Courtenay, for example has the bigger stores yet has a downtown full of individual stores and business.

The Parks Department has done an outstanding job landscaping the highway, but do enforce absentee landlords to maintain/improve their properties.

The waterfront and Rath Trevor park are lovely but the residents should be encouraged to shop here and the

May 20, 2010 8:09 PM In past times I have been very disappointed with the consequences of 'expert' opinion on civic issues. A poorly designed inquiry such as previous waterfront use analyses is tantamount to no inquiry at all, in that the recommendations have little credibility except to vested interest. Council should be prepared to support or refute any particular analysis based on scientific validity to the protocol used. In past times this has not been the case. In my opinion they have tended to hear what they have wished to hear, and discounted civic opposition to the point of misrepresentation and violating the trust bestowed upon them by the electorate. Parksville should have an OCP that is immutable without a public referendum on a proposed change. The referendum should coincide with civic elections. If the proposed change is a zoning change caused by private development, the cost of the referendum should be born by the developer--unless the referendum is successful, in which case the community would bear the cost. Civic development vis a vis population increasing plans should only occur when infrastructure can be shown to be sustainable and in the interests of the electorate. We should be able to plan

May 20, 2010 8:30 PM Love the city, but it's getting very congested downtown. Need roads and stop letting people park on both sides of the road on narrow streets.

May 21, 2010 4:04 AM I do not understand why Parksville requires so many engineering staff compared to Qualicum Beach. They seem to improve with less staff. Why?

May 21, 2010 4:15 AM I live in Parksville 25% of the time as I am semi-retired. It is a fantastic city, keep up the good work

May 21, 2010 6:58 PM Great place to live. More and better bylaw compliance. More and better parking enforcement, especially the downtown areas 19A to Jensen, McVickers to Moilliet.

May 21, 2010 8:31 PM Several questions ask for opinions, but don't ask for reasons and thus the reasons may be positive or negative.

May 21, 2010 8:50 PM Thanks for this input.

May 21, 2010 8:57 PM

At present my biggest concern is having received the letter stating I'm a water abuser. We already use stage two watering as a base and on our days only once instead of twice as permitted. We have put in a new front loader washing machine to save water. We catch all cold water while waiting for hot to come. I shower twice a week whether I need it not!! The wife showers daily. We have an energy efficient dish washer which runs ever other day.

We have a large lot, nearly have acre which is split between lawn, flower and food garden areas as well as paved driveway and parking. I don't know what criteria you used for your water average, but if I'm included with a Condo dweller then your study is completely without merit. Your new water billing is nothing more than a tax grab under the guise of water usage. Explain to me why our water already is nearly double Qualicums???? Given the shortage of water, why have the building codes not been changed to double line the hot supply with a circulating pump? This would save an enormous amount of water which is just going down the sewer while waiting for the hot to come. Seems to me this would make a whole lot more sence than taxing the hell out me to point where I stop watering, stop growing a garden, and let everything die.

John Allen
674 Woodburn St.
Parksville

May 21, 2010 10:07 PM

Parksville for the most part has become a retirement/tourist destination. The retirement group move here because they can afford it, and bring money with them. Most people that move here do not need jobs.

As for the tourist industry, these jobs are seasonal and minimum wage. You have no way of bridging this gap. If you fund low cost housing, that does not change wages.

Parksville should be viewed as a bedroom community. People get up every morning and commute to Nanaimo or somewhere else to go to work. You cannot have a small city that can sustain itself with an aging population. It's a very unusual problem most other communities do not have. Good Luck. Keep up the great job!

May 22, 2010 12:44 AM

re notable for car dealerships, malls, and tacky motels. Aren't there any design standards??? Many people walk as part of their wellness program but few streets have sidewalks! The view has been spoiled by that hideous Beach Club development. I don't think we need to strive to keep on expanding - let's have population limits. We need to invest in an expansion of the resevoirs so that we don't need draconian water restrictions in a place where it rains all winter! We need to recognise that PARKsville could have a prosperous future as a retirement place for affluent boomers and stop fussing so much about tourists who are only here briefly and benefit only the buisness owners.

May 22, 2010 5:23 AM

Questions 18 and 30 appear to have a bias: there is a "very satisfied" choice but no "very dissatisfied" choice. There is symmetry between the "satisfied" and "dissatisfied" choices. This prevented respondents from expressing a large amount of dissatisfaction on those questions.

The city should not be telling commercial enterprises that they are wanted here when there is no evidence that "we" (the residents, employers, employees, business owners) want them here. In the absence of a good OCP, the evidence of our wishes is non-existent. City staff and elected officials can certainly give their "personal" opinions, but they should not label them as those of the city until there is a valid, comprehensive OCP which can then guide their comments.

The treatment of the community garden has left me with a feeling that somewhere in City Hall there is a big problem and it needs to be fixed. I can't find the words to express how poorly the planning of the road extension and related impacts was handled. In my view, it has left an indelible black mark against City Hall (staff and elected officials) which will require a lot of excellent work by City Hall in the future to erase.

May 22, 2010 8:11 PM

Thank you for setting up a survey like this one and letting the taxpayers of Parksville have their say. It's always important to listen to what the residents have to say and act accordingly to it...not go ahead with the waterfront development and let 9 story buildings spoil our beautiful and natural beach.

May 23, 2010 6:47 PM

Like most residents I am not pleased with more development on the Waterfront. If the city is leagally bound to allow development on the Parksville Motel site then I would rather see Low-Rise Condos with a substantial view corridor and public access to the beach rather than another Resort. More uptown (by City Hall would be more appropriate). How about some land swaps coupled with building incentives?????

Also, I think the Transportation Plan is a Pipe Dream. I might back one of the options if the city had the finances to do it. But delaying much needed infrastructure (roads, sewer, sidewalks) improvements is not an option. Also, widening Hwy 19A between Dogwood and Pym should be a prioriy for traffic flow but more so for Safety reasons. Also in our area would be Temple Street, Bay Ave at Hwy 19A and Doehle between Pym and Temple require immediate attention.

Also, why are we getting hung up on self-sustainability just because it's today's latest buzz word. Growing your own food and raising chickens will take much needed business away from our local farmers who are trying to eke out a living at local farmers markets,etc. So much for supporting them.

Now with regards back yard chickens, what the hell are people thinking??? A person can only eat so many eggs so the rest get sold under the table for cash. Also, recent news reports about "Salmonella in Uninspected Eggs" coupled with people not understanding the work involved and the stink they will share with their neighbors

May 23, 2010 10:40 PM

I firmly believe the council should take a far greater interest in listening to the resident's concerns. This survey is a good start. I think the newly elected mayor and council should gain more experience before initiating major projects that the majority of residents seldom support. Focusing on more community orientated projects (ie., outdoor activities, social gatherings/events, more greenspace - not concrete, asphalt and glass) will gain the support of most people.

In addition, I think there should be a more logical and rationale approach to some engineering projects undertaken recently. For example, the concrete traffic islands along Hirst Ave don't service any real function other than negotiating around them. A solid white line down the centre of the road would suffice. The wider sidewalks on the lower end of Alberni Hwy are more suited towards a larger city with higher pedestrian traffic. It's the vehicular traffic that needs more room. Not pedestrians. I have witnessed a number of "near misses" from people exiting cars and bicycles squeezed against the curb. Lastly, I'm still trying to figure out the rationale for the asphalt lane between the sidewalk and roadway on Despard (in front of Springwood). It even has Stop signs. There exists an already suitable bicycle lane on Despard. I've never seen anything like it in any community. How much did that cost?

May 24, 2010 12:47 AM Get people out of their cars by providing a network of paths and green spaces leading to the downtown area. Better scooter and bike access and more space for them and less space for cars. Don't pave anymore green spaces, create some parks and squares for people to enjoy. Charge for parking in the core area with free parking in the surrounding areas to encourage people to get out of their cars.

May 24, 2010 2:01 AM I understand that there is, to some degree, a requirement for City leaders to act quickly, and they cannot always put out a survey. I'm retired but in my job I had a large number of people under my direction. I told them that they had a 'voice', but they didn't have a 'vote'.

I listened to everyone, but when the time came I made the decision. My perception of this council is that the decisions are being made quite arbitrarily. I do not have a sense of 'trust' in this council – overall. I do not have anything to back that up, and it is only my opinion based on the local media reports, letters in the newspapers and the rumour mill. One feeling I get from it all is that those elected have decided they know what's best for us. That comes from the outlandish comments quoted in the papers that purport to know all about the 'silent majority'. I wonder how they communicated?

The Parksville Residents Association seems to think it needs to exist. I'm not in favour of adversarial groups and would prefer to see discussion. However, the need for a protest group of that nature indicates a fair degree of polarization within the community. Has the City invited the PRA to sit down in an open forum to discuss the issues

May 25, 2010 12:36 AM In a perfect world our city should have purchased the land around Parksville Bay to preserve it's nature for all generations.
Parksville had the right idea when they put the motels at 2 floors to preserve the view for everyone. That was a good plan that showed consideration towards everyone. Now only the wealthy will get that view and if development continues the people will have nothing. As I look at the resorts along the water I can't help but think " I need to get out of here. I need nature not condos for a holiday."
The newspaper stated the old highway sign was one that implied cheap family holidays. Not now. Those families will have to keep going somewhere else to have a "family holiday". You are killing the goose that laid the golden egg.
The zoning for all the businesses seems to appear all over the map.
We appear to be one big car lot.
Please stop trying to turn this city into something big. Small, quaint, quirky, funky, any kind of character will bring the tourists in. Just look at Uclulet and Tofino. (Even Courtney has 5th Ave and folks drive up to Courtney to walk that street.) Sterile store fronts and expensive store fronts will keep people in their cars heading West.
Please consider the green spaces and the lot sizes before massive housing developments are approved.
and lastly...city council promised our lifestyle would not be affected by the Beach front development but we have been hounded ever since to preserve & limit our use of water. You encourage people to go for sterile yards that don't require water and you are charging us for the water we do use.
If you are so concerned with the water levels then you can not in good conscience approve more development on

May 25, 2010 4:43 PM Mayor and council should not let developers dictate what our town will become. It is not necessary to build new streets, but to improve the ones we have.

May 25, 2010 4:54 PM Tough job. Appreciate your work. But let's move forward on initiatives. Take action! Permit organized development. Bring people downtown. Enhance what we have--benches, parks, etc., thriving small town.

May 25, 2010 5:59 PM Thank heavens the Jensen St. extension nonsense is over. Let's keep it that way. People get to keep their homes, a lovely peaceful area is preserved, and maybe the community garden can grow again. One day you who disrespect gardeners may be begging them for food.

May 25, 2010 6:55 PM It's important to keep debt and interest payments low. Spend within our means. Minimal borrowing. Keep tax increases reasonable.

May 25, 2010 9:12 PM You are taxing my family away. There are 12+ new \$500 to \$600,000 homes blocks from us. They are taxed where there used to be one house. My taxes have not decreased--still no sidewalks, still break-ins, less beach view, increased water costs. It continues to be a loess than pretty picture. I pay more each year for less and my tax dollars seem to subsidize short term developers' profits.

May 25, 2010 10:53 PM Get on with the OCP Review and get the tax payers involved. Then follow through with the recommendations.

No more personal agenda items from Councillors.

Councillors should have a wider scope of our needs and not single issues like "Marc" and "Al".

OCP REVIEW NOW!

May 26, 2010 3:08 PM I am disappointed at what I consider high density allowed on our waterfront. One is allowed and others will follow.

May 26, 2010 3:23 PM Besides the green forest areas being rezoned for houses...there are some ugly areas downtown. What's with the empty lot across from the fire station (and the ugly building beside it) on the SE side of Alberni? Also, what's with the massive development along hwy 19A, the condos, hotel, etc? We are not Miami.

May 26, 2010 4:46 PM Parksville has no character, lacking good taste in architecture. It could live up to it's name and more little parks with fountains and trees and benches, lovely little shops and some bigger ones. A movie theatre and more youth friendly senior friendly facilities and activities. It could be so much more than a bedroom community. I'm afraid it will be developed with tacky tourist traps and without a good public transit system it will never thrive. Too many politicians have sold us out over the years. It's discouraging

May 26, 2010 5:36 PM How much did this survey campaign cost?

May 26, 2010 5:44 PM Thank you for the opportunity to share my feelings. I have attended a few meetings and the people I have spoken with are really ready to be heard. They are willing to invest their time and talents to make this an awesome place to live, I hope there can be an opportunity for that to happen.

May 26, 2010 8:59 PM I think I've said it all. I thought Sandy ruined our city and put it in debt, but there's always another out there with bigger and more expensive ideas. Well, we got it. I know of many prairie people who enjoyed Parksville, but now holiday in Qualicum. You're losing tourism, about the only industry Parksville can claim. I blame you and I'm not impressed or happy.

May 26, 2010 9:07 PM People have been coming here for generations. Some decide to move here because of what they see and like: semi small town; waterfront; trees; beaches and parks. Don't take the 'park' out of Parksville. Keep its small town atmosphere. Move parking and development back away from the downtown. Increase foot traffic or shuttle service. Bike paths would be nice.

May 26, 2010 9:49 PM The Beach Club is the best to hit our city in many years. Now let's get moving with the next door property. It is an eyesore. Don't do any other main thoroughfares as you have done on the Alberni Hwy. It's ugly; it's too confusing. Do not try to make us look like Qualicum. We are unique as well.

May 27, 2010 5:33 PM Life is good in Parksville. Council is doing a good job and you can't and never will please everyone. Thanks.

ps--Great job on the new boardwalk.

May 27, 2010 6:17 PM Paint bridges. Where's the new Parksville signs 3 years in the making? There are no bike paths in the city. Why no medical clinic in Parksville? Poor planning.

May 27, 2010 6:29 PM I can't stress enough the importance of the waterfront and beach. That's the reason people come here for vacations and is the reason many people move here. The natural beauty of our area should be protected and cherished, not squandered or sold just to get more tax dollars. The tall towers of the new beachfront development have many residents questioning how and why permission was given for such tall buildings in our city. I don't mean to insult the present council, but to be perfectly honest the first thought in many people's minds is that 'money changed hands'.

May 27, 2010 9:26 PM I moved here from Vancouver to get away from high volumes of traffic and crime. I was looking for a sense of community, a place where people respect each other and treat each other with respect and dignity. Many people that I have talked to have moved here for the same reason. We all notice a difference when the summer visitors are here and really don't want their volume to increase. I would like to see more cultural venues in Parksville and perhaps some larger stores, but would like the population to be about the same.

May 27, 2010 9:56 PM Thank you for asking for our input.

Local news is tedious, but guess it's the best way to get info.

Corner of Alberni & Jensen coming into town (kitty corner from Salvation Army)--make it pretty! Do something with fenced area and youth arts in that old building. NEW SIGNAGE IS AWESOME.

May 27, 2010 10:20 PM No waterfront development. Stop destroying beach view with tasteless, monster developments. People before money. Be transparent with future plans. Consult plan ideas with voters. When in doubt--referendum.

May 27, 2010 10:29 PM It would be nice if the people that were elected, and the people that work for the City, would leave their ego and arrogance at the door and do a job that they are proud to be seen doing, and not hiding things from the people that voted and hired them.

May 27, 2010 10:46 PM Why is there no 'very dissatisfied' option for questions 18, 30?

May 28, 2010 6:25 AM This is such a lovely community. I feel that the entire downtown is a shambles. It is apparent that there has been foresight given as to the development of the community.
We are a seaside community and you would never know it. There should be all kinds of facilities along the water where people can walk and sit and have a coffee or glass of wine. There is virtually no easy access to the water and what there is, is very limited.
I hate to say this but look at Qualicum. A quaint downtown area and a HUGE walking path along the ocean, with ample parking and with a small ice cream place with seating and washrooms along the way. It's gorgeous.
I don't know how, at this stage, with so many different opinions regarding the development of this community, changes can be made to enhance Parksville. It is not functioning, the way it should be.

May 28, 2010 3:35 PM Parksville has outgrown its viable water supply and a 'population cap' should be implemented.

May 28, 2010 5:49 PM Thanks for sending this survey.

May 28, 2010 8:25 PM The answers provided are by my Dad. He's lived in Parksville for 59 years, his whole life, and feels as though the community has taken a turn for the worse due to the growth of the population. The demographics have changed, and he dislikes the lack of younger families and the increasing number of older retirees who don't seem to care about fitting in. He feels as though they just want to change things so they're more like the cities that these people came from.

May 28, 2010 8:58 PM Too many times I have heard from developers that the development department is arbitrary. When questioned, the developers are stretching a bit, but not a lot. That department needs a review with teeth in it. This blocking of the Jensen extension has been done out of petty politics, not out of Parksville's best interest. We need one way traffic on the Island hwy and all the good things that would eventually be put in place.

May 28, 2010 10:23 PM Our area around Foster Park is plagued by black bunnies that are eating plants and digging holes everywhere. This is only getting worse as they multiply so fast. Think of UVic's problem.

We have to have an economically viable town that can keep young people from moving away. Instead of a \$15,000 sculpture that might detract from our lovely park, let's have functions for teenagers and children. Activities build community relationships--perhaps more in winter when it's easy to feel housebound.

Thank you for all your work on this survey. It makes one aware that the issues are really complicated. I will try harder to be more involved.

- May 28, 2010 10:49 PM** Fill the blank spaces in the downtown currenting used as parking and drive-thrus with retail and office space (tax revenue) a multi storey municipal parking lot, Metered parking and public transit.
- May 29, 2010 1:32 AM** Could you get to work without a car in this city?
I am very dismayed at the reluctance of the Mayor to be open, honest and straightforward with citizens. It seems that developers and Chamber of Commerce trump the thousands of others who live, work, and play here daily.
City need to LISTEN, and actually respond the residents. We should be the FIRST consultants - we're free, and know the City in ways no paid outsider ever can.
- May 31, 2010 6:21 PM** Parksville shares its value with residents because it emphasizes 'town', 'natural', fresh and clean. We do not need to keep up with urban sprawl, nor do we need to upgrade police services every year--the level of policing is very satisfactory without using tax dollars to buy more unwanted officers each year. Use that money to maintain the water and natural beaches, and enhance beach access to all people in all areas.
- May 31, 2010 6:54 PM** Keep up the good work. Please keep tall buildings off the beach/waterfront.
- May 31, 2010 8:21 PM** We need affordable housing for our younger residents so they are not having to work more than one job. Also, more jobs available to them.
- May 31, 2010 9:33 PM** Budget: We see that City Admin is as costly (approximately) as fire and police. This admin amount needs to be brought into line and lowered by at least 15% compared to other 12,000 population cities.

Traffic: A mess, even in the winter. Good luck with this one. Can't imagine how to fix it.

Water shortage: Just not true. Elected officials and paid officials, get off this hobby horse or be moved on out. Spend paid and elected time on real issues in Parksville. There are many.
- May 31, 2010 9:56 PM** City needs to have a strict policy regarding exterior colours of our businesses. Electric blue such as the Sausage House, or Winchelsea Motors should not be allowed, nor the bright green on U-Brew.

May 31, 2010 10:20 PM There are far too many signs along Hiway 19A, it looks like one big strip mall. It is difficult to tell where the downtown actually is. I think Council should pick a theme or style for downtown and work towards ensuring all storeowners are complying.
Try to get some of the traffic out of the downtown core and include some seating areas, walkways, etc
Please put more effort into bike routes, paths. This is a perfect area for it - encourage more cyclists
Love the new welcome to Parksville sign. It is nice to have all the signs in the same style.
Above all else keep the small town feel. It is nice to have the city close but would not want Parksville to become a big city.
No more highrises on the waterfront.
Is it possible to divert the traffic around the downtown core (two to three blocks away). Just have one lane each way for about 6-8 blocks. Then you could widen the sidewalks, have some seating, green spaces, etc in that area.

May 31, 2010 10:33 PM We need a hospital

May 31, 2010 10:44 PM Thank you for letting us share our thoughts.

One suggestion: Knowing that some locals are at meetings concerned about Jensen extension, you probably should have numbered/allocated each survey with a house number or something. Locals can gather other neighbours' blank surveys and complete as many copies as they want. Might not give true picture of people vs surveys completed. Not sure how you can guarantee one survey accepted per household.

May 31, 2010 10:50 PM Water conservation - We pay taxes for a bylaw enforcement officer to ensure water restrictions are being followed in the summer. Why, then, do I see the grassed areas along highway 19A being watered by sprinkler systems in the middle of the day? Everyone else has to water in the early mornings or the evenings. We feel privileged to live in Parksville. Many people come here to visit and we are blessed to live in paradise with essentially affordable taxes.

Talking about taxes - my mother has a friend who lived on the waterfront for many years. When her husband died, she had to move because she couldn't afford the taxes anymore. Can something be done to control taxes if a person has been in their home for a number of years? I can understand taxes going up if a property is sold - but surely there could be a "grandfather" clause so long time waterfront property owners don't have to lose their homes on top of losing their spouses.

May 31, 2010 10:59 PM Before we moved here we vacationed here for the last 30 years. After a long drive we were always delighted to see the old 'Welcome to Parkville' sign. It is sad to see it gone, to be replaced by a new sign with no meaning, but specifically designed for the resorts. From the new signs along the highways, the new emblems on City trucks, the new boardwalk, and of course the master transportation plan, everything seems to be geared towards, and for the benefit of, the Beach Club and resorts. Perhaps we will see a new Tim Hortons on this location. Parksville is changing, but not for the betterment of the community.

May 31, 2010 11:01 PM This place needs to wake up. Modernize. Stop B.S. like Beach Club and move it across the highway - develop waterfront - enforce driving laws regardless of "senior" status. Stop "small box" venues from overcharging (e.g. "Thrifty's Joke). Copy Ladysmith, get a few streetcars - serve clamburgers (ie. west coast food) etc. at events instead of old fried, poison of yesteryear. This town has the potential to be a jewel. Younger ideas and activities would not only make money as in expand the tax base, it would also help seniors from petrifying before their time.

If you ignored the beach you would have a hard time knowing you are in BC let along on the west coast. Put some character in the place.

Jun 1, 2010 5:43 PM Re: questions 35 - 43 you must realize that many of our senior population do not use computers to access information or to communicate.

Don't even think about changing the traffic flow from the Highway. People (even the tourists) can figure out how to get where they need to go.

Very happy Council was convinced to abandon the Jensen Street extension. The Mayor & Mr. Greir should be paying attention to what the public prefers - and it's insulting to read certain members apparently think the public is mis-informed when that happens, it's usually for the benefit of the Council.

Jun 1, 2010 6:36 PM For community consultation, depends on issue. Special topic meetings--probably best to dispense info with response sheets/surveys where appropriate to gain feedback. Could probably combine these two effectively.

Jun 1, 2010 8:03 PM

- have public input into waterfront development
- preserve som of the remaining undeveloped area swithin city limits, particularly that with waterfont/beach access
- signs for wildlife on Temple (resident deer population)
- reduce bus size
- fix roundabout on Temple (ugly) and not effective; 4 way stop would be better
- improve entrance to town between weighsscales and orange bridge
- finish sidewalk on west side of Hwy 19A from car dealer to orange bridge

Jun 1, 2010 8:44 PM We need a definitive 'downtown' area. Many more shops allowed. Where are all these people in these new condos supposed to shop? We need a big box store. Home Hardware has an extremely limited selection, and Home Builders don't carry anything that Canadian Tire does, really. I try to shop locally but can't find what I'm looking for.

Our beach area needs serious updating. Make it tourist friendly. We need to offer and allow fun things to do. The kayak rentals got thwarted by moving them way too far up the beach where no one went. We need summer entertainment, and the town needs to allow many more kiosks. Allowing 10 or 15 for a monthly or weekly fee would benefit the businesses and the town coffers. A part of the fee could go towards wages for a couple of people to stay on night watch during the summer to prevent vandalism. Even beach fires could be allowed from 5 to 9 pm. Entertainment on a stage perhaps, music groups, plays. The beach could become a real tourist draw, as well as for locals, and money could be made on all counts. We are too stuffy and have far too many old fashioned rules and regulations which stifle people. As it is, you can't do anything at our beach. Some fixed garbage

Jun 1, 2010 9:25 PM Congratulations to those who contribute their time, as this is a job not everyone would do. But most will take the time to criticize without having an alternate suggestion.

Jun 1, 2010 10:05 PM Thank you for the opportunity to give input.

Jun 1, 2010 10:12 PM Ensure that future housing developments are mandated to have green spaces and walking trails. We live near an off leash area for dogs but must walk around many blocks to get to it, as blocks are all lots and no through walkways.

Jun 2, 2010 4:06 PM

- 1) Listen to the people (eg. I went to all the public hearing re: The Beach Club and almost everything I heard was dead against it - but what happened? It got shoved down our throats).
- 2) Encourage people to help to sustain themselves - more public garden spaces, allow small chicken flocks (3 or 4 birds, no roosters).
- 3) Keep and expand green spaces - they don't have to be watered and manicured - lets have wild, natural green spaces - perhaps they can be wildlife corridors.
- 4) Keep the beaches and green spaces quiet and unsullied by commerce, no fast food stands, boat rentals, surfboard rentals etc. Exmample - at the east end of the Parksville Beach (the old Hovercraft Station) please leave it alone, no boat or surfboard rental with radios blaring. It is such a peaceful area right now, no one can park too close (radios turned up while they drink inside the car) and the bustling City is behind you, all you can see is ocean and islands. Put back the little bench that was up on that raised area, right above the ocean. Plant a screen of shrubs to hide ugly surfside. Give us a place where we can sit and contemplate the view, in peace, and yet still be in the City.

Jun 2, 2010 4:20 PM No more highrise buildings in Parksville. Limit all construction to 4 storeys.

- Jun 2, 2010 5:52 PM** We have lived on Ermineskin Avenue since 1989. We back onto Hirst Avenue. Hirst has gotten so busy, we have thought of moving. I would like to see a change in access to the Island Highway to reduce the traffic on Hirst.
1) Lights at Moilliet and 19A - would keep some traffic out of school zones too.
2) Extend Renz Road to Despard Ave.
- Jun 2, 2010 6:05 PM** Now that the boardwalk is completed (good job) it would be nice to have a market place parallelling it - with a coffee shop, produce, fish market, etc.
- Jun 2, 2010 6:14 PM** I can't believe all the nonsense I read in the paper about this City garden. Seems to be a big waste of energy for the City and some of the costs involved around moving it to various locations are a joke.
- Straighten out the mess with downtown traffic - the Alberni Highway in town is a vehicle/pedestrian nightmare.
- The City park on the waterfront is an important asset. Have to make sound, long term decisions.
- We seem to spend a lot of money on studies, etc. which end up going nowhere.
- Someday I would like to know the labor costs to run the City. I've heard rumors of wages/benefits that would cause the private sector to cringe.
- Jun 2, 2010 10:41 PM** I just want to emphasize the need to preserve Parksville's natural surroundings including all the beautiful birds and animals that co-habit with us. The beaches and waterfront in general should not be sacrificed to hungry developers. Once we lost it, we can't gain it back.
- Jun 3, 2010 4:45 PM** Put Parksville on the map with a landmark.
- Jun 3, 2010 6:12 PM** I feel that Parksville has reached it's maximum size. Parksville will lose its charm and lifestyle if it is allowed to grow. The reason why a lot of us moved here in the first place.
- Jun 3, 2010 6:29 PM** When the older motel buildings on the waterfront are replaced, they should not be highrises. 3 storeys should be the limit, and they should blend in with the environment. The downtown needs continued beautification to attract more tourists and enhance the locals' enjoyment of the city.
- Jun 3, 2010 8:56 PM** This family is a working family. If the taxes continue to increase, then we may not be able to retire in Parksville, as our pensions may not be able to afford the cost of living.
- Jun 4, 2010 3:32 PM** The new entry signs to Parksville are terrific! Very classy.
- Jun 4, 2010 4:21 PM** This year is Parksville's 65th birthday, since incorporation.

Jun 4, 2010 4:31 PM Tourists want to come here - we don't need to advertise - how about talk to BC Ferries to reduce fees and also not have all the gas and accommodation prices go up so high during tourist season. They feel ripped off. Yes, we know that is when most of the businesses make their money, but do they have to gouge everyone? Our family have stopped coming here and visitors feel that the prices of food and services are only aimed at the very affluent tourists who don't even look at prices.

We love sandcastle events and music in the park.

Jun 4, 2010 4:58 PM Have you considered a shuttle service from train station to downtown? How about a trolley like they have in Langford/Bear Mountain - a trolley could run from Rath Trevor to Qualicum. Could Craig Street market be extended?

Friends and family take VIA Rail Victoria to Qualicum - stop for lunch and catch return trip back - Parksville could cash in on that if shuttle were available (to downtown and/or beach).

If you've ever been in Victoria on a warm summer day the horse drawn carriages and double decker buses are doing a booming business - let's get something going here for both tourists and locals, both fun and practical. A hop on and off trolley or whatever to benefit shoppers, tourists, sightseers, local merchants, special events? How about a day pass. Let's get creative.

In Victoria Harbour ferries "hop" from here to there - we could do that in Parksville - Coombs - Errington or whatever, assisting locals and tourists to get from here to there - let's make it happen. We could expand as necessary.

Jun 4, 2010 5:04 PM Do not spend more money than you have. Budget.

- Jun 4, 2010 7:03 PM**
1. Prevent any further monstrosities like the Beach Club from being built.
 2. However you handle #41 - 43, please let us know (obvious, I know, but it has been known not to happen).
 3. Give some character to downtown.
 4. New signage--wonderful. A great start.
 5. Your staff are tremendous and very helpful--typical for a small town.
 6. Suggestion for plot of land at bottom of Craig St: Pave, put in benches and a covered notice board (to show map of downtown and any upcoming events). This area is kind of the centre of town with the park across the way, and the summer market. Tourists often don't know the lay of the land, and it would be a nice, convenient resting place with the nice mural on the wall. We are nearly there with the great planting and mural. We just need to finish it off.

Thanks for the chance to participate. Staff at Parksville City are extremely helpful and polite. Typical of a small town. Let's keep it that way. Thanks again.

- Jun 4, 2010 8:14 PM** We are controlled by a council that is controlled by the Chamber of Commerce and business community, who cater to the developers and consultants. the Beach Club is an example. Here to make a fast buck and leave a scar on the bay. Very little updates to existing roads and ditches. No planning for future water concerns. Rates just keep rising. Too many consultants--thousands wasted. Money wasted on new signs and native sculptures. What about our ditches and roads?
- Jun 4, 2010 8:53 PM** Parksville is a wonderful, healthy place to live and has an incredible community park with many events for all to enjoy. PArksville is a very friendly and community orientied place.
- Jun 4, 2010 9:29 PM** Moved from the mainland in 2002. My husband and I lived in Fanny Bay for 4 years before he died prematurely of cancer. We loved not having to deal with all the politicing that goes on in small towns and municipalities. Why do politicians always promise one thing and once in power do another. I am very glad that I did not vote for Ed Mayne even though I was tempted when I attended the Mayor debate. Parksville seems to be made up of way too many bargain and \$ stores. We do definitely need a more defined downtown community with more shops in the taste of Mercedes Lane. Some landscaping and more attention to the exterior of the stores would go a long way.
- Jun 7, 2010 4:09 PM** Manage growth
Keep costs down
Have external audit done of City's operation to ensure a cost efficient operation
- Jun 7, 2010 4:24 PM** I believe that in the past, development in Parksville has not been handled correctly (Beach Club). Also, not enough consideration has been given to the needs of pedestrians and cyclists.
- Jun 7, 2010 4:36 PM** Commercial sprawl on 19A is Parksville's biggest eyesore. Property at the corner of Corfield and Despard should be purchased by the City and turned into a park to provide a decent buffer for the eagles' nest. Need connecting multi-use trails (not on existing roadways). Require a town theme for existing and new buildings to follow.
- Jun 7, 2010 5:07 PM** No more Beach Club type developments.
- Jun 7, 2010 5:19 PM** Morison Ave should be closed where it joins the highway (in front of Home Hardware) for two reasons: 1. It's one of the worst intersections ever--a side road connecting to a main road with a traffic light just ahead. Dangerous!
2. By closing that road, it could be turned into a pedestrian friendly area--perhaps some picnic tables, etc. It could turn into a courtyard area and would benefit the smaller stores.
- A traffic light should be high priority at Hirst (by SOS). With all the elderly people in this town, a light there is a must. The street market on Craig is great. Why isn't that block permanently closed to traffic? It should be another area where people can shop (benefitting the merchants). Off the highway, the entrance to CIBC bank should be closed. It's too close to the traffic light. A new entrance should be made off the next street up the highway (by Stewart's Café).

Jun 7, 2010 5:22 PM

I believe the top priority of the City is to protect the natural heritage of the City. To provide easy facilities for residents and visitors.

For example: I am not a biker, but lots of people are. I see dedicated, "spandex", groups. But I don't see casual bikers downtown. It is too dangerous. Better separation of cars and bikes. A small strip along the highway doesn't cut it. Close some roads to pedestrians and bikes.

Mayor campaigned on cutting cost of firehall and training facilities. Very short sighted.

Protect and enhance beach area.

Top Bridge trail excellent. Now tie it into Rath Trevor Park. Better walking trails ie: behind City along tracks, by train station.

The old railway to Port Alberni - convert this to a high end walking and "bike trail". Think of all the tourists that would stay in B&B's etc. to do this trail.

Mount Arrowsmith - same thing. What an attraction it could become.

Jun 7, 2010 5:26 PM

Just give value for tax dollars, do not waste.

Jun 7, 2010 5:41 PM

Communication with residents very important.

Curtail future mega developments along the waterfront.

Jun 7, 2010 5:55 PM

Extend boardwalk toward Rath Trevor Park and Qualicum Beach.

I believe that allowing the Beach Club to be built is an unfortunate shortsighted decision. I don't agree that building tourist accommodation or other housing along the beachfront is the key to a vibrant tourist industry or to more liveable community. I think Parksville should purchase the remaining properties between Highway 19A and the beach. I think we should also purchase the trailer (RV Park at the foot of Corfield). All this should be turned into park land.

The park should be developed in diverse ways to provide a broad range of things to do and see. How about a maze, a botanical garden, photographs of shore, etc.

I think pedestrians walking along 19A should be able to see the beach. I don't see why tourist accommodation can't be built on the opposite side of the highway or even further afield.

I see some potential for a trolley to take tourists to and from an expanded/improved beach park. We might want to package this with a "small vehicle" service to serve all Parksville citizens.

Jun 7, 2010 6:08 PM Time to update the OCP to reflect environmental and fiscal realities, not make a wishlist for developers and insiders. Not sure that these responses won't be manipulated to achieve a pre-determined outcome.

Jun 7, 2010 6:22 PM Our City is beautiful, vibrant, alive and I/we sure hope it continues - we moved here for the same reasons everyone else did!

We came with money like most others but I/we fear a NIMBY attitude and an eliteist attitude pervades our fair city! We need to balance our society with fair housing for the working half of the city and more avals to some of our disadvantaged/disabled working homeless etc.

Life is a compromise with convictions.

Jun 7, 2010 8:52 PM Why not create 4 lanes of traffic from Pym into town?

Jun 7, 2010 10:07 PM What's with spending money on signs?

Jun 7, 2010 10:42 PM At present the only water meter approved is Sensuswitch and is sold solely by Corrix. The City needs to approve another meter so as to get competitive pricing and Sensus is not the #1 meter in BC. We also need to stop using water meters that are not NSF61 (lead free brass)

Jun 7, 2010 10:44 PM Work toward village concept rather than transportation corridor/strip development downtown.

Jun 8, 2010 3:37 PM Don't bully people. It is not well received. We elect mayor and council to listen and learn, following which good decisions must come. Don't have to agree with and/or follow every idea or thought put forward, but surely there should be a willingness to listen respectfully and with an open mind. Respect begets respect.

Jun 8, 2010 4:40 PM Please recycle this pamphlet.

Jun 8, 2010 5:34 PM Keep or reduce house taxes low so we can afford to live and enjoy Parksville as it is. We do not need extensive change. Keep it simple and as green as reasonably possible.

Jun 8, 2010 6:19 PM We need to know "why" things are going to happen, eg. Jensen Ave. extension, any waterfront development, so we understand and support the need for major changes. NO one wants to hear "we will decide what is best for you". Facts are needed to support decision making.

Jun 8, 2010 8:32 PM Since the loss of our forestry, fishery and privatization of government jobs, we only have service industry and other low paying jobs in our community. This requires affordable, low income housing to maintain our tourism industry.

Secondly, we must protect and conserve our water supplies because we do live on an island with very limited water reserves. This alone will only allow a minimal amount of growth within our community for the future.

I also believe that height restrictions should be imposed on all new buildings to a maximum of 5 storeys.

Jun 8, 2010 9:33 PM Improve downtown. Make it attractive, spruced up--tourists will spend money here. Qualicum Beach caters to what people want. You can walk to local stores, cafés, art spots. It's user friendly--relaxing. You can park your car and walk. Good variety of shops. Need more washrooms at community park.

Jun 8, 2010 9:41 PM There is a growing contingent of pickleball players in the city, but no courts are available. Pickleball is played on a slightly smaller tennis court with a lower net, using paddles instead of racquets. It is played by the very young to the very old. It is a cross between tennis, badminton and table tennis. Presently PCSOA plays indoors at the high school, but it would be better to be able to play outdoors.

Jun 8, 2010 10:18 PM 1. No more development on the beachfront. 2. No big box stores. 3. Make the downtown area more pedestrian friendly; more crosswalks.

Jun 10, 2010 3:55 PM Parksville is unique. We need to see balance in all planning and development. Need a sense of variety in our space.

Jun 10, 2010 5:06 PM If the City could get their vision and planning in place, and each successive council could stay on track, things would go along very smoothly. Each election makes for new directions. City seems to get scattered results from their initiatives. It is also a result of public ideas changing as well as council, funding, etc.

Jun 10, 2010 6:43 PM Good on your for asking - now it's time for action.

Jun 10, 2010 8:45 PM I am a 55+ working poor female living on a small amount of money each month, earned by doing childcare part time or light part time housekeeping. For me at the moment I do not have enough hours to pay my rent let alone utilities. I will have to move out.

Everyone needs the basic needs - shelter, food, water, clothing to live. Where are they? I was told last week Human Resources (Welfare) \$610.00 a month for shelter, utilities, food, clothing, drink (water). Very sad amount of money to live on.

What are people to do in our age group?

Parksville is a place where if you have a full time job you can afford to live with a middle income just barely. Costs go up every year. Food is more expensive. People go to Nanaimo to shop at Walmart for food and clothing less expensive than here. Plus the big grocery Superstore which has everything which is really cheaper and less expensive than Parksville. If it wasn't for the Thrift stores - S.O.S., Salvation Army, Soup Kitchen - people are really struggling with the recession. My age group - where are the jobs? The 1/2 drive to Nanaimo is worth it for more selection of items for companies in business and way less expensive. The Beach Club Resort is only for the

Jun 10, 2010 9:02 PM Stop development on our waterfront. Keep 19A 4 lanes. Forget about Jensen St. Tell council to listen to people. No buildings to be built over 3 storeys. More community gardens. Have the mayor and councillor Greir retire.

Jun 10, 2010 9:33 PM Just talk to the people before you spend their money. You never know it just might work. Don't put too many ideas on the plate at once. When you see that the people like an idea - ride with it.

Jun 10, 2010 10:10 PM Please pay attention to all detail in this survey and all resident surveys.

Jun 10, 2010 10:29 PM Hire Qualicum Beach's city planner because they got it right. Parksville didn't. It has a terrible mix of businesses downtown with junk shops, empty lots, and empty buildings. Use your zoning and business licence powers wisely to have a true downtown core like QB has. QB is very walkable, PV isn't.

- Jun 10, 2010 10:31 PM** For us, the charm of Parksville is its size (although it has grown since we moved here) and its location, with the ocean and mountains so close. Dramatic changes to the streets/highway would really only require stricter enforcement of the posted speeds. People drive too fast. We do not think adding big box stores would do anything but hurt the small businesses who already are located here. Yes, it would be more convenient but at a huge cost. We say no to more large scale development.
- Jun 11, 2010 4:09 PM** No more beachfront development except to make more parkland and walking paths and accessibility for all ages. No buildings, just access so that all can enjoy.
Better walking and hiking access from all areas of the City to the beach and downtown (more safe sidewalks), more parks, developed downtown with areas for sitting, walking, strolling, picnicing, riding bikes - safe areas with no cars would be wonderful - hook together all the parkland with walking paths - people would be healthier, as would the environment.
Would it be possible to set up more citizen advisory committees to address major issues: social planning, environmental planning, waterfront, aging population, and accessibility for all?
- Jun 11, 2010 4:30 PM** Scrap the Jensen extension idea. Scrap the idea of one way traffic on 19A. Solve parking problems by using empty lots--empty lot at Harrison and Morison. Parking downtown on Memorial St. Why not go up--make a paying parkade there?
- Jun 11, 2010 4:34 PM** Parksville is a destination vacation spot that tourists pay thousands of dollars to enjoy. I think a mix of small and medium good quality shops that entice tourists during the season and cater to the regular citizens would benefit all. However the medical emergency situation is very poor for tourists and citizens alike. Imagine cutting your feet on the beach and having to travel to Nanaimo for a 4-5 hour wait for stitches and a tetanus shot. A top notch walk in minor emergency clinic would certainly help everyone. Also that is open all day and early evening. Current doctors are far overworked and cannot accommodate any drop ins. With the current agner over the HST, all politicians should be aware that the citizens are extremely tired of providing input and not having their concerns acted on - particularly when safety is at the forefront. We need an updated/new fire hall - equipment and a safe environment for our volunteer firefighters. As our city grows, these needs have to be addressed now!
- Jun 11, 2010 4:40 PM** Need to focus on keeping as much green space and forested areas around town as possible. Encourage commercial and industrial development outside of current urban areas. No big box stores. They are only 20 minutes away. Thanks.
- Jun 11, 2010 4:52 PM** Priority--put wires underground. Do not put in ring road. Encourage happenings in community park. I like the new signs.

Jun 11, 2010 5:45 PM 1. Small but very vocal lobby groups make attendance at public forums virtually useless. 2. Parksville council seems very fragmented, with realists on one side and populists on the other. Must be difficult to get anything constructive accomplished with such diametrically opposed views of the future.

Jun 11, 2010 5:53 PM Think Parksville would do better to follow Qualicum's lead in controlling growth.

Jun 11, 2010 6:11 PM Keep the "Park" in Parksville. Development may be attractive but infrastructure and up to date community plans concerning water and sewer, traffic (roads) have to balance out. Also our restricted waterings for even and odd numbered houses are always the same - I haven't had a Saturday away in years. They could swap the days once in a while

Jun 11, 2010 6:27 PM Please consider the people first - We live here and contribute to the local economy. If we have a strong economy and community - people will come - we already have the natural beauty and perfect location. Let's build a small city rich in community spirit, transportation and tourism - business will take care of itself :)

Jun 11, 2010 6:51 PM I would like Parksville to enact a bylaw which prohibits lawn-watering in the summer months. We live in a Mediterranean type climate where it is natural for grass to go into a state of dormancy. It is a waste of our precious resource of water to pour it onto grass. In fact, I believe we need to rethink the whole concept of lawns as a wise use of land.

Jun 11, 2010 6:58 PM

1. Encourage eco-friendly tourism with accommodation off the waterfront but linked with pathways to downtown, beaches, existing parks and new future parks and recreation areas.
2. Keep Highway 19A a 2 way roadway with no parking on it. We do not need another highway going through the middle of downtown area (Jensen ring road).
3. Any "Box type" stores should be in the Regional District like "Wembley Mall". This would be an improvement to the mall, and it would keep the box stores out of the downtown core.
4. Protect our watershed areas - no logging, no development. This is one of the most important resources we have.
5. Health facilities - not mentioned here? They are also very important. The proposed health care centre needs to have 24 hour emergency care with overnight beds and an area for recuperating patients, thereby reducing the dependence on the Nanaimo hospital facilities.

Jun 11, 2010 8:55 PM We, the residents of Parksville, would like the council and mayor to listen when residents oppose a project. Take it seriously. It takes a lot to get people fired up enough to say, 'no, we don't want this'. Also, do not fast track projects like the Post and Lantern. Mistakes can ruin a city and need careful planning, not quick decisions.

Jun 11, 2010 10:00 PM We have too much government and beauracracy (sp?). Spend tax \$ on sewer, water, roads and other services to tax payers and don't waste \$ trying to get fancy and expanding City Hall.

Jun 14, 2010 4:30 PM I'm one of the silent majority--those who are upset/frustrated/angry/sad. However, it seems like it doesn't make a difference even if we object openly to things like the Beach Club monstrosity and what looks like another such thing next to it. I've seen a sign that looks like they're getting ready to pre-sell units next to the Beach Club. Seems like this must have been promised to developers despite not going through proper channels. We need an OCP. I believe that Qualicum having such a document is what keeps it from going outside the realm of popular preferences. In the last couple years it seems like the City has been mismanaged. If we get good, competent and honest leaders, we should have a good and enjoyable town to live in and enjoy.

Jun 14, 2010 4:56 PM Could the rocks that have washed from the banks please be cleaned up from the sand? Communicate all decisions of council and committee meetings--not just a select few.

Jun 14, 2010 5:05 PM People who have lived in Parksville made their living from forestry, fishing, and tourism in the past. Most of us live on very small pensions and savings. Council should remember this when setting taxes. People from outside Parksville (Vancouver, etc.) have government pensions, or sold their property for large amounts, and move to Parksville and want services the originals cannot afford.

Jun 14, 2010 6:18 PM My biggest issue with all governance is the lack of deep transparency - the suggestion of any backroom deals/tips, eg. Gordon Campbell.

Jun 14, 2010 6:38 PM I appreciate this survey - to have my input.
Developing Craig and Middleton Streets would bring more tourists.
Have "mock" gunfights.
Build store fronts in western Theme.
Dance hall girls in the street - people in costume.
If stores are owned - give initiative of small grants to do the changes.

Jun 14, 2010 8:42 PM

There are two concerns that stand out. These issues regard the gun club and the pollution from public burning. We cannot understand how residents are allowed to burn with the 'green' environment being such an issue at this time. To drive along the roads and highways and see and smell big clouds of smoke is disgusting. The gun club is another big issue. We live in a resort area, and to hear guns firing throughout the day while people are trying to enjoy being outside is a very bad welcome from Parksville. I'm tired of the old argument that the gun club was here first. We could say that to just about anything and nothing would ever progress in the world.

It would be nice to see some kind of walkway on 19A from Craig Bay to the bridge. Many times we would like to walk to town, but walking along the highway is not safe. It would also help to have streetlights from Craig Bay up to the bridge. That is a very dark stretch of road at night.

We moved to Parksville in 2006 and truly love it. However, the town is a mismatch of stores, old buildings, car lots, etc. It would be nice to clean up the vacant lots, get rid of the smaller car lots or relocate them, and have some decent stores and restaurants. Many businesses are in old houses or buildings that lend nothing to the

Jun 14, 2010 10:33 PM

We would like to express a special thanks to all the works and maintenance people for doing such a wonderful job of keeping our parks and trails in the area looking so clean and beautiful. We spend a lot of time at the community park, Springwood park and Foster park. The tennis courts at Springwood are great, but it would be fantastic if funds could be found to repair the ones in the community park. We love Parksville!

Jun 14, 2010 10:54 PM

1. Medical services: Top priority for Parksville is to have a 24/7/365 health facility. This becomes even more important if the city expands and hopes to attract more visitors. On a personal note, we had company whose baby developed an ear infection and were told by staff at the walk-in clinic to go to Nanaimo, Port Alberni, or the Comox hospital. They had no doctor who could look at the baby. Bad for tourism, our number one industry. Bad for citizens also.
2. Policing of traffic enforcement could improve. Currently is poor.
3. Keep the main street as a 4 lane roadway as it currently is, especially for the movement of emergency vehicles.
4. Firehall: Build a proper building which can house all our fire equipment under one roof. Allow the staff showers and lockers and proper training facilities. This is essential for a growing city.
5. I am disappointed that the firehall was not mentioned in this survey.
6. Having come from the prairies, many towns/small cities there have better medical services (ie, hospitals), police service and fire service, so I am surprised with these facilities here.

Jun 15, 2010 3:52 PM Water conservation--we need extra storage (reservoir) capacity to take advantage of winter rainfall (high river events). Effective immediate ban on all power washing from May 1 to Oct 31. Abolish 'blue ribbon panel'. This undemocratic, unelected, personally selected group is perceived as the mayor's backers/buddies. The previous council had a panel that individuals had to apply to and represented a cross section of all ages/backgrounds.

With assistance from federal and provincial grants, build a wheelchair accessible fishing pier/kayak wharf at the old coast guard/hovercraft pad out to the existing sandbar. This could be a location for a business to rent non-powered watercraft (kayaks, sailing dinghies, aqua bikes, pedal boats, canoes). Utilize solar power and a wind turbine to be self-sustaining and qualify for more 'green grants'. A fishing pier will attract seniors, youth, persons with disabilities and tourists. Add some non-polluting activity to our beach.

Utilize comments and ideas from this survey, as well as the compilation from the 'Let's Talk' community forum held on May 12 at the civic center, to help Mark Holland complete his strategic plan.

Jun 15, 2010 5:30 PM The public beach is our greatest asset. The east end of the beach is a huge disappointment for me. It can be repaired properly if there is the will. In my youth, I worked on several seawall projects, which were very successful if done correctly. They can be designed to regain lost material through tidal action, with a significant positive gain in just a few months. This can be observed on a beach 10 minutes from Parksville.

Jun 15, 2010 5:54 PM We are new residents of Parksville, so have not really got into City Hall/municipal issues yet. But we have been here for 9 months, which is enough time to get a feeling that council has an agenda, despite what many residents think. Case in point: pushing through the extension on Jensen Ave. There is no need to extend it. Maybe a need for a 3 way stop sign at Corfield, but that is about it. No traffic light required. Traffic is not a problem in Parksville. You should see Langley or parts of Surrey on a Saturday--then you would be thankful that you live in Parksville (as I am). Nice to be able to express opinions in surveys like this one.

Jun 15, 2010 5:54 PM The flowers and trees that have been planted are coming in nicely. Preserve any green space, natural green space, we have left. More walking paths. More accommodation for safe bicycle routes. Don't do the Jensen extension. Keep the community small. Put a cap on development.

Jun 15, 2010 6:48 PM I think the Jensen extension should go through. It just makes sense. Put a light at Jensen and Corfield (or 4 way). Make Despard a ring road--I think it's the natural path. No more commercial towers on beach--1 or 2 level buildings only. Better yet, parks only. Put new towers and hotels on opposite side of 19A. The view and easy access are there, too. Tunnels under 19A from hotels sounds good. Maybe too posh, but the Beach Club is an attempt at post. I like it, but not down on the beach--on the opposite side of 19A with a tunnel. I also like the idea of 2 lanes on 19A through town, going both ways, with angle parking on both sides where possible. Make it a friendly street. Should never have been 4 lanes. Wouldn't it help the stores, new (and empty) and old to attract customers? Then we would have downtown. Bicycle lanes could go one way on Jensen and one way on 19A, or not on 19A at all.

Jun 15, 2010 8:13 PM Street markings--lanes--on McMillan are confusing. Twice now I've lined my car up (south bound) directly into oncoming traffic, just past the old school.

Sidewalks are important to me because I walk a lot, using the car only twice a week for work out of town. I enjoy the Jensen green space and would encourage cars to consider Stanford Ave.

The area east of our civic centre should be our new hospital. The City should buy this property for the future. Sell the other Jensen property to pay for it.

Jun 15, 2010 9:20 PM I know people who have lived here for years and never shop downtown. They never read the local paper to see what is going on. How you reach these residents is difficult.

We do not need more vacant commercial properties downtown; ie, building under the Lions housing. Put highrises by City Hall. That would make people use facilities downtown, hopefully.

If you put permanent residents on the beach with commercial beneath as suggested, I don't think these would be profitable. People only buy so many doodads. Tourists don't buy year round and vacant commercial properties look depressing. The only problem I have with the Beach Club is we never got our view corridor. This is a concern I have with the next building, but I would prefer permanent building over a hotel. Also, the fellow who wants to develop the dumpy hotel into low cost housing--have you been there? The size of these hotel rooms is not what families need.

Jun 15, 2010 10:55 PM Pass a bylaw to restrict RV parking in residential areas. This is the main reason we are moving out of our beautiful community in Corfield Glades to a nearby municipality where this is restricted.

Jun 16, 2010 3:43 PM Parkville needs a new OCP and a council made up of reasonable, thoughtful people whose 'vision' for the future is not mired in small town politics, outmoded 19th century economic and political philosophy and nepotism.

Jun 16, 2010 3:56 PM Many handicap spaces do not provide direct access to walkways; ie, Morison, Craig.

Jun 16, 2010 5:34 PM It would be a shame for Parksville to become a bedroom community for the larger cities around us. I feel it best to encourage families to use, live in, and enjoy our city. That would mean encouraging individual outdoor use. We don't want a community that goes home after work and closes their individual doors. The community becomes safer and friendlier if the folks who live in it are using and enjoying it. Visibility of happy, busy people, and children safe to play in their neighbourhoods, is surely our goal.

Jun 16, 2010 6:45 PM In regard to traffic: I don't find that 19A is so busy that it needs to be diverted. I do think that the section from the minigolf (Bay St) to Pym is already wide enough to put a 3rd lane in the centre for left hand turns. That section gets badly backed up behind vehicles turning onto Finholm, into the x-ray centre, private homes, and into the Temple store.

Jun 16, 2010 6:55 PM I am sure that the beach condos on the waterfront has affected many of us. It has spoiled the beautiful view that was. Enough said.

Jun 16, 2010 8:17 PM We came from Langley. Lived here for 33 years and watched the 'progress'. Went from a lovely small community to a sidewalk 'Surrey city'. Seems that once well-educated people fall into government or city planning jobs, they lose their common sense. The island is only so big and can only sustain so many. Why does each inch of waterfront (salt/fresh) only have to be for the elite? Most of the pride and joy here is our beaches, so why build and hide them from us, and allow pollution from outsiders that won't care? If I wanted big box stores and concrete buildings around me, I would have stayed where I came from. If the corporate sense is to develop, develop, I do not want it.

Jun 16, 2010 10:19 PM Everytime you hear local news or read it in the paper, the council, which is the City, has spent thousands of dollars on ugly art for so-called beautification, or hundreds of thousands on studies--to study what we the people don't want. Have you been to the Town of Qualicum where you can't park or shop? Well, Parksville is following suit. Our natural beauty can be maintained at a lot less cost than what some people say is beauty. Likely the City will continue as they are and tax us to no end for frills and not essentials.

Jun 16, 2010 10:30 PM Don't mind further beach development as long as it is top class and doesn't infringe on public areas. The work done on the beach (erosion) couldn't be uglier. You now can't park and look at the sea and as for a fence made of concrete to look like wood - we are in BC - famous for its wood. Also, the fence blocks access to the beach. We need more openings. The park is to me the single most important thing in Parksville.

Jun 16, 2010 10:38 PM Review current water rates in comparison to QB area. Current rates are not justified.

Jun 16, 2010 10:58 PM Spend the time and money to hire a highly qualified city planner.
Develop a 25 year or 30 year plan and then stick to the plan.
Stop piecemeal development. The beautiful waterfront is the most important Parksville asset. Stop unattractive large development on the waterfront.
Develop a city centre.
Develop initiatives to improve the appearance of store fronts.

Jun 17, 2010 3:45 PM The biggest concern we have is the undue influence of the business community/Chamber of Commerce on this council (and its predecessor). This influence has been catastrophic to the character of this town (ie, Beach Club). Pay attention above all to what the citizens who elected you want. You even got it wrong on the new Parksville signage: 'live, work, play'. It reads like marketing designed to stimulate purchase. Parksville is a small waterside community and its smallness is a value. The signage basically says that as a town we want to grow. Do we? And who paid for that sign? Chamber of Commerce? Local businesses? Again--undue influence of business community on community at large.

On affordability: Parksville is expensive, especially for the significant segment of our population that is paid minimum wage. Yes, we do need to focus on affordable, dignified housing. Here is where the business community could be taking a lead but is failing us. There is a certain shame to being a minimum wage employee. There should be a greater shame to being a minimum wage employer. Wake up the business community.

On accessibility: We do need to focus on more hard surface trail development for wheelchairs, bikes, roller blades, strollers; more sitting areas for rest; more public washrooms; more and better public openings to waterfront areas. And there should be no financial barriers to access (ie, parking tolls).

Jun 17, 2010 4:00 PM Surveys like this take 2 hours, not 20 minutes, to complete.

Jun 17, 2010 5:10 PM I want Parksville to stay a small town. I love the people here. They care about each other, and that gets lost when you get too big. I really am upset by what the last council allowed on our public beach. No more developments shutting off access to beaches. They belong to all of us, not just the rich from wherever. We don't need any more streets ruined like the Alberni Hwy. What a mess that is now. As to 19A becoming a one way road--no. Also, I am upset about the way our seniors have been treated at our community gardens. We should be encouraging more gardens, not less. With regards to seniors, more affordable housing is needed now, not 20 years from now. I voted against the firehall that council proposed, as did others, and council and the mayor have said we are going to go ahead whether the public likes it or not. As to certain councillors--stop complaining because citizens don't agree with you. It is important what the public wants, not what you want.

Jun 17, 2010 5:51 PM 1. Website is very well done and is a good information resource. Only thing that I would like to see added are council meeting minutes and how council members vote on the issues. This would certainly enhance the transparency of municipal government.
2. The boardwalk on the beach was a great improvement, and a much better project than the dumping of pit run on the main beach to prevent erosion. Why couldn't we have done a seawall instead of the pit run?
3. Plans only work if we choose to follow them. Need to review the plan to ensure it is current, and make changes as necessary. You don't have to hire expensive consultants to tell you that.

Jun 17, 2010 6:48 PM Accountability should be based on how a municipality's employees and elected council follow the plan.
Encourage accommodation in downtown core.

Encourage unique small shops in downtown core.
Then visitors and locals will support Parksville businesses (and will spend more time walking/shopping here).

Jun 17, 2010 8:18 PM Would welcome a renewal of current OCP.

Jun 17, 2010 9:26 PM Concentrate on improving what we have already--19A from bridge to downtown, new firehall, more parking and more green spaces. Slowdown residential and retail space development. The former--needs slowing down whilst current infrastructure is improved and water supply increased. The latter--seems pointless when so many store spaces are sitting empty.

Still do not agree with the beach berm. Feel seawall would be better. However, we do like the fencing and additional seating in the park. Encourage year round farmers markets. Increase variety of stores. There are too many dollar stores, gift stores, drug stores (Shoppers is more a general store now.) Quantity of restaurants and hotels are needed for tourists. However, maybe some restaurants could improve their appearance; eg, Cabernets and the derelict attached hotel behind it.

Having lived here for so long, we are still embarrassed when driving new visitors into town. Centre of town (around the clock) beginning to look lovely, as does the corner of Pym. However, still has a long way to go to catch up to the drive into Courtenay, or around Qualicum with its masses of colour there in the summer.

Jun 17, 2010 9:45 PM I welcome the upcoming OCP review as an opportunity for public input to re-emphasize and realign priorities for present and future councils.

Jun 17, 2010 10:19 PM Building more larger department stores would be good for job seekers and also for local shoppers. Traffic gets too heavy on 19A through town, especially in tourist season. Banks should have better parking. Flowers, trees and shrubs need watering, and businesses should be told to do that. Many times I notice that flowers are planted, then die from not being watered.

Jun 17, 2010 10:51 PM Tell Council to get moving on approval for Parksville Beach Resort redevelopment.

Jun 17, 2010 10:57 PM I feel Parksville needs a direction that will ensure and improve a lifestyle that the people here agree with and support. We need to develop, only if it can be supported by infrastructure and is for the good of the people. Honest, genuine consultation is the key. I believe this to the point that I intend to run for a council position in the next election.

Jun 18, 2010 3:39 PM I would like to see the traffic volume on the highway between Martindale and the Beach Club controlled. As I wait for a bus in the mornings in front of Tim Hortons, I realized that people heading to Nanaimo are not taking the bypass. I don't think changing from 4 lanes to 2 lanes would change this driving pattern. Obviously they think taking the bypass to Nanaimo is too far out of their way.

I would like to see a pedestrian/bicycle bridge parallel to the orange bridge over the Englishman River. This would allow people to walk from Rath Trevor and the resorts into town to access restaurants on the strip. Also, it is a great walk from the community park down Pioneer Cres. to Rath Trevor. It is very unsafe, ushering children on the sidewalk over the orange bridge.

Jun 18, 2010 5:55 PM I appreciate the efforts and hard work of all our past and present councillors.
The City does a wonderful job of flowers, trees and gardens. The upkeep is great, but expensive. I do not feel that we need to add more purely decorative items. Less is more. Building codes and rules are needed to improve appearance--no garish looking paint jobs. There are so many buildings that look unkempt or are not in use.

Hwy 19A needs to remain two way. This gives visitors and residents easy access through the city and allows peek-a-boo views of why we choose to live here. A worthwhile project would be to make it 4 lane all the way through the city. A light is required at McMillan and Hirst intersection as this, especially with its very narrow through lane, is an accident waiting to happen. Using McVickers or the Alberni Hwy as the major truck route seems a lot safer idea to get to 19A. Alberni Hwy would have to be widened with parking restrictions, but it is certainly more direct and safer than McMillan with its hill on one end and curve on the other, and very busy intersections.

On the whole, Parksville is a wonderful place to live. This people are friendly, the setting is beautiful, but the City politics leaves a lot to be desired. Too bad we cannot seem to elect someone with intelligent vision who truly cares about our city. So far a lot of precious tax dollars have been spent on outside consultants and studies, and why would they care about our lives? They are paid to come up with a plan, and no matter how stupid or

Jun 18, 2010 6:07 PM We do not need Jensen Ave to be a ring road, and under no circumstances should 19A be made either a one way road or one lane each way. That would be a retrograde step back in time which would have no benefits for the people or businesses in Parksville. To do so would result in more people shopping out of town. No changes should be made to our streets or parking to facilitate the Beach Club, which the majority of residents are still opposed to.

We need to address medical care for our residents, including short term overnight stays with doctors and nurses in the Oceanside area. We should be able to get the care we need locally without always having to go to NRGH.

Jun 18, 2010 6:17 PM The communication strategies and OCP are not broken. Don't reinvent the wheel. Don't let council swallow the ideas of special interest groups. Parksville is for many, not the few.

No veggie gardens at City Hall. One person's beauty is another person's mess.

I like the new signs. I also like small town style--ie, Osoyoos's Mexican/adobe style; Qualicum's English style--although we would have to be different. Suggestion: West Coast oiled timber beams, black awnings, wrought iron street lamps.

Jun 18, 2010 6:48 PM People don't move here for the industry or employment. They move to Parksville because it's a small town. Keep the town small. We need a growth cap to stop development and to stop the population from exceeding our water supply. Our tax dollars should be spent on maintaining our infrastructure, not on mega projects like the Arrowsmith dam, which as predicted has allowed consecutive councils to allow overdevelopment, ignoring the foreseeable drop in reservoir due to climate change. This has resulted in ever increasing costs for water and restrictions on its use.

We do not need Jensen St or any other transportation plan extravaganzas. We are a small town. We don't need ring roads, one way highways, or other big city traffic plans. Keep Jensen St extension as a park and community garden. What we need is pedestrian and bicycle friendly access throughout the area. Make parks the feature of Parksville. The bay should be the prominent visual feature from all of downtown.

Jun 18, 2010 8:02 PM Parksville is a wonderful place to live. It is a small town, which is why I moved here. Transportation around town is just fine. There does not need to be any extension of Jensen street. The beautiful green space and community garden are just what is needed to continue that small town feel. We are not trying to become another Nanaimo. We have good roads for transportation that need to be maintained properly with walking/bike paths alongside. No more one way streets are needed. Most people move here or stay here because of the lifestyle, natural setting and peacefulness that a small town generates. The waterfront needs to be the focal point of Parksville. This seems to have fallen by the wayside with the Beach Club. The visual appeal of Parksville with its beautiful bay only encourages tourists to come, leave their dollars and then go again. To contemplate more waterfront development like the Beach Club would not only remove the beautiful natural setting, but would also take away the tourist appeal of Parksville by the bay. Having an extended community park enhances the lifestyle for residents and tourists.

Jun 18, 2010 8:28 PM I would like to see changes so that I can call upon one councillor who is responsible for taking concerns to council from a specific area of the city. I would like to feel represented on council, not as it is now. Too often council becomes dysfunctional because nobody cares to take responsibility for specific areas of the city. The present situation or structure is conducive for council to represent special interest groups and not the public at large.

Jun 18, 2010 9:18 PM Steady safe economy - not growth economy.
Apparently in the California "Mission" cities developers fund things like firehalls, swimming pools, etc.
Too many resorts/hotels and limited access and use of facilities - everything for the tourist. Who paid for the infrastructure, roads, communications, that enables them to come in?
Taxes may not be enough to compensate.
Parksville has a lovely waterfront and a fairly ugly and haphazard core. Who visits to see banks and hardware stores? I'll bet most of the tourist shopping is done in Qualicum. Parksville is Qualicum Beach's toilet - everything they don't want gets flushed to us.
In the UK there is free use of parks for under 16 and over 65. Reduce crime and health issues would pay for it?
Parksville seems to have become 1. a business first City, 2. a place for the wealthy and those low wage earners who wait on them and serve them.

Jun 18, 2010 9:56 PM Use Port Alberni Hwy more for light industrial restaurants and stores to freeway. Keep in mind to make it attractive, easy access from freeway. Add growery and attractive signage etc to buildings.

Hospital could go near Trillium on vacant city property.

Give lots of options to drivers by opening all blocks so traffic is not congested in certain areas such as Corfield and Stanford. Extend Despard right across to Englishman River.

NOTE: Notice summer help, students just joy riding and not working down at park. NEED more supervising or pick better candidates.

Jun 18, 2010 10:00 PM Please don't allow the condo development next to the Beach Club.

Jun 18, 2010 10:16 PM I would like to see Parksville decide on a "theme" for downtown, then go with it. Now being a City by the Sea why not have the central "theme" go with most buildings and streets even parking lots have entrances or surroundings or names etc. with marine terminology and decor. Ornamental anchor chains strung between posts that look like pilings at prominent street corners for example. The only maintenance once built is painting the chain black. Maybe some carvings of whales/dophins/seals/salmon also. This way, we could at least have some sort of identity. Involve young people so less vandalism takes place, give them pride in building their city where they've been raised. Give the highschool students a project and an area to create/paint/invent/carve, then put on display for years to come for visitors to see adding a new project each year. Maybe the community park would work or a downtown wall of a building. In this way the youngsters would be contributing to the City "theme" of nautical appearance and be quite proud of it. Involve everyone also for events like the brant festival.

Jun 18, 2010 10:17 PM It is extremely frustrating that Council does not listen to the residents, particularly about waterfront development. Parksville was incredible until the Beach Club. It is an ugly monstrosity. I left a community that started out small and then sold its soul to the developers. The town is ruined, people are leaving and the quality of life measurably declining. I moved to Parksville because I thought you got it. If the pro-development mayor and Councillors are allowed to continue, they will destroy Parksville as surely as it destroyed my former community. And I know I will never see this in any results.

Jun 18, 2010 10:24 PM We are happy that Council decided to do this survey. We are in favour of the updated OCP which reflects the views of the residents of Parksville.

We would like the City to grow and expand slowly. We like the idea of the City having a good mix of residents - some retired, but young families as well.

We don't see the need for big box stores. They are only 20 minutes away in Nanaimo. We like the current mix of stores here and we shop locally whenever we can.

We support any initiative to beautify the City and make it a place for tourists to visit and enjoy. We are not in favour of development just for the sake of development.

Jun 18, 2010 10:47 PM We love Parksville and would keep it as is--not a very realistic goal, I realize. By developing a long term plan, council should abide by it so we no longer read about the 'wishy washy' decision changes, as in the last year. Such behaviour does not lend credibility to council, nor instill confidence in the management of our resources. Congratulations on taking this necessary first step.

Jun 21, 2010 4:13 PM The water rate increases are exorbitant. We're living in a community where a lot of people are absent 6 months of the year, and they are working on putting in methods to conserve water on irrigation--the numbers are scaring me. Also, for the amount of taxes we pay, you'd think we would have snow clearing by the City other than the one street into the place.

217 Jun 21, 2010 6:45 PM Parksville is a wonderful place to reside and we do need to have a better street presence going through. It has some scruffy looking homes and buildings. This city could be a major mid island destination with its parks and ocean accessibility--even nicer than Qualicum. Take a look at White rock and other 'neat' cities.

Parksville Resident Survey 2010
QUESTION #44

Please share any final comments or suggestions you may have.

Ages 65 Plus	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	410
<i>skipped question</i>	569

Response Date	Final Comments - Ages 65 Plus
May 10, 2010 4:35 PM	Parksville council must address the needs of Parksville not the dreams of the enviromental movement.
May 11, 2010 5:05 AM	we are in need of 1=leadership in council that has been lacking in the past. Council and councellors are very disorganized and will vote on two similar connected issues in different ways. 2=Allowing the residents to set different speed limit. If 40 is the best speed for one street why would it not apply to the whole town or get rid of the school zones. 3= remove those speed bumps and enlarged corners as they dangerous to scooter operators and bicyclists. 4=The down town street system is a disorganized maise and the extension of Jensen should go through.
May 13, 2010 10:40 PM	I feel the alr has too much control over so called farm land that in my opion is either not suitable or will never be farmed.let the owners develop and maybe the cost of building a home would also come down so younger people will be able to reside here instead of nanaimo
May 14, 2010 4:19 PM	The newspapers have excellent coverage of Parksville. We are of the newspaper demographic
May 14, 2010 8:46 PM	Parksville is a beautiful place to live and should be protected from too much commercial development on our beautiful waterfront.
May 14, 2010 8:59 PM	We chose to live in Parksville many years before actually able, but when retired only one of us was able, and I moved here because to me it seemed peaceful and friendly. It is!
May 14, 2010 9:16 PM	It is noted that Parksville residents received this survey. Why was it not sent to taxpayers only? We attended all meetings on the Official Community Plan in the 90's and expressed our dissatisfaction along with many others about the waterfront highrises and still they were approved. We are very discouraged with Parksville City Council.
May 14, 2010 9:50 PM	None
May 14, 2010 10:58 PM	The new signage and painted store fronts look terrific. Keep up this type of improvement.
May 15, 2010 1:11 AM	If there was a special fund for nature preservation, parks and land purchases (like the nature trust) I am sure poeple would donate to that.

- May 15, 2010 7:20 PM** As relative newcomers to the City we are very impressed with the community and the general attitude of the local people we have met.
- May 16, 2010 3:01 AM** The questions on the waterfront could be misread. Waterfront could also include the Community Park but if there was a question for comments on the Park I missed it. The City and staff are to be congratulated on the Park upgrades, development and maintenance. Visitors often comment on how clean the City is and the work required to keep all the green spaces beautiful. Unfortunately, one more highway 19A development like the Beach Club and that is all anyone will remember about Parksville.
- May 17, 2010 3:52 PM** Apartments should be kept in downtown area or Wembley Mall. More low cost housing for all age groups. The town needs a movie theatre for teens and families and needs to be "prettied up" for tourists.
- May 17, 2010 4:18 PM** Don't forget the people. It was us that put you in office.
- May 17, 2010 4:56 PM** The City is doing a great job!! 'Keep it up.'
- May 17, 2010 5:15 PM** I do like what information is out there and it's very informative. We need to keep this up as more development is going to be going on in the next 5 - 10 year period and we must keep ourselves informed and have the information readily available--easy to get and very accessible is the key. I like breakdown of where the taxes go--much easier to understand.
- May 17, 2010 7:06 PM** Council seem to delight in blocking building permits for affordable/senior housing with an infinite variety of irrelevant conditions.
There seems to be a substantial waste of funds on local bus routes e.g. Route 88 passes along Despard Ave. once an hour but rarely has any passengers.
Traffic flow through the city could be substantially improved simply by adding more filters to the existing traffic lights on Hwy.19A.
- May 17, 2010 8:37 PM** I am 88 and am very happy with my life. I live at Cokely Manor so do no cooking and little housework. I intend to stay here until the end of my life--I do not want to rush that part.
- May 17, 2010 9:31 PM** Very pleased with our area, however would like to have more shopping locally and develop a better downtown area to make it community friendly.
- May 17, 2010 9:50 PM** The Mayor and Councillors should be very aware that they have a duty to respond to a resident when that resident has expressed a concern on any particular issue. This is municipal politics, not Provincial or Federal.
- May 17, 2010 10:21 PM** My wife and I came to Parksville 22 yeras ago and still feel there's no place in Canada to compare. There's been only one "blip" in the city's development - the Beach Club. With that except, the Councils we've elected over the years have served the city well. Keep up the good work!

- May 17, 2010 10:40 PM** I am well aware of the tight budget, but always going for the cheapest solution is not the best course; e.g. the previous mayor going for the gravel solution to try to stop the erosion of the bank at the bay, with the subsequent installation of the concrete fence that has caused all the complaints that followed. The mud flats at the bay is expanding. The water at low tide is now right out of the bay. The City may have to look at dredging out the bay at some future date. The so-called improvements along the water's edge has become a 'dog's breakfast' with all the different materials--asphalt, concrete, and now wood. The original wood paving is now rotting at the heartwood sections and will have to be replaced. A possible solution to make the wooden walkway safe to walk on when it rains is to do what Powell River has had to do--install expanded metal mesh over the surface. Wood is a total misuse when at grade level. I have 60 odd years in construction building design including structural and development experience. It pains me to have to look at these crackpot ideas that have been forwarded to the City all in the name of cheap. I notice the City is having trouble in attracting a civil engineer. Is it caused by salaray, having to deal with changing City councils, or input by citizens who do not know what they are talking about?
- May 18, 2010 3:45 PM** Last summer, equipment from the city made a total ugly mess of the beautiful treed area beside Thrifty Foods, then they left their mess. I certainly think they should have the respect and decency to tidy up the mess they made! This green space is very valuable to all who live in this area.
- May 18, 2010 4:24 PM** #18 What downtown commercial buildings have been put up? Boston Pizza only, RBC Finance - appropriate. Waterfront--Beach Club should not ever have been approved. Highway 19A--What's been done--anything? #22 Train--use monthly; busses--infrequently except to catch for ferry 2 to 3 times per month. We already have public transit for RDN/BC Bus system. #24 A lot of this is private ownership or BC Hydro/Transit, not City Hall. Decorative sidewalk paving a problem for walkers, scooters, etc. Need more promotion of stores we have, not more stores. #33 Water quality and protection of resources is redundant.
- May 18, 2010 4:50 PM** Need 4 way stop at McMillan and Hirst--safer pedestrian crossing
- May 18, 2010 5:47 PM** Anyone that has completed this survey in less than one hour hasn't put much thought into it. Perhaps the mayor and council members should pay some attention to suggestions from the 'fringe'. Now that the 'silent majority' is speaking out, pay attention. Please publish in the local papers the unedited results of this survey. Is it possible that this survey is just another 'make work' project for the bureaucracy?
- May 18, 2010 6:16 PM** Use email and web more--cost efficient. Mailouts, most people probably throw away.
- May 18, 2010 8:40 PM** Look after what we have before planning for what we don't need. Most people move here for the slower, small town atmosphere. If we wanted a faster paced life we would have moved to a city. this is a beautiful, welcoming island, but Parksville is the jewel. Don't destroy it by trying to grow beyond our resources.
- May 18, 2010 9:10 PM** I am a senior and do not have a computer. I would like to see less dissension among the residents of Parksville. More careful of spending.
- May 18, 2010 10:20 PM** It is good to have a stable and long-term vision for development.

May 18, 2010 10:34 PM I would like to see the Mayor and others on Council and in Administration drop the notion of turning a portion of 19A in to one way travel. Also the notion of making 19A into a two lane street with parallel parking is just dumb. Imagine the traffic tie ups when 80 year old Mrs. Whozit tries to parallel park her car. Also, most if not all businesses along 19A have their own parking lots. In addition, most of these businesses are "destination" businesses, not ones that a person would stroll into and browse. In other words leave 19A alone. It works just fine.

May 18, 2010 10:41 PM A big box store built close to the bridge would seriously interfere with traffic

May 18, 2010 10:44 PM Glad that the Jensen extension has been tabled. that is a very bad idea. Making 19A a one way street part of the way is a very bad idea. Right now 19A is easy access to businesses and side streets. Why would you even consider making a one way street on it? It took us many years to get a decent road through Parksville. Let's leave 19A as is.

May 18, 2010 11:48 PM I think we had a better Parksville when I first came here the shopping is nto good and the parking is terrible and you can't park anywheres and walk to all the stores and then when you do you don't find what you want so yop go to mall and get what you need, our mall is no nice and do not like to go there as the air in the place is terrible

May 19, 2010 3:18 PM I don't like what has happened with the Beach Club and the planned apartment units for the waterfront. Beach Club looks cheap and has made the downtown area look bad. I am glad the rezoning of Jensen is off the books for now. I feel it would be a disaster for traffic and getting around in Parksville.

May 19, 2010 3:44 PM Question 12: On any new development please implement: 1. rainwater to accumulated into a rockpit instead of going to storm sewer and also to be used for garden watering; 2. enforcement of some kind should be applied to people discarding litter and dog fecies.

Question 30: Present water rate structure not fair. Family of 4 will not be able to stay under the lower limit and if a family stays below that the difference should be subtracted from next billing.

Can anything be done regarding the terribly hard water?

All roof rain water should be diverted into ground rock pits instead of running into the storm sewers. This would help to retain the ground water table.

May 19, 2010 4:01 PM I will use communications at Parksville.ca.

May 19, 2010 4:09 PM No more waterfront development. No more highrise developments. More recreation facilities like a pool. More sidewalks. No Jensen extension!

May 19, 2010 6:06 PM

question # 37: 1. A bus shelter is needed at Wembley Mall for route #90. Passengers have to leave the bus at Wembley Mall so the driver can have a break, then get on the same bus. The public should not have to tolerate the noise on the bus #89 when the students from Kwalikum High School board the bus at 3:20 pm. I know this is not in the City Parksville, but citizens of Parksville should be encouraged to use the transit services. 2. Sidewalks are needed on Jensen avenue from Moilliet street onward. 3. McMillan street is dangerous for pedestrians. 4. Parksville Xray building is difficult to access, especially for handicapped patients.

I buy monthly bus passes at City Hall and find the staff are very courteous.

The public should be aware of which councillors chair the different departments, e.g. when the late Barry Johnson was a councillor he chaired the Transit System committee and was available for assistance.

May 19, 2010 6:37 PM

The perception by many is that once council hires a consultant the resulting report is accepted carte blanche. Rationale given is that they have paid so much for the study that it would be a waste not to proceed.

Public input on specific ideas could first be advertised for citizen input--then a consultant or City staff could do a study.

The City property across from the firehall could be used to build the medical facility we hope to get.

There are many improvements like the Alberni highway that don't work. This makes the city seem cramped. The gravel option at the beach changed the beach.

We do not want big box stores, i.e. Canadian Tire, Costco, Walmart, etc. Nor do we want one way streets. They would send us to Nanaimo faster than anything. Also, the cost of removing all the islands, etc., left turns, would be a huge cost and waste.

May 19, 2010 6:56 PM This survey far too long. Most people would not take the time to go through all this. Who at City Hall is going to have the time to read all these comments!

Try to keep projects in proportion to the City's ability to pay. Keep the property taxes fair and similar to other similar size communities. Balance the budget. Do not owe a lot of money.

In the future, if the road extension of Jensen comes up again, what about making Despard a through road to Martindale going east and extended going west as well? That would bankrupt the City! And get rid of all visitors.

May 19, 2010 8:29 PM I like to see the downtown and the park looking neat and clean. but, when I go down to the park and see 4 or 5 workers gathered around a works truck, I wonder, is this the best use of our tax dollars?
Last year they had one lane of 19A blocked off with a work truck parked and 4 people weeding the centre strip.

May 19, 2010 9:24 PM Clean up the downtown core. Give local business owners a break to clean up and make their store fronts more inviting to the public. The City should build a parkade with stores on the bottom and car park on top. You own a lot of vacant property on Jensen. Put it to good use and charge a reasonable fee. Also, the lot on the corner of Craig street and 19A should be made into a small park with public washrooms, benches, etc. Leave 19A the way it is. Don't take a step back in time.

Owners of vacant stores should be asked to lower rent to bring more small business to the city. It would also help maintain the buildings.

There are a lot of properties in the downtown area that are rental (e.g. Corfield street). The yards and houses are an eyesore. The landlords should be told to maintain them or the City will cut the grass and paint the house outside, and charge them a hefty sum so they would be more apt to keep up the yards.

The farm land in the city should be left as farm land. We will need this land to produce food for us in the future. Once it is used for housing or a car lot it's too late. We are lucky to have a few parcels of land like this in our

May 19, 2010 10:35 PM The City of Parksville has the potential to be a really special place. It has a beautiful natural setting and fabulous beach to start with. The community park and children's play area are superb examples of good planning, taking advantage of the natural beauty for our future legacy. The Beach Club development is an example of poor planning. It used our natural environment for its own purposes and to the detriment of the community as a whole. Forever, we have lost a huge coastal view from the downtown.

What is the focus of the community? Right now it has the appearance that 'anything goes', with random development up and down the highway. For example, restaurants are interspersed with auto repair shops and dealerships. It is not that we need to keep out or throw out stores, but all businesses should have to contribute to the landscape of the city, especially to the downtown. Maybe a theme for the city would be helpful--a beach theme or a family theme or the 'community in bloom' theme. Whatever it is, local businesses would be required to follow it and demonstrate the care for the place we live and work in. And we like sharing it with others. An example of this positive image is the shop on Craig street with the painted wall of flowers. There are many other surfaces that could be painted in such a way as to give a positive image and a beautiful landscape. And then

May 20, 2010 2:09 AM There should be an effort to encourage affordable housing in the city. Not in the form of a housing ghetto but interspersed throughout the community. There was once a plan to have affordable housing in Maple Glen. In fact there was a sign indicating this. What happened? It now has very unaffordable houses covering the area. The city has allowed many of the apartment buildings to be strata titled when they should have remained as rental. In this economy there will not be any new rental housing started so don't lose what we have. Helping the farmer on the east side of Parksville get his land out of the ALR so that he could develop a mobile home park would have been a start.

May 20, 2010 2:34 AM Keep up the good work.

The Mayor and councillors are doing a very admirable job.

May 20, 2010 3:26 PM Alberni hwy was not a good way of planning. It made it more difficult to get around and caused a traffic jam. There was no need to widen the sidewalks. I recommend a ring road to get around this mess.

May 20, 2010 4:22 PM We are 12,000 people only! Do not open up Jensen. What a confused traffic system would result! Slower traffic works well in all major historical seaside cities I have visited. Keep 2-ways. Keep maximum access. Improve signage and precincts to visit.

Unless downtown retail services are expanded, downtown traffic circulation is not necessary. We need to somehow attract retail or other services that the public will gravitate to. That will make downtown vibrant and encourage other merchants with more services. Incentives to core boutique and other retail services? Can we do what Qualicum Beach and Ladysmith have done?

May 20, 2010 4:42 PM I like the survey, but it would have been nice to be able to separate it from the information provided re: City to be retained for info.

Re: sidewalks

I find the curved sidewalk at the corner of Alberni hwy and 19A by the CIBC too wide and it makes for a difficult turn coming from the north, turning onto the Alberni hwy. I like the curved appearance, but it slows traffic and is awkward.

May 20, 2010 6:12 PM Would hope that the downtown shore line remain visible and no more monstrous buildings be allowed to be built - the one allowed to be built on the downtown shore is an ugly BLOT on the city of Parksville.

May 20, 2010 6:17 PM If stores have a return policy it should be at eye level, not where you have to get on your knees to see it. Also clerks should tell people. This is one reason people shop out of town--also prices. We need more family stores with good quality clothing and that is reasonable.

Also a regulation size pool around Wembley Mall, as it's more central for all people, and a theatre (movies for families). Not everyone is wealthy. If people had bus service every hour, people may want to shop and support local business. We have to have more disabled access to buildings.

Also we need at least a cottage hospital to stabilize people. Nanaimo and Port Alberni are too far away in an emergency. It could cost a person's life. We have waited over 20 years or longer. Trillium and Eagle Park were supposed to do this job. I know we need senior homes, being a senior myself. But we really need 24 hour medical attention, xray, blood work, etc. Please for once listen to your voters or you will not last long.

May 20, 2010 8:20 PM The beautification of the Alberni hwy from the Island hwy has been turned into a narrow and unsafe highway. The crosswalks are annoying. If you want to have visitors enjoy our town, make the road safer. Take out the parking, also.

May 20, 2010 9:24 PM When one is voted into council, you work for the whole community, not to boost your business or income. Listen to us. You can be voted out.

May 20, 2010 9:36 PM Make sure that the railway never expands beyond its present traffic and if possible phase it out altogether.

May 20, 2010 9:59 PM I and many others out here moved from overdeveloped cities of the East and left behind the traffic, pollution, etc for a quieter lifestyle. Town council seem to think this constant development is a good idea, perhaps to further their own agenda. When is development enough? Perhaps when every square inch has been taken up and we become overcrowded, overdeveloped, etc.

May 20, 2010 11:01 PM I am not against large development, but I am against beach development. I believe in free enterprise that is carried out openly with Parksville's citizens. I am against anyone in council pushing their or friends' personal agendas for any reason. I would like the previous and future councils to know that they would be held accountable through laws to govern favours that may or may not have occurred. In other words, good old fashioned honesty and integrity by all of our elected officials and future elected officials. No insinuations intended. The City must be up front with its citizens on how it goes about its business.

May 21, 2010 1:49 AM I want an OCP review now, no excuses, that's my blueprint for the future. And I want this and successive Mayors and councils to stick to it. Please stop this rezoning to accomodate any special interest, no matter who. They change the city for profit not improved lifestyle, and either don't live here, or take their profit and move on, leaving no real benefit behind. Please listen, it's very important to the Parksville community. People are very worried about this. Thankyou for giving us the opportunity to express our views. This is what local communities need.

May 21, 2010 3:36 PM We prefer not to have any more buildings along our waterfront such as the recently built Beach Club.

May 21, 2010 4:25 PM Thanks for the lovely City signs.

May 21, 2010 5:52 PM Improved public transport would negate the need for more car parking or ring roads to facilitate downtown shopping. Some towns in Ontario (Peterboro/Cambridge) have buses doing various routes in the city and returning to the bus terminus on the hour and half hour. This makes the whole city attainable and encourages downtown shopping. The terminus could be angle parking, say on Morison Street. The present system is not user friendly and does not encourage downtown shopping. Routes and schedules are poorly advertized.

May 21, 2010 5:54 PM The City of Parksville needs to set priorities. They should be roads, water, sewer. Council should quit giving away City property, i.e. public land should not be given away. There should be more open government. There should be more capability for the citizens to vote on different things.

May 21, 2010 6:23 PM We are very disappointed in this attitude of Mayor and Council regarding the views of ordinary citizens. e.g. you pushed through the Beach Club with its empty retail spaces, but well not help bring up useful retail outlets e.g. Can Tire, etc.

May 21, 2010 6:38 PM WE LOVE LIVING IN PARKSVILLE AND DO THINK THAT ED IS DOING HIS BEST TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE PUBLIC...OVERALL WE THINK THAT MOST THINGS WILL BE DONE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN PARKSVILLE AND SOMETIMES PEOPLE DO NOT WANT CHANGE, BUT WE ALL HAVE TO HAVE CHANGE IN OUR LIVES TO PROCEED IN LIFE AND PEOPLE FIND THAT HARD TO DO..WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE SOME LARGER STORES AND RESTAURANTS HERE AS WE NEED THEM AND FOR OUR YOUTH WE REALLY DO NEED MORE PROGRAMS TO KEEP THEM OFF OF THE STREETS....

THANK YOU FOR SHARING OUR THOUGHTS WITH THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

May 21, 2010 6:47 PM Many of the buildings (old and new) in the downtown area are drab or even ugly. However they can be made to look attractive and inviting by the judicious use of shrubs and planter boxes or hanging baskets. An outstanding example of this is the Skylight Motel. Perhaps more businesses should be encouraged to follow suit.

May 21, 2010 8:31 PM There is only so much monies available at these trying times. Council must not rush into expensive projects til funds are available. Move slowly with projects to ensure correct steps are taken. But we must gradually advance with improvements that benefit the public the most.

May 21, 2010 8:44 PM Re: City property behind Pioneer Crescent Strata on the Flats, between Shelly Rd and Mills. City used to weed twice a year, but not for last 2 years. The uncontrolled weeds invade my property.

May 21, 2010 9:38 PM Glad we moved here.

May 21, 2010 9:55 PM Please STOP building on our waterfront.

Slow down the housing construction till we have proper water upgrades to our resevoir.

Put the ditches on a proper maintenance program to cut weeds & grass, and STICK THE PROGRAM

May 21, 2010 10:27 PM I think I have said enough.

May 21, 2010 11:47 PM I cannot emphasize enough how well the upcoming OCP review needs to be done and how well the Mayor and Councillors need to listen to resident input and not try to impose their views on the process.

May 22, 2010 5:43 AM As I have stated before-- The city has an "off-leash" dog park. Force people to use it and not the Heritage Lands in Craig Bay. We have already had one large dog attach a smaller dog, that was on a leash. We need signs at the entrances to the Heritage Lands stating "Dogs must be on leash and litter removed. Make people aware that the by-law will be enforced!!!

Most of the problem is from persons outside of Craig Bay and not the residents.

Please address this issue before someone, or their dog is badly injured!

May 22, 2010 6:15 AM

Parksville is beautiful.

Keep it that way and improve on it in a thoughtful way.

We need to have more store fronts on Hwy 19 in the downtown which are inviting... somehow what is there has a "closed up" look to it as if they are the back of the shops. Maybe it is because they are "appointment type" businesses - is that because the zoning only allows for that type of business.

If it is absolutely necessary to have higher structures, don't block out the ocean with a wall of buildings. Make sure there is lots of space between structures for sight-lines of the ocean and mountains.

Your are on the right track with this survey.

May 22, 2010 7:55 PM

I think we need to pay more attention to our youth so they have worthwhile activities and projects to do rather than destructive one. We need to make the city attractive enough and provide employment for them so that they will stay in our city.

May 23, 2010 4:27 AM

We LOVE living here and things are getting more beautiful every day -- we especially love the wonderful maintenance of the parks and flower beds. We are very proud of our city.

May 23, 2010 4:39 PM

It has been very interesting filling out this survey.

The most positive thing I have seen here in the past 12 years is the boardwalk at the beach . It is beautiful and this little "fuss" re the fence. Well, that is just pure bull. If people cannot or will not get out of their car to look at the water. then find a place to park where they can. There are lots of areas where that is possible.

The only thing I would add is that I very strongly believe that the Beach Park should be PET FREE. This area is the worst I have ever seen when it comes to pets being treated better than some children. People think that it is their God given right to take their beloved pet with them wherever they go. That is their belief - however, they fail to realize that we don't "all" love to see little children rolling in the grass at the park at the beach where someones "pet" has just used the bathroom. Also, this "pet on leash" is a joke. Even during Brant Geese season, I walked the boardwalk and dogs were running everywhere. It should be controlled better. I love the park but cannot go there because I refuse to let someones "pet" jump at me or do its duty by the picnic table where I am sitting trying to enjoy lunch.

In 2003 I wrote a letter of complaint to the City re this situation. I could send the same letter today, just change

May 23, 2010 5:54 PM Using the total restructuring of the traffic flow from Hwy 19 to McMillan/Hirst is totally unacceptable. It appears that this is just a move to provide the Beach Club with parking for its ill placed stores.

Parksville has for many, many years been a bottle neck for traffic going up and down Island. Having lived in other towns nearby it is very evident. If we want tourists to visit our town we should be concerned to facilitate the traffic not frustrate drivers until they decide NOT to stop in town. Why is there no mention of four lanes for the bottle neck South of the RCMP station. Will the situation continue with traffic being impeded trying to make LEFT turns to The Temple store and the clinics on the other side of the highway?

It does not take long in any traffic survey to spot this obvious fault in the planning.

The current four lanes are needed also for traffic turning RIGHT into and out of the businesses on the highway, with only two lanes it will slow everything down even more. A vehicle coming into Parksville from the direction of Nanaimo will not have the opportunity to pull into the stores on Highway 19, they will not even see them if the highway is made one-way and if not- the vehicles turning will bring the traffic to a stop and create an even worse traffic congestion of the entire town.

May 24, 2010 7:55 AM I think I'm done, thank you.

I love living here in Parksville between the Mountains and the ocean, and I don't want it to become different, just a little better all around!

May 25, 2010 2:17 AM I hope I haven't wasted my time in doing this survey. The city of Parksville needs a change and together I hope city and residents can come to a mutual agreement to what is needed and the priority of these needs.

May 25, 2010 2:55 AM great survey! Very comprehensive! Had trouble finding it as there is no link on the city's web site.

May 25, 2010 3:30 PM Nice town! Don't blow it. Keep the small town feeling, but have the big town conveniences.

May 25, 2010 3:48 PM The silent majority woke up with the recent attempt to push through the Jensen St. project in direct opposition to such huge community disapproval. Why the 160 day limit for residents of waterfront condos? Surely it would be an advantage to all suppliers to have full time residents to care for the property and provide customers to local businesses.

May 25, 2010 3:51 PM I have lived in many areas of Canada and I find Parksville best yet!

May 25, 2010 4:07 PM City should take some responsibility for action to alleviate flooding of Martindale Road, as it originates on City property where the City sewer line was installed, damaging the natural bank of the river and causing the river to overflow at this point. The attitude of the City engineer I spoke to that said "people should not have built down there" is not acceptable!

May 25, 2010 5:22 PM Urgent health care clinic--get on with it! Enough talk. It is needed here in Parksville.

May 25, 2010 6:35 PM I have grave concern about any program for residential development that may place such demands on the existing sewer and water resources, so as to create the need for a major expansion of such infrastructure and thus result in a substantial increase in my taxes !!

May 25, 2010 8:04 PM We want our city to be beautiful--green lawns and flowers and trees. Relax cost of water. Do not make sprinkling regulations more restrictive.

May 25, 2010 8:22 PM Above all, listen to the voters who elected you.

May 25, 2010 8:35 PM More teamwork on council. Some show of unity on important issues. We elected them to serve us. We need a council to lead, not to follow administrators.

Good town, good future. Encourage young citizens to participate in City affairs.

May 25, 2010 8:48 PM Resident Association is my preferred method of community consultation.

The greatest asset is the areas of natural beauty and outdoor activities. The least attractive aspect is the town itself. Build a better town centre, make it pedestrian, visitor attractive. Plan for communities of residents that interact. Plan a 'green' sustainable community.

May 25, 2010 9:00 PM #37 continued....I have caught the snowplow driver and make him drop the snow and ice between driveways. The next time he filled the driveway again. It froze and it took me to hours to clear a way so I could get to the road with my car. This is really a strain on seniors who are trying to cooperate by clearing driveways and sidewalks in front of our houses. I have even thought of withholding taxes until this is addressed. I'll be 75 this year and it isn't getting easier.

May 25, 2010 9:01 PM Leave highway 19A as is. Forgot about one streets. Town is to small.

May 25, 2010 9:20 PM We do not like the condo monster on the beach, and also that there is less parking now beside this development at the bottom of McMillan Street. Also, McMillan and Hirst Ave intersection badly needs a four-way stop soon before someone is killed.

May 25, 2010 9:35 PM Our continued residence in Parksville completely depends on provision of good/high quality medical care. This is a common concern of folks our age--65+.

Waterfront development (ie on the waterside of 19A) should not exceed 2 storeys in height. Buildings on the west side of 19A should not exceed 3 (or possibly 4) storeys in height.

May 25, 2010 10:00 PM I feel that owners of buildings and houses that are not looked after, such as the buildings at the rear or side of McDonalds, or the houses at the bottom of Corfield St, should be made to clean up. It looks very bad to visitors. Does not give a good impression of Parksvillle. The City should hand out fines for this.

- May 25, 2010 10:33 PM** Even towns have hospitals, you call this a City and it does not have a hospital.
Block off all one way streets & make those areas pedestrian friendly.
Do not make any new one way streets!!
- May 25, 2010 10:38 PM** Again, our most important thing that we think about is what impacts us the most as an individual. We are seniors and as such our needs many differ. We are bothered by the traffic Humphry as it is the only way for traffic to access the dump and industrial area in Errington. There is a bylaw that states that no trucks over 9000 gvw which is never enforced. There is a hump on Humphrey that increases the noise by revving of motors as they go over the hump to speed up as they leave. Some take off very fast from the hump. One of the suggestions I gave was to remove the hump, make the crosswalk more noticeable, and reduce the speed limit to 40 and enforce the bylaw. Another thought was to push Despard through to Church Rd to take the traffic, as a ring road, to that area, as well as continue it on to the inland highway. This of course would take a planner to see it through all the facets.
- May 25, 2010 10:50 PM** Parksville is a genuinely well kept, green town. Very disappointed the development was allowed to take place on the beach and is being catered to. Most citizens I have spoken to are of the same opinion. How was this allowed to happen when so many people did not want it on our beach? Please do not continue to move in this direction.
- May 26, 2010 3:58 PM** I'm in my 90s and use a walker to get exercise outside. I enjoy seniors' activities--Bridge (cards). Have made friends since moving here. Family very supportive. I'd like to see more sidewalks. McVicars St very busy with motor traffic--that is where I use my walker. I have difficulty on rising surfaces. I'm happy to see lots of people walking here in Parksville or biking. Parksville has changed since I moved here 5 years ago. Much more traffic and new housing.
- May 26, 2010 4:24 PM** Parksville is a very nice city, but wish it had a better bus service especially to get to church.
- May 26, 2010 4:27 PM** The complaining few always have their views heard. The quiet majority who do not wish to be involved in confrontation are forced to accept the limitations forced upon them. City Council needs to prepared a vision for a balanced and vibrant City and put the plan into action. The needs of the majority should outweigh the complaints of the few.
- May 26, 2010 6:03 PM** At a late council meeting it was noted that the mayor voted on every single issue. If you are familiar with the BC Municipal Act it states the mayor only has a vote if there is a tie of council. Otherwise he cannot vote.
- May 26, 2010 6:15 PM** Decisions to be made by council (after public hearings) when possible----do not hire consultants except for extremely technical assistance.
- May 26, 2010 6:39 PM** We think you're doing a great job.
- May 26, 2010 8:10 PM** I think the majority of people would like to see a Canadian Tire and Extra Foods situated within the city somewhere near Wembly Mall, not by the river. Also, kill the Jensen idea completely. Much rather use the funds for a new firehall.

May 26, 2010 8:26 PM

---bus service not good. poor routes, large busses seen running empty most of the time (smaller more efficient busses should be used for off peak times) Difficult to get route times. WHO IS PAYING FOR THE FUEL THESE EMPTY BUSES ARE BURNING?????

---the traffic circles on Temple Ave are not functional (try making a left hand turn with a larger truck). I have witnessed traffic go speeding through without slowing down. An accident waiting to happen.

---for the most part, like it or not, Parksville merchants must compete price wise with the "big box stores" of Nanaimo for my major dollar spending. I wouldn't like to see it happen but perhaps a big box store in Parksville would produce a different shopping climate here. There are 3 large hardware stores here. I'm sure everyone has compared the price of a 2 x 4, here and Nanaimo; a no brainer. All contractors are getting a better price, why can't the ordinary home handy man get the same???

---being from Winnipeg " pot hole country" I kind of got a feel for when a road patch or a complete re- surfacing was necessary. I'm not an engineer but, the city planners must make better decisions on street repair before spending millions of tax payer \$\$\$\$.

May 26, 2010 8:27 PM

I suggest that the mayor and council stop supporting the big developers. We are not a Maui or Florida. Our community has all but lost its beauty and happy, relaxing atmosphere. What a tragic shame. Thankfully there will be another election where we will have an opportunity to make some needed changes.

1. My friends and I drive up to Qualicum Beach a few times a week where we can walk along their superior walk. We can enjoy the ocean, the mountains, the birds, the boats and have a lovely time. We do not have the view; we have what is likely the ugliest building in BC--the Beach Club and all its ugly buildings--a mar on the horizon. For shame.

2. Kudos to Mr. Burger for putting forth the motion to halt the Jensen extension plan. What a relief.

3. Shame on council and Gayle Jackson for their shoddy and ungrateful treatment of Mr. Cy O'Leary. Unbelievable.

May 26, 2010 9:17 PM

The future of Parksville is to give the future population of Parksville improved parks, designated bicycle paths, recreation areas, attract tourists. Make citizens proud of the way Parksville looks, like they do in Qualicum.

May 26, 2010 9:34 PM When the residents pay their municipal taxes, explain to them that should they live in a strata complex, they do not obtain all the services that a regular resident is guaranteed.
Repair some of the roadwork on Stanford. After making the drivers leave the Alberni highway along Despard to Corfield to bypass the downtown region, they run into an unkept road that is sadly lacking work. The same goes for Despard when you turn from the Alberni highway headed south.
Give the pedestrians somewhere to walk in safety on roads like Corfield, Highway 19A and Stanford.

May 26, 2010 9:40 PM For 28 years I have heard nothing but downtown development and very little has changed. Council should accept that Parksville is a retirement community and the big paying jobs of logging and fishing are declining. Importing cheap labour to man the hotels for the tourism industry does not do anything for the citizens except use up our water supply so our way of life is changed. We can't wash our cars or water our lawns without paying a premium.

May 26, 2010 10:03 PM We must not be swayed by special interest groups. Rule by the majority not by minorities. Don't get off on tangents -- the flavour of the day.

May 26, 2010 10:12 PM 1. Scooter accessibility to get to shopping. 2. Handidart is important for those without family locally. 3. Wheelchair accessible parks. 4. Taxi service available locally. 5. Home delivery of groceries and prescription drugs. 6. Small business to do yard work and all aspects of home maintenance. 7. Ambulance service--fast and available. 8. Lots of handicapped parking spaces. 9. Safe community for seniors and families. 10. Print communication pieces in large size font.

May 26, 2010 10:23 PM We love the new Parksville signage and the new beach boardwalk. Stanford Place is ugly.
Please retain the green spaces we have now. Don't extend Jensen St. We need to keep the green space. Keep the green space at the corner of Jensen and Hwy 4 for a park (and perhaps put in a wading pool, swings and a slide).
We need more beach access signs and more beach accesses along the highway. And please, no more tall buildings along the waterfront. No box stores. We need a sidewalk on Jensen St from Hwy 4 to Moilliet St. We need a 4-way stop at the corner of Hirst and McMillan St. I would like to see the RV park on the waterfront gone.
We need sidewalks on Hirst between Hwy 4 and McMillan St in front of the Legion.

May 27, 2010 3:13 PM Thank you for digging up the roads along Moilliet St; my home is infested with large grey rats. I have not slept in two weeks. City Hall does what pleases big business owners in this town. To hell with the majority. What a waste of time this survey is.

May 27, 2010 3:26 PM Sidewalks need to be finished. Look at Wright Rd where there's a need for sidewalks for school children. It's been 13 years in development.

May 27, 2010 4:58 PM Too many questions for our family to answer.

May 27, 2010 5:16 PM The mayor should live here or stay in Nanoose. How long will it be before someone is killed coming out of Tim Hortons? Coffee with the mayor doesn't work. What will the waterfront look like in 20 years. Oops, we won't have one!

May 27, 2010 5:43 PM Your job is thankless and we thank you for your efforts and time expended on our behalf.

May 27, 2010 6:53 PM We have seen many changes since we moved here 26 years ago. We held jobs for 22 of those years and contributed time to some of those changes. The biggest concern and disappointment was the building of the Beach Club. It is an eyesore to the ambience of the downtown and waterfront. Should never have been allowed to mushroom into the monstrosity that sits there now. Please do not allow further construction of that sort along Parksville Bay. It is so out of place.

May 27, 2010 9:37 PM We are old (76) and find some changes overdeveloped. Too many people can take away the quality of life. Our councils must control density of people and traffic.

May 27, 2010 9:47 PM No traffic on main street (Alberni Hwy). It's very dangerous. Too many crosswalks, and people driving don't stop enough. They keep going and I personally have several times almost been hit by cars or other vehicles. Also seen other people walking over and have almost been hit. It works in cities and other towns and in other countries, also at Vancouver when the Olympics were on.

May 27, 2010 10:05 PM RV parking on Pioneer Cres for grocery shopping. Left hand turn lanes, especially at 19A and Corfield. Make sure empty stores are filled before adding more retail stores. Empty stores look ugly.

May 27, 2010 10:38 PM I am 85 years old and find transportation to places uptown a problem. When I go uptown walking, etc. I need a place to rest and a toilet. I'm just getting too old. I can walk down to the park but find I have trouble returning up the hill.

Would like to go to a movie (and dinner) once a month. I'm sure our younger generation would enjoy it too. Need a theatre for movies.

Thank you.

May 28, 2010 3:56 PM I have been and am upset by the waterfront development, in particular the way the property is being used. I would like to see no more development at the waterfront. This beach in the past has been used by everyone, not by big time developers. Let's keep our beautiful beach as is. Keep it for everyone.

May 28, 2010 4:09 PM Very concerned about the new water rates. Appears the private citizen is going to be subsidizing the commercial user - the increase in Tier levels for private homes is obscene when compared with the increases for commercial use. Same can be said for the consumption levels at each Tier.

Have many questions with respect to how the "average" consumption figure was obtained but won't go into that here - will discuss this within the PRA forum and see if my fears are legitimate or groundless.

May 28, 2010 4:37 PM Downtown curbing sticking out of main street is a disaster. Look at the black tire marks on them. Cars are knocked out of alignment and there's tire damage.

May 28, 2010 4:52 PM 1. Change bylaw to allow keeping chickens, same as the City of Vancouver; 2. Recommend traffic control lights at the intersection of Hirst and McMillan (SOS).

May 28, 2010 4:58 PM Make this questionnaire available in the high school office for students who want to give their input.

May 28, 2010 5:23 PM I found it hard to believe that council was going to spend millions of dollars on the Jensen St extension when I have no problem travelling either way on 19A. It seemed to me to be a huge waste of money.

May 28, 2010 5:26 PM Quit treating the public like we are a bunch of idiots!

May 28, 2010 5:35 PM No more "Beach Club Resorts" or the like. It totally changed downtown area for the worse.

May 28, 2010 5:41 PM we would like to state again the need for an aqua centre movie theater
water park for older children and young adults
it would also be an added tourist attraction

May 28, 2010 6:17 PM In my view there's a major gap between those who are elected to govern the City AND the staff they direct and the resident public.

The Chamber of Commerce cannot be the ONLY source of leadership - and it is misguided to believe that the decisions made are in the best interests of the resident public. Eventually, the downtown core must evolve and develop into a CBD rather than by changes to traffic patterns. Its a travesty to think so simplistically - but is being done.

May 28, 2010 6:36 PM Is there any way we can have a movie house in Parksville where movies can be enjoyed by all family, small and older? Plus a parent or grandparent can take a child out to see a child movie. Thank you.

May 28, 2010 8:17 PM New arrivals have too much to say. Those of us who have raised families in Parksville, etc. feel out-gunned. This can be remedied by giving citizens one vote for each year of living in Parksville.

May 28, 2010 9:04 PM Please don't allow any more large (tall) buildings like the Beach Club to take away any more beach view or beach access.

May 28, 2010 9:31 PM I just spent several months in Australia and was surprised how much more user friendly their towns are as compared to Parksville. They have a well-defined downtown with wide sidewalks which are often covered to protect against sun and rain. Can we not put more emphasis on beauty? Hwy 19A is an absolute disaster in that sense. Planting flowers and shrubs will not change much. Car lots and parking should be hidden behind buildings, not in front. The highway should be improved and made more pedestrian/cyclist friendly and safer. When will the City paint a pedestrian crossing across the highway to allow walking from Thrifty across 5 lanes to Quality Foods without risking one's life? When will a sidewalk along Alberni Hwy be completed? How about some bicycle lanes? The parking lot in front of Stedmans should be converted to a traffic free plaza with trees, benches, outdoor cafés, perhaps even a bandstand. Make the city more human friendly and less car friendly. Check out a colonial Mexican town for beauty. Good luck.

May 28, 2010 9:44 PM Parksville does not need a major overhaul, just improvement in a few areas--downtown infill, bike route along 19A in downtown, etc. It does not need to become another Nanaimo or Courtenay. Look at quiet beach towns around the world for inspiration, not bigger locations close by.

May 28, 2010 9:54 PM I believe the city needs to evaluate its plans and planning of the downtown. There are several plans and policies in place, but no implementation strategy. We should strive for a 'pedestrian' downtown with a strong residential component. The old highway has to become less of a primary artery. We also need to address storm water management. The bay should not be used as a storm sewer collection area.

May 28, 2010 10:03 PM Increasing the cost of services to teach us a lesson is the worst excuse I have ever heard. That shows the attitude of the people who run Parksville. There should be some courses available to change this attitude and make staff and council aware that they are here to serve the people of Parksville.

Hire employees who live in the community--not in other communities to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

May 28, 2010 10:23 PM If you write to the Mayor, he should at least have the common decency to acknowledg receipt of your letter versus totally ignoring you. I think we must have a rookie Mayor as he does not seem to know how to handle himslef very professionally.

May 28, 2010 10:34 PM The mayor and council must realize they represent the people and stop acting like dictators. The mayor gets a bit in his teeth and runs with it despite consequences.

May 28, 2010 10:48 PM Restrict for watering for lawns, allow for food gardens.

RCMP have many fewer files than Surrey. Need system change--officers take holidays, several consecutive days off, training--no follow up--little interest in solving any crime.

- May 31, 2010 4:25 PM** Regarding the controversy about what to build on the Parksville Beach Resort property--If the City could find the funds, it would be great if this property and the adjoining Sands RV Park could be purchased and the Community Park enlarged to the Beach Club. This would be a wonderful solution and would benefit many generations to come.
- May 31, 2010 4:54 PM** Not enough medical facilities here. Complete building plans for Stanford Place.
- May 31, 2010 5:12 PM** More control over dogs & cats running loose.
- More deer control.
- Is it necessary to have so many streets torn up at the same time? AND why are some intersections torn (dug up) so often - eg. McMillan and 19A.
- May 31, 2010 5:33 PM** I love living in Parksville and think that the powers at City Hall do a great job.
- May 31, 2010 5:54 PM** No ring road we do NOT need it at all.
- May 31, 2010 5:57 PM** We need a mayor and councillors who live in Parksville and have the community's interests at heart. Who needs people in power who don't want to live in the community where they decide what they want the city to look like or spend money on? They want to control the city but don't have a financial out-of-pocket expense. They have a 'not-in-my-neighbourhood' attitude. 'Let's do it in Parksville and I can live in my quiet, nice place.'
- May 31, 2010 6:32 PM** Plan the city well. Make plans and follow it. Let people know the plans. Don't let people sway you from the plans. Plans should be revised every 10 years. Don't listen to people at public hearings--it does not reflect the majority.
- Big box store should be on Alberni Hwy. Plan for the future. It will happen.
- May 31, 2010 6:32 PM** Living in Parksville suits us fine as retired folk. We enjoy the new promenade along the beach area - no not take the fence away as it adds to the ambience of the area. Arrange for entertainment while "Sand Castles" are here. Not just for young folk. During the year "concerts in the park". New signs around City are excellent.
- May 31, 2010 8:14 PM** This survey is a great tool for council to have feedback from residents. Thank you.
- May 31, 2010 8:26 PM** On the crime rate: The police do their best. It is a shame that the local government can do nothing about judges that recirculate criminals to keep themselves overemployed along with other lawyers.

May 31, 2010 9:14 PM We love Parksville; chose to move here 30 years ago. We accept that it must grow, but oppose too rapid growth and destruction of the beach community feeling. Despite the sprawling housing developments, it would be nice to retain the 'small town' feeling.

We lament empty retail spaces, not to mention the empty lot at Craig and Hwy 19A. What about a nice mini-park there if no one is prepared to build a business? It's a pity for people living at the west end of town that both big grocery stores are on the same block. Please, no more liquor outlets.

The community park is well used and a pleasure to visit. All the facilities are in use. The sports are what count-- ball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, lacrosse box, volleyball, sandcastle competition, and lots of space for throwing frisbees and picnicking.

I'd like to see a tearoom on the hovercraft pad, plus public toilets (not portapotties).

May 31, 2010 9:23 PM

1. On the whole, Parksville is a pretty nice place to live.
2. People who decide to run for office usually do so to try to make things better.
3. Local councils and committees have hard decisions to make.
4. It would be nice to have a movie theatre.

May 31, 2010 9:35 PM Most of my questions have been asked in the survey, however: I find it odd that such a small community of 11,000 has such a large staff and buildings equipment etc. would it not be more efficient to contract out projects and maintenance to the private sector saving \$\$ in wages, benefits, pensions, etc. and thus lowering property taxes. This would also increase job creation - I would be interested to see a per capita comparison with other such same size areas like, Langford, Colwood etc. around Victoria.

May 31, 2010 9:45 PM

- make town centre a people magnet
- reduce traffic, increase parking
- make the town a pedestrian town
- have environmental objectives
- development must be secondary to sustainability
- we desperately need an urgent health care centre
- promote resident associations
- listen

May 31, 2010 9:59 PM This survey is probably costly and may not even be read. The Council seems to have an agenda they follow anyway. The average persons do not seem to have much input anyway.

May 31, 2010 10:03 PM Close cooperation with neighbouring communities; eg Qualicum, RDN and all the satellite villages/districts is also important. Maybe Parksville, as the largest, could be the hub or fulcrum for the whole 'Oceanside' area.

- May 31, 2010 10:12 PM** Parksville will always be the poor relative of Qualicum Beach. They really look after their town and keep the small town feeling. Parksville is like a thousand other towns in BC - long road with car businesses either side - nothing attractive to welcome you until our jewel - the Beachfront park, which is just about all we have. When we have visitors they always want to go and shop in Qualicum - I say what about here - what shops? They reply our "downtown" is so boring. Craig Street tried to make an effort but it failed. One thing you can certainly buy plenty of gas here.
- May 31, 2010 10:15 PM** As mentioned, less wasted manpower by public works staff. Also, how many times does the power sweeper have to clean the streets.
- May 31, 2010 10:26 PM** We love it here but don't screw it up. We paid for a new dam and supply system which was to last for many years of City's growth. But now you want to replace/improve it. The Bylaw Enforcement Services better start removing the rabbits from the vacant land across from Wembley Mall as they are spreading across the area and north of Foster Park.
Street calming (Sandy's hurdles) as put in on Alberni Highway and Pym street are a waste of money and check the bust tire marks where the bus turns off Stanhope onto Pym.
- May 31, 2010 10:28 PM** We live in the industrial area. We need this cleaned up--maybe some more trees and flowers (pots, etc.). We are the first part of Parksville that visitors see, and I think compared to the west and down near Pym, we look sad. Please look into smartening up this industrial area. We need sidewalks so we can walk into town. We have to walk along the busy old highway. Put in some nice sidewalks.
- May 31, 2010 10:29 PM** It would be nice to have a movie theatre in Parksville as a lot of seniors do not drive or can't drive at night to Nanaimo.
- May 31, 2010 10:46 PM** We are impressed with this residential survey. We appreciate the opportunity to participate.

Rabins in Foster Park - I brought the rapid rabbit increase in Foster Park and the large private grass lot next to the park. "We cannot do anything about it" was the response from city employees. I grow a garden, lettuce, etc. The cute little black bunnies are down at my end of the block. Not only do we have a deer problem but we also have a rabbit problem. And, no one seems to care, especially at City Hall.
- May 31, 2010 11:04 PM** You seem to be doing a pretty good job - especially considering my lack of input & participation! Of course the Island Hall property rezoning is a monstrosity but you deserve high marks for effort and I do recognize your job is not easy. Perhaps you could provide more computer courses or training if you want input from us 65+ folks.
- Jun 1, 2010 4:17 PM** Bring matters up with taxpayers. Let them know what the council and mayor are planning, not dictating.
- Jun 1, 2010 5:14 PM** Thank you to all councillors and city workers. We 'old' people need people like you.
- Jun 1, 2010 6:03 PM** I would like a Canadian Tire store in Parksville.

Jun 1, 2010 6:18 PM Please go back to old style town hall meeting on Development with everyone coming at one time. This way I know what my neighbours want and like, your style of meetings with come when you want does not let me know what my fellow residents want. It only lets me know what City and development employees and Council think they heard and want to hear. I would like to judge for myself.

Jun 1, 2010 8:24 PM We would like to see the property next to the Beach Club purchased by the City. The Beach Club is a disgusting concrete eyesore. Keep the city small. Most citizens don't want growth. We live here because it's small. Fix up older streets; ie sidewalks, Newcastle Ave, Nanoose Ave and the like.

Jun 1, 2010 9:39 PM My concern is the safety of the intersection by SOS. Motorists have little or no respect for the pedestrian crossing. Often the vehicles are in the wrong lane. I would like to see a 40 km/hr speed sign on McMillan, as the motorists drive too fast. I speak from experience. A car stopped for me, but a car following hit that car. I still had not stepped on the crosswalk. Do we have to kill or main someone first?

Jun 1, 2010 10:33 PM I think the boardwalk is a great addition to our Parksville park and seniors with walking problems. I believe council should show leadership by planning, and not go off in a hurray before the plan has been completed. You're paying for studies. Make use of the information even if it means waiting.

Jun 1, 2010 11:06 PM While I am in favor of future growth on the waterfront, I am disappointed with what has been built to date. I was expecting to see a building that would have enhanced the looks of the downtown and the waterfront, such as the Nanaimo waterfront, which I love to spend time there. The present building would be better suited to East Hasting in Vancouver than Parksville.

Things that I would like the City to do:

- 1) All new sidewalks to have rolled curbs, the present walkways are made for cars to drive over more than for people to walk on.
- 2) Setback for buildings in new subdivisions to be reduced to 10ft, the saving in land and water would greatly enhanced. As well the overall lot size could be smaller.
- 3) I would like to see a street map of the City displayed in the downtown area, maybe in front of the Credit Union parking lot. I have been stopped many times while out walking, by people looking for directions.
- 4) I would be in favor of making McMillan St. a one way street but I do not think that the Highway needs any changed to it.
- 5) A suggestion I have to help to identify addresses in the downtown core, is to have the address number painted on the curb in front of the premises. They do this in Los Angeles and it make it much easier to find places.
- 6) It would be nice if the people that have trees and shrubs that overhang the sidewalks be required to cut them back regularly. Also not to place their garbage containers on the sidewalks, they should be either on the road or the edge of their property. Some municipalities have bylaws requiring this.

- Jun 2, 2010 3:29 PM** Good idea. Thanks. Council's responsibility is to protect the well being of Parksville citizens. Nothing more.
- Jun 2, 2010 3:35 PM** We would be pleased to see shuttle/bus service to Green and Mount Washington
- Jun 2, 2010 4:01 PM** No more highrises. Leave the waterfront as it is.
- Jun 2, 2010 4:33 PM** I strongly disagree with narrowing 19A through the City to two lanes and the extension of Jensen Street
- Jun 2, 2010 5:06 PM** The intersection of McMillan and Hirst by SOS is a bad one for traffic and pedestrians. Would it be possible to install a pedestrian activated light there?
- Jun 2, 2010 5:08 PM** We live in a beautiful city and we all should have more pride int he way our properties are kept. There are lots of properties that are eyesores due to junk/garbage kept out in open view. I am sure there is a bylaw for dealing with this problem.
- Jun 2, 2010 5:15 PM** It was difficult to choose only one answer for many of the questions, therefore, I checked all that I feel were important. It wasn't clear if you only wanted (1) checked in each question or all that I feel are important.
- Jun 2, 2010 5:32 PM** Attract a radio station. No more 1-way streets. No more high rises on beach.
- Jun 2, 2010 6:15 PM** I realize the post office is federal. But the building, etc, is about 40 years behind the times, plus parking is the pits.
- This survey is an excellent step in the right direction. Anxiously waiting to hear/see the overall results. Thanks.
- Jun 2, 2010 6:31 PM** Parksville is a beautiful place to live, but we have too many over priced homes/condos, no good wage jobs, too many timeshares (you do not know who is coming or going). We have no proper medical services (hospital). Firehall is too small. Police are overstretched. But the city is growing. For the rich only. Waterfront will be gone if we don't stop now. Parking on main route to upper highway is too crowded (past Rod and Gun). No affordable housing; very little for mentally ill challenged people, seniors. You say shop local, but can never find, or too expensive. Parksville has to grow with the times, for everyone. Give the young people more to do--roller rink, shows, pool, etc. in our town. Tourists are nice but we have to live here after they are all gone.
- Jun 2, 2010 6:56 PM** Because I usually can't find what I am looking for in regards to shopping, or the prices are higher because of the lack of competition, except maybe groceries, I travel to Nanaimo for most purchases. I would like to see more large stores here, such as Canadian Tire, Walmart, etc. In addition to better choice and price, there would be more employment and a better tax base for the people and City.
- Jun 2, 2010 8:14 PM** The mayor should be more concerned about the city we came to live in. Not cater so much to business associates and personal interests.
- Jun 2, 2010 8:30 PM** We are basically quite satisfied. Many thanks.

Jun 2, 2010 8:47 PM Dismiss Gayle Jackson and replace her with a more competent person who does not make rude remarks about taxpayers. What does the second item of question 21 have to do with assisting council to define the future of the City of Parksville?

Jun 2, 2010 9:06 PM Address Jensen St (up to Moilliet St). This is a major road. God forbid if a senior or a child gets killed having to walk on roadway because council doesn't think it important to have sidewalks or even one sidewalk on a very busy street to downtown.

Jun 2, 2010 9:08 PM The pedestrian crossing lines at Hirst and McMillan need painting.

Jun 2, 2010 9:17 PM Bylaw Enforcement is non-existent. Many properties in a terrible state and need cleaning up. Intent of building more roads we need to put power poles underground, widen existing sidewalks which will create more parking and be pedestrian friendly. Bike paths are essential. We need to develop area next to the Beach Club. A City his size cannot afford to maintain more parks. A public washroom is essential. At this point there is nowhere in downtown where a person with disabilities can use a washroom. We need two walkways over the highway - one at Dairy Queen and the other at Chevron.

Jun 2, 2010 9:22 PM The city does not require a new plan. The layout was bad and it is too late to make changes. Taxes are too high as is. No more high density buildings. The city is fine as is.

Jun 2, 2010 9:23 PM Parksville is one of the most beautiful areas on this Island. Efforts should be made to maintain the natural beauty, curbing major development of our beach areas and to tie the downtown core together.

Jun 2, 2010 9:41 PM Controlled development in a sustainable manner (no sprawl). I recently moved from QB (Eaglecrest) to Parksville. There seems to be a belief that QB is superior to Parksville. The 2 places are different and both have their strengths and weaknesses.

Jun 2, 2010 10:05 PM You should encourage the local papers to carry a regular column of 'City news' and proceeds of council meetings.

Jun 2, 2010 10:12 PM I think most people don't attend meetings, etc. because they have in the past and found out it didn't make any difference. Council goes ahead and does what it and the developers want anyway. We still meet people visiting from out of town, asking us why we let council build the towers. It raises our blood pressure and spoils our walk.

- Jun 2, 2010 10:20 PM** Church Road (Humphrey to Wembley) has turned into a highway. The owners on Church Road and Humphrey went to City Hall when the traffic became obvious - City Hall's answer was a speed bump on Humphrey. There is provision made for this road to run from Port Alberni Highway in a straight line to Highway 19A (Nanaimo District land - this has never happened - I believe it would run beside the golf course). We also now have a used car business on our street adding to soft shoulder parking and traffic jams.
- Jun 2, 2010 10:21 PM** Support more the needs of places like Lions housing.
- Jun 2, 2010 10:42 PM** Parksville is the beach for everyone. It's what everyone loves. Don't turn it into highrise lane, please.
- Jun 3, 2010 3:20 PM** Just keep on growing or no young people will be able to stay here.
- Jun 3, 2010 3:47 PM** I think this is probably a waste of time and money.
- Jun 3, 2010 3:52 PM** I was surprised to hear residents who do not receive "junk" mail did not get this survey - I phoned city hall for this copy which was mailed to me.
Everyone should have received this!
I find limitations in some areas of shopping. We have more than enough grocery stores - limited shoe stores, lesser priced clothing and limited hardware items.
- Jun 3, 2010 4:33 PM** No more building on the beachfront period. Also no big box stores. For once think about our local merchants, if your egos will let you.
- Jun 3, 2010 4:38 PM** Up until now most Mayors have decided to put emphasis on businesses in town. It is pointed out that the population is majorly retired.
- Jun 3, 2010 4:57 PM** Our town is designed very poor for the aging population. The business zoning is scattered making it very inconvenient for people who can't drive.
For people who do drive, there needs to be a centrally located parkade because parking is very limited, especially during the tourist season. Parksville is the only city that I've ever lived in that don't have a 24 hour medical facility.
We need to attract business that would give us a better tax base.
Thank you for requesting a survey. I hope it will make a difference. I would be pleased to see some of the things mentioned become a reality in the future.
If we are going to encourage people to settle in our area please do some catching up with medical and fire protection first. The new planning needs to consider better commercial zoning too.
- Jun 3, 2010 5:11 PM** Parksville should follow Qualicum's plan. We don't need big box stores. I think Thrifty's addition has allowed them to sneak in under the wire in this regard. If Qualicum residents can travel to Nanaimo for services, surely Parksville can do the same.

- Jun 3, 2010 5:34 PM** The town has problems with its layout, traffic flow, infrastructure etc. But this is a nice and picturesque place to live. It is not going to become a manufacturing and industrial centre. I think the two things we can promote are tourism and retirement living. And I hate to keep harping on this but to do the latter you somehow have to stop using strata properties such as Craig Bay as a cash cow.
We need a pedestrian tunnel under the road to join the oceanfront park to the downtown core -have it come up into a nice square with a fountain, benches, shrubs, etc.
Don't forget on the new wooden walkway along the beach that those exposed bolt holes allow water to pool and will cause rot to set in. They should have wooden plugs hammered in or an epoxy solution poured into them and allowed to set.
- Jun 3, 2010 5:40 PM** This is a waste of paper. Nothing will catch in Parksville.
- Jun 3, 2010 6:41 PM** SVP make it work better.
- Jun 3, 2010 6:53 PM** Getting into town from the Temple, Rushton, Bay area is an accident ready to happen. Likewise, turning left into Temple. Why isn't a deal made with the school district so that Temple and Humphrey are aligned with a light? Turning left onto Humphrey would also be accommodated. Now it causes a bottleneck, and another accident ready to happen.
- Jun 3, 2010 7:00 PM** We are very pleased to be living in Parksville and enjoy the quality of life of the area. We especially enjoy the climate and the opportunity to maintain a beautiful garden. However, this endeavor will be compromised by the new water consumption costs. On the one hand, the City wishes to participate in 'Communities in Bloom', but now residents will be forced to let their lawns go brown and plants shrivel because of the high cost of water. With all the rain this area receives, surely some method of storage could be developed to ensure adequate and affordable water.
- Jun 3, 2010 8:10 PM** Having completed this, I am moving to Qualicum Beach 31st May, 2010.
- Jun 3, 2010 8:43 PM** 1. Public hearings are useless if the decision has been made. 2. Input during the early planning stage would be useful.
- Jun 3, 2010 8:52 PM** 1. The Jensen St extension I felt was a terrible idea. I hope it will never be considered again. Try to keep Parksville as natural as possible. 2. I would like to see a hospital in our area, which is very much needed. 3. I would also like to see a new firehall.
- Jun 3, 2010 9:07 PM** Being a government is a tough job. Parksville is trying hard and generally doing a good job. Think the big picture, not always with the vocal minority. Parksville is a great place to live. Thanks for the survey opportunity.
- Jun 3, 2010 9:24 PM** Being one of the many identified high water users in our fair city (I like to see flourishing gardens and green lawns), perhaps City council should consider a cap on future housing development, and other controversial developments, until improvements in the water supply are made. On the subject of gardens, why are you destroying the beautiful garden that was in place by the railway station?

Jun 3, 2010 9:34 PM The beach/park is the heart of Parksville and key to the tourism industry. The Beach Club is a prime example of how to both ruin the landscape and also to affect negatively the tourism base customers.

Protect the beach/park!! Must of the downtown infrastructure is dated - open ditches, overhead wiring, no sidewalks or even road curbry. Modernization is a necessary basis for any future downtown improvement.

Jun 3, 2010 9:58 PM Would like to see Council working together and not constantly fighting.

Jun 3, 2010 10:34 PM The sewer lines run on Alberni Hwy were incorrect. To have them redone at an enormous cost to us, the people, was mismanagement by the City. The lines put in on Pioneer Cres. were also incorrect, raising our cost again. It would seem to me the City would have hired a different group who would have done it correctly. And this survey would not be to the advantage of the people.

Jun 3, 2010 10:38 PM As I walk through Parksville, have found the sidewalks in the City - when it snows - are not cleaned and the public have to walk on the roads.

Our grocery stores, Thrifty Foods & QF can clear their parking lots, but not the sidewalks! Need to be changed.

Jun 3, 2010 10:56 PM I think the city needs to have a viable tax base. Some light industry, warehouses, big box stores would only raise the tax base. More residential construction isn't going to do it.

Jun 3, 2010 10:59 PM A movie theatre in Parksville would be great. Community Centre does try to fill this void. A centre for the arts would be great, but TOSH and Port Theatre are close to attend regularly.

I encourage City Hall in its planning for our community. Just don't get bogged down in trying to be bigger. Be better instead. Work on the image of Parksville. Encourage citizens to take pride in their community. Try to get Parksville a 'centre' or a 'core'. QB has a centre or a 'soul' if you want to give it a name. Parksville lacks that. Work on this. Pay attention to lifestyles and accommodate these. People come here to retire, to live a good life. Help them to do that. Those who are long time residents of Parksville need to develop some pride in their community. Help them do this. I like Parksville and area. I am happy to live here, as are many of my friends. Take a close look at what you want in the long run for Parksville. My advice: 1. Keep it small. 2. Concentrate on quality of life. BC or Vancouver Island is known for its 'eco-friendly' lifestyles. Build on this. Enhance what you already have and I bet you will be pleasantly surprised at the result and the support that you will get.

Jun 4, 2010 5:35 PM One of the attractions of Parksville is the natural surrounding, treed areas, etc. There are many vacant properties available for development, eg. the corner of Despard and the Alberni Highway - originally planned for development and now left in limbo. Or the area by City Hall - another example. Other smaller properties also exist. Lets make use of these before tearing down trees in areas such as Ring Road or Despard and Corfield. The area of Jensen and the Alberni Highway where the second hand store was located would be another spot for development. Would help make downtown more attractive.

Jun 4, 2010 6:36 PM The City desperately needs a professional planner.

Jun 4, 2010 6:41 PM Parksville is a wonderful City to live in - after driving through Vancouver with all the high rises we came across the Organe Bridge and what struck us was all the low buildings and then you could get a glimpse of the ocean - what beauty - now I'm sorry to say the Beach Club has taken all the beauty away at the end of the Parksville Bay but is that progress? And if it is what we have to look forward to all around the Bay it will be a real crime for future generations - now driving through Parksville we can barely see the ocean. Shame on the City zoning and development Council for permitting 9 stories and what's next - I'm afraid of this Council's plans.

Jun 4, 2010 6:49 PM There is a lack of access to the local constituents and the alderman. No telephone number, no contact between him or her and their constituents. We don't know what his/her opinions are or their views. We do not hear from our alderman or receive any newsletters from this alderman. Perhaps posting the alderman's responsibilities for each residential area in Parksville, along with their office phone number in the local newspaper would help people know who their alderman is and how to reach them.

Jun 4, 2010 8:00 PM Mayor and council seem to have the idea that they can make major decisions to put in box stores and change 19A and Jensen St without listening to what the citizens want.

Jun 4, 2010 8:27 PM I have lived in Parksville since 1953. I cannot see why you want to build highrises and take away the parking down at the beach. Once again, take the fence down and make more parking spaces on the beach side.

Concerning the boardwalk down in the park, we were walking it the other day and noticed new boards were put in, and some have signs of deterioration. Is this going to be an ongoing expense for us taxpayers?

The new sign that was in this morning's paper: Granted, it is a lovely sign, but I cannot see that it would cost \$120,000 to make. One can build a house for that much.

Jun 4, 2010 8:32 PM The Wosk property would make an ideal park. The present park is overflowing.

Jun 4, 2010 8:39 PM I have concern about a program of residential development that may place such demands on existing sewer and water resources as to create the need for a major expansion of such infrastructure and thus result in a substantial increase in my taxes.

Jun 4, 2010 8:43 PM I love the new walkway around the shoreline but do not like what you did with the shoreline including the fence that hides the sea from view. Please, no more highrise building more than 3 stories high.

Jun 4, 2010 9:34 PM I know computers are the way of the future but many people, especially seniors, are not in the loop.

Jun 4, 2010 9:40 PM Having travelled the USA many times and through different routes, I would caution the City about letting in big box operations like Walmart. I see many towns and cities in the USA in particular become ghost towns almost when the big box operation gets their foot in the door. Small operations cannot compete and are forced to close. A damn shame.

Jun 4, 2010 9:40 PM I would just like to say that the boardwalk in the Park is the best money every spent. I have never seen so many people of all ages and abilities out walking by the ocean. Well done! I also LIKE the fence and understand fully why it was necessary. I think the Beach Club buildings are the ugliest I have ever seen.

Jun 4, 2010 9:56 PM With regard to parking in the downtown, would it be a good idea to reserve the land across Craig street from the City Hall for a parkade with revenue going to the City.

Jun 4, 2010 9:57 PM I think the banners on the light posts, changed at least 3 times a year, are a waste of money. The roads are closed while the banners are changed. I imagine the cost of the machines used for climbing up to change them is quite expensive. The banners are too small, anyway. Get rid of them.

The corner of 19A and the Alberni Hwy (at the bank) is ridiculous with the 'bulging' sidewalk, making the corner every awkward for small cars to get around. Cut it back. The 19A from MacDonalds up to the Temple corner store is disgraceful. Resurface it.

Jun 4, 2010 9:58 PM Solve 19A problems

Jun 4, 2010 10:05 PM Why are we feeding young people. Give them a job.

Jun 4, 2010 10:31 PM Need a crosswalk at Finholm and 19A. Need stop lights at Hirst Ave and McMillan St.

Jun 4, 2010 10:41 PM City Council should not be controlled by self interest groups or negative few. Let's keep a positive attitude and do the best you can.

Jun 7, 2010 3:17 PM The priorities in this city should be to fill in ditches and install sidewalks in the older parts of the city. Address the traffic situation by four laning the Alberni Hwy from 19 to 19A. Install an interchange at Church Rd and Hwy 19, then connect the interchange with a direct road to Stanhope Rd at Hwy 19A. Hwy 19A should be 4 laned from Rosco St to French Creek. A beach access should be constructed to avail all residents the right to enjoy the waterfront. To draw more people to the downtown core, the City should install off road parking. This could be done by using some of the existing City properties and acquiring new ones.

Jun 7, 2010 3:47 PM On your City website under History, my great-great-grandfather is mentioned as the first settler, John Hirst. My family has been here a very long time. My dad's family were the Shelly family and they arrived in 1913. I have always loved this place, still do. It was a great place for me to grow up in and to raise my family. My grandfather and my mother were both born and raised here. I hope Parksville will be a good place in the future for all who call Parksville their home.

We have to be careful not to overdevelop, keep what is left of our waterfront as pristine as we can, and not allow it to become wall to wall with Beach Club type condos and resorts. This is the worst blight on our waterfront that could ever have happened. It is just too overwhelming down there and looks so out of place. Everyone says so. No matter who is on council, you have to be caretakers of this place we call home. No hidden agendas, no giving in to developers who come from someplace else just to make a buck and couldn't care less how the residents of Parksville feel about it. Council has a responsibility to listen to its citizens. Good Luck!

Jun 7, 2010 4:07 PM Please make this the City's mandate: Parksville is in a beautiful, natural setting between ocean and mountains. Only man can ruin this. Let's think before we act, to build a city that compliments this natural environment. Use our taxes wisely towards this goal. A big thank you to all council members who give of their time and work hard to achieve the above.

Jun 7, 2010 4:27 PM I really think that the inclusion of green spaces winding through housing areas adds beauty to towns. This is a definite attraction to new residents and beautification of our city. There has been no effort in placing small play areas for families to walk to with their small children. Everyone has to drive, thus increasing downtown traffic and pollution to this area in order to get to the city park area.

This would make it a more attractive city for young families, as compared to a senior retirement area.

Jun 7, 2010 4:45 PM We feel that council should develop and follow an approved plan and quit changing the plan to suit their own agendas.

- Jun 7, 2010 5:00 PM** Parksville should stay a small city, or better yet go back to being a town. We do not need to be another Toronto or Edmonton or Vancouver. We don't have the water to support more and more development and people. We do need more small parks with trees and flowers and benches. If we must have a ring road, let it be a semi-circle ending at the corner of Jensen and the Alberni Hwy. The empty lot across from the firehall should be made into a park--much more inviting than another ugly building. If the sidewalk extensions on our main street were removed, it would relieve traffic congestion immensely.
- We do not mind conserving water to a certain degree, but to tell us to give up our lawns and put in rocks and gravel is ridiculous. Rocks and gravel are fine in places like Arizona, but Parksville is on the edge of a rainforest, for goodness sake. With those monstrosities hiding the beach from view, and gravel and rock instead of lawns, what an ugly, uninviting place Parksville would become.
- Jun 7, 2010 5:34 PM** A long term plan, should the opportunity arise, could be to relocate some of the many car dealerships, new and used, to a location not on the main thoroughfare of the city. Would it not look a lot more attractive to have stores, restaurants and other small stores as tourists and visitors flow through our city?
- Jun 7, 2010 5:35 PM** I am disappointed by the loss of oceanview driving or walking along 19A. Not only is the Community Park the city's biggest asset, but the view is a huge asset. Take that away and we may as well be any inland City.
- Jun 7, 2010 6:17 PM** The City is lovely the way it is - not too small. Also there is everything here we need.
- Jun 7, 2010 6:45 PM** Parksville has become a retirement community, so there is a need for better and safer access to the beach for seniors; also more green space with park benches, etc. Sustained growth limited by water supply needs to be a consideration of City council. As the population is allowed to increase, there is a need for more police and fire protection--all an added cost to taxpayers.
- Jun 7, 2010 8:08 PM** Many of us have our mail boxes marked 'no junk mail', so do not receive notices if not addressed by name. My big concern is water. There should be no more residential growth without providing more water by building a reservoir.
- Jun 7, 2010 8:10 PM** For the past couple of weeks I have noticed a foul smell (sewer>) in the area of the new "highrise" downtown. Some one told me it was the ocean - it definitely is not the ocean.
- Jun 7, 2010 8:18 PM** Why don't you demonstrate how you intend to keep your expenditures at the same level as inflation?
- Jun 7, 2010 8:31 PM** I was happy to read that the Jensen extension was put on hold for later date. Also would like to hear more of the extension for a new firehall which is badly needed.
- Jun 7, 2010 8:59 PM** We live on Humphrey Rd and are very disturbed by the amount of heavy vehicles and traffic on this street. They not only are noisy, but travel at excessive speeds. The so-called 'calming' speed bump is a waste of money and does nothing more than cause people to lose refuse on the street on their way to Church Rd. Young people race over it to get some sort of thrill and squeal their tires when accelerating. We do not recommend this for any street in Parksville.

- Jun 7, 2010 9:04 PM** The greatest need for Parksville is affordable housing, not large mansions such as are being built. The greatest eyesore is the Beach Club. I have not spoken to anyone who likes our water and beach so cut off by large buildings. It is entirely out of place in Parksville.
- Jun 7, 2010 9:32 PM** You do not listen to the public. You must do what you want.
- Jun 7, 2010 9:43 PM** On the one hand, Parksville seems to be expanding aggressively its resort development. On the other it appears ready to drop its own bylaw preferences to overbuild these resorts, especially the Beach Club. A priority plan should be worked out for road and sidewalk repairs and not have the same intersection worked on over 5 times in less than 18 months. Beach Club again.
- Jun 7, 2010 9:51 PM** I think the Parksville area is an ideal location for retirement living.
- Jun 7, 2010 10:49 PM** No more waterfront development, and do not change traffic along downtown strip.
- Jun 8, 2010 3:05 PM** Remove all 3 and 4 way stop signs. They waste gas, brake linings and nerves. Leave only 1 or 2 stops per intersection until roundabouts can be installed. Temple St is proof that roundabouts are superior and greener.
- Jun 8, 2010 3:11 PM** Slow expansion. Protect waterfront development. Maintain present infrastructure. Enlarge green spaces where possible.
- Jun 8, 2010 4:04 PM** The street (Alberni Highway) is far too narrow and sidewalk far too wide. I have almost had my car door removed (in front of the Royal Bank) by a large truck. Plus, I was almost "history" when I stepped out of my car with the door open and a big truck slammed on the brakes and sat on his horn. This was in front of Nonchalance. This is a dreadful experience and makes the trip to Nanaimo for banking, shopping etc. well worth the time and money.
- Jun 8, 2010 4:29 PM** What about a shower system (like in the park) for people, dogs etc. to rinse off at the other end of the boardwalk (Sea Edge/Beach Club). People swim there as well as the other end.
- Jun 8, 2010 4:55 PM** Reinstate the gardens you destroyed. Show the seniors you don't really hate them.
- Jun 8, 2010 5:14 PM** Mayne's Thursday coffee chats are a joke.
Many of us wonder to what extent the Administration's pockets are being lined by the developers. Politicians seem to forget why they were elected and that is to represent what the taxpayers want and not what the developers want.
- Jun 8, 2010 5:26 PM** Our whole downtown areas seems to have been thrown together. Everyone threw up a building wherever they wanted. Many buildings look like shacks. The street layout is a nightmare.

I love the Civic Centre. Nice facility!

Thanks for this opportunity to give some input.

Jun 8, 2010 6:06 PM As a whole this is a nice city with good shops and services. Traffic is good though busy in summer, but keep 19A as is - do not change from 2 lanes to 1 lane. Forget the Jensen thing - it's alright as is. Increase mobile home places.

Jun 8, 2010 6:15 PM I think the increase for water is outrageous. Just a way to raise taxes and pay for firehall.

Jun 8, 2010 8:06 PM I am 93 years old and don't need much, so I am pretty happy.

Jun 8, 2010 8:45 PM Unhappy about the way Parksville waterfront has been developed. Beach Club is an eyesore. We need more waterfront parks to enjoy the beach. Also, water conservation, especially in the years to come with climate change. The city is too small for big box stores. We don't want a restricted community like Qualicum, however a balance needs to be maintained to retain the seaside community Parksville is known for. Jensen extension is totally unnecessary.

Jun 8, 2010 8:50 PM Qualicum's planners developed away from the water and kept the water for the public, not the rich. We have a beautiful beach area, superior to Qualicum. Let's preserve it for the public.

Jun 8, 2010 9:51 PM 1. Controlled crossing at Bagshaw and 19A. 2. Traffic control at Hirst and McMillan; ie, 4 way stop or traffic signal. 3. Improvement of bike trails and walking paths.

Jun 8, 2010 10:00 PM I think the present mayor and council are a big improvement over previous ones.

Jun 8, 2010 10:44 PM Don't assume the quiet majority agree with councillors at all times.

Jun 9, 2010 5:58 PM I would like to see a movie theatre and swimming pool in Parksville.
There is nothing now for our young people here.

Jun 9, 2010 8:28 PM I think the town council does a good job keeping us informed of what is going on. It can't be easy trying to please everybody at one time or another.
Do the best you can with what you have.

Jun 9, 2010 11:02 PM Thakns for the feedback opportunity - "Now get on with the OCP"

Jun 10, 2010 4:43 PM More sensible thoughts about problems by council and mayor.

Jun 10, 2010 4:49 PM Parksville does a great job. I love living here.

Jun 10, 2010 5:17 PM Please concentrate on good road improvements (Temple Street) - lots of new buildings and traffic, sewer and water services.
Determine town - city boundary and development area.
We do not want another Nanaimo with all its problems.
We are a unique area and known far and wide as a tourist mecca - don't spoil it.

Jun 10, 2010 5:49 PM The tourism community off Resort Drive draws in tourists. Now we need to make our city provide the tourists and year round residents a place to come and feel comfortable.

My vision for Parksville is a wharf on the Parksville Beach enabling tourists and residents alike to enjoy viewing our beach and ocean from a perspective that brings our oceanside community together. You have accomplished a boardwalk to accent our beach; now a wharf would bring it all together.

Jun 10, 2010 5:59 PM Concerning community garden: The City of Parksville should not have to provide land for some citizens if they wish to do some gardening. This land is owned by the City, and if the land is needed for other use (in this case, road extension) the City should use it for that purpose, and it is up to the gardeners to secure land somewhere else.

Jun 10, 2010 6:44 PM When I came to Parksville, the main street had been made into the charming street it now is. I do not approve of parking on it. Many people do not want the Jensen extension, so why waste money on it? Glad to see the threatened pig farm on Stanford never came to be. Hope you give the firemen a new firehall. They give good service when needed. I have enjoyed living here in Parksville for the last 20 years. Not much to complain about. I find most things I want here--good grocery stores and drugs; wish they would deliver. Also found scrapbooking and craft stores. Bought mattresses and beds and kitchen suite here in town. Bank is easy to reach. Always needed a left turn signal at Pym; now we have it (not before the new highway!). I like the 4 way stop signs at intersections, especially at Hirst and Craig. Don't like the corner of McMillan and Hirst--needs adjustment.

Jun 10, 2010 6:59 PM People come to Parksville because of the climate, beach and natural amenities. They do not come because of the shopping and business opportunities.

It we want to attract more tourists we should enhance and improve our natural benefits but mostly improve lifestyle.

The large senior demographics of the area greatly reduce the retail need in comparison to an area with a younger population. The City Council must learn to listen to public opinion and not follow personal agendas.

I would strongly agree with taking legal action against Council Members who act in contravention of the updated Official Community Plan.

We must improve and encourage access to our waterfront for the benefit of all. Better change rooms, more of them, better concessions.

Extend walkway Beach Club to French Creek with frequent access from multiple existing view point.

Jun 10, 2010 8:01 PM Don't want any more 'Beach Club' type of development that dominates the landscape. Focus on improving what we have, rather than getting more of everything. Put quality over quantity in creating a better downtown. Put a greater emphasis on preserving and maintaining green spaces, including the community garden. Drop the Jensen extension idea altogether.

Have a balanced range of survey response categories for questions. When there is a 'very satisfied' category, there has to be a 'very dissatisfied' category. The results of this survey will be biased toward the positive end of the spectrum.

Jun 10, 2010 8:08 PM We would like to see a good shoe store. More nursing homes for senior living. Better mail service.

Jun 10, 2010 8:32 PM I feel that the speed bump that was put in on Humphrey Road is not effective - waste of money and time. All that was required was 2 or 3 speed bumps (like that are in Wembly Mall parking lot) was all that it required. It would not have cost the thousands of dollars that was spent narrowing the road and putting in the speed bump that is not effective. The vehicles still race before and after the bump!

My other beef is the Beach Club on the waterfront. Its an eye sore. Personally it would have been acceptable if it was only 3 storeys high so that everyone can enjoy the beach front view. The citizens of Parksville didn't want that building - but it still went ahead - do the council listen to the votes!

Keep the main street through the town as is, no need for bike lane on it - will impede traffic flow - use Stanford. Alberni Highway intersection is a nightmare if you are at the lights turning right and a big transport is trying to turn - it juts into the highway, looks nice but not good for traffic flow.

Jun 10, 2010 8:41 PM One has to remember the reason everyone moved to Parksville. The quaint 'town' feeling, the beach and waterfront area, the non-commercial beach. It's a family oriented place to live and grow. To keep the younger families, we need cheaper housing for them. Need to keep all our green spaces. Need things for the younger set to do--maybe a better bowling area; paint ball set up.

Jun 10, 2010 9:06 PM When we voted for our Council slate last time, we didn't realize what the present Council stood for. They were not forthcoming in their advertising. Needless to say at least 3 will not get our vote next time. It would appear that a majority of people, including the silent majority, are not in favour of needless spending, ie. Jensen Street Extension etc. and all those studies and consultations fees that are for nothing.

We would like to see that some of the Council and city planners listen to what the residents have to say and lose some of the arrogance.

Jun 10, 2010 9:12 PM Build a hospital

Jun 10, 2010 9:35 PM As I see it: 1. There is a real conflict in Parksville between people who want to live an unhurried, quiet lifestyle and those who view Parksville with high potential for real estate development. Unfortunately the degree of success is predicated on population growth. For most residents, this will lead to higher taxes, increased restriction and cost of water, policing, parking meters, etc. with no positives. I am in favour of the beautification and tidying up of our downtown. But definitely I do not share the vision of councillor Al Greir, which I know will lead to another Beach Club fiasco. We will awake one day to find our quiet, small town life has vanished into just another overpopulated urban sprawl. 2. The proposal to turn our ALR land into low cost housing demonstrates a serious lack of understanding of what is happening in our rapidly changing world--any foresight. (A) The projected increased cost of delivered produce will make small urban farms profitable and essential (many examples now in the US). Much like the loss of our view and natural beach to the Beach Club monstrosity, we will have lost our potential to produce food. (B) Low cost housing has, and is, a difficult problem. Governments here

Jun 10, 2010 9:40 PM Let's have more control on development and growth. Keep Parksville a quaint small town.

Jun 10, 2010 10:07 PM Something needs to be done to improve Wembley mall. It is so depressing going in there with so many stores closed and waiting to be leased out. No wonder people go to Nanaimo to shop. We need a Canadian Tire store. Could one not go up somewhere on the Alberni Hwy between the overpass and Church Rd? Another attraction much needed is a movie theatre. If we had both of these in the Parksville area, less people would travel to Nanaimo. Even a mid size Walmart could do wonders for this area--decrease the jobless rate and keep Parksville dollars in the community. Also, I must say I am pleased that the Jensen St extension has been axed. Money was wasted on surveys--money that could have gone elsewhere such as affordable housing. Listen to your voters.

Jun 10, 2010 10:16 PM We are not much help. I know our neighbour loves her vegetable garden. Keep it coming.

Jun 10, 2010 10:21 PM I thought the plan to make 19A a one way street in combination with the Jensen Street extension as the east bound lane of 19A was a bold idea with lots of advantages to Parksville. Because of its rejection, the town will continue to be the drab, commercial mess we have all inherited. Thus, like most others in Parksville I will only ask for that which is advantageous to me. Build a sidewalk on Jensen between Moilliet and McMillan. Lower taxes. Don't waste money on another OCP or a fire truck or a new firehall. Let the town continue to grow like topsy into another Duncan style byps zone. That will be the legacy of this Council.

Jun 10, 2010 10:21 PM No more commercial development at the beach: condos, high rises etc.

Jun 10, 2010 10:39 PM I love Parksville and moved here for the peaceful environment and parks - wish there was a local swimming pool. I am finding parking getting to be a problem since I have difficulty walking. I love the community park, the new walkway along the waters edge and enjoy watching the children in that wonderful playground and the skateboard facility. This is the main feature of Parksville and also the mini golf course. Just wish the shops were closer together so they created a village marketplace. They seem to be coming together. Street vendors and musicians would be great as well. Such as they have in Victoria. It would contribute to the success of local and BC talents and create a wonderful experience for residents and visitors. Possibly a shuttle service would help people get around town. Galleries are wonderful (but not for people on limited budgets) and would also open doors for new and experimental artists. These are wonderful experiences I have had in the US.

Jun 10, 2010 10:51 PM Please do not build any more buildings like the Beach Club to obscure our beautiful beach area. The beach is our name-to-fame - don't lose it.

Jun 11, 2010 3:12 PM Parksville is not a particularly nice place to live. All economic concentration is placed on tourism. Council seems to ignore the fact that this is a retirement community and always will be. There is little apparent planning for the future, which can only create serious problems for future councils. Without change, a major population movement is likely.

Jun 11, 2010 3:17 PM We do not approve of the development going on in Parksville. We moved here for the small town atmosphere.

Jun 11, 2010 3:25 PM Get on with Fire Hall expansion.
Get rid of the bottle necks with our streets in the City commercial and residential.
Improve attitude of planning and engineering staff/management.

Jun 11, 2010 3:28 PM I cannot for the life of me understand what all the fuss is about extending Jensen St and making a one way traffic pattern back up 19A. In my estimation completely unnecessary, especially for a radius of two or three blocks. I hear on the grape vine that all this is to accommodate street parking in front of the business part of the Beach Club. Hope this is not so.

There are plenty of rumours going around about changes to Wembley mall. Don't quite know what, but something needs to be done, as apart from very few instances, Wembley mall is dead.

Jun 11, 2010 3:35 PM Parksville is a great place to live but we must curtail any more development or rezoning north of 19A. We depend so much on tourism and our beaches and spectacular views of the ocean are what really draw them. We need their dollars and we don't want to destroy what they come here for.

- Jun 11, 2010 3:36 PM** Please consult the public as much as possible. Local newspapers do a good job as long as they get good cooperation with the City. A survey like this is very good and should be conducted more often. Try to keep air quality 100%. Quite often lately there is a terrible smell at the intersection in front of the Bank of Montreal. Sewer? Not herring now.
- Jun 11, 2010 3:54 PM** Why is it that the youth in Parksville are rarely considered by the people of Parksville? I am constantly amazed at the lack of facilities for the youth in this town. No wonder there is destruction and vandalism downtown. Wake up, people. Realize that the youth need to be considered.
- Jun 11, 2010 4:14 PM** Attend to your water. Don't make Parksville residents suffer water shortages as you keep building and no water improvements.
- Jun 11, 2010 4:18 PM** Parksville is a good place to visit and to stay.
- Jun 11, 2010 4:58 PM** It's time our elected officials start to really listen to the residents - I know their job isn't easy and you can't please everyone but it's not about them - they are representing the people who voted for them - if they are told no more development on the beachfront they should respond to that.
- Jun 11, 2010 5:05 PM** I take offense to remarks about those who disagree with mayor and friends. Also, that developers purchase in good faith and request rezoning after. Big box stores kill local small business and neighbourhoods.
- Jun 11, 2010 5:05 PM** I, as many others in this area, am unable to attend meetings because of health issues. Keeping apprised of what's going on and what my opinion of suggested happenings (before they are done deals), ie. Hwy. 19A and Jensen, is important to me.
I keep informed by the newspaper but this is a one sided communique. Some one telephoning could be helpful. I do not have a computer (affordability) and my writing has deteriorated to the point where I no longer write letters to the editor to let the Mayor and Council know my feelings on various issues.
So just because we are not physically in attendance at gatherings, don't think we don't care.
- Jun 11, 2010 5:12 PM** Let's clean up Parksville. Put some of our unemployed to work.
- Jun 11, 2010 5:20 PM** Jensen St extension has really made us interested in our council and their plans for our city. Everyone was adamantly opposed to the mayor's and council's vision for our city. If anything made us take note of local politics, this was it. Look forward to the next election.
- Jun 11, 2010 6:18 PM** Since 1st impressions are lasting, I think the "entrance bridge" etc. roadside care is seedy looking there. Qualicum has a population cap. Parksville needs to think about the fact that more people requires more doctors and there aren't enough to look after everyone. Some find it necessary to travel out of the area to get good health care. What do tourists do if ill?
- Jun 11, 2010 6:25 PM** I think that most people come here to get away from the big cities. Most are retired; maybe I am wrong. I liked it the way it was 5 years ago, and don't tell me that this is progress. You cannot stop it, but at least you can slow it down. Thank you.
- Jun 11, 2010 6:29 PM** Putting up beautiful signs welcome to Parksville, until you get to the filthy orange bridge.

Jun 11, 2010 6:37 PM Stop adversely affecting the community garden. Provide more green corridors for bicycles and pedestrians.

Jun 11, 2010 8:33 PM Try very hard to save what is left of the public beach area with no further development. Commit funds to this effort. If this had been done 30 years ago we would not have the problems we face today. In other words look further into the future, than tinkering with roads etc.

One further very serious suggestion is for the City to acquire the land on the Englishman River (which Canadian Tire had its eye on). This would make an excellent public park and would not require a lot of money spent on it in order to provide a wonderful family-friendly area. Grass and trees and cool river would draw people on hot summer days.

Jun 11, 2010 8:48 PM We lived here in Parksville for 16 months in 1960/61. I remember staying at the Old Island Hall on my transfer here. Now that monstrosity of the Beach Club eliminated the beautiful ocean view that was always a wonderful vista.

Jun 11, 2010 9:01 PM Development in the "Town" the last few years has been like a runaway train. We need to get back to a more sustainable way of our thinking with a greater emphasis on protecting what green space we have left, also our aquifer and river system. All this not just for ourselves, but future generations.

Jun 11, 2010 9:12 PM If the Oceanside area is as attractive as we say it is, why does the City of Parksville give itself away so cheaply?

Council seems afraid to turn down developers early in the application process. Then when the developer has invested even more money in the project, the city is even less likely to turn it down.

Recommend a moratorium on all large housing developments for 1 - 2 years - until developers catch on to the notion that we want real public amenities built into their plans.

We want more than just one square plot of green grass per subdivision.

The green belt and walkway, plus walking lanes such as in Ermineskin could be everywhere in the City, and connected to each other.

Jun 11, 2010 9:25 PM Do not approve of proposed ring road or temporary changes to 19A.

Jun 11, 2010 9:53 PM In the past public consultations have been meaningless; our suggestions were ignored and not followed up on.

Jun 11, 2010 10:02 PM We don't think we should be spending money we don't have on things we don't want, such as the Jensen extension. As pensioners, our incomes are shrinking faster every year--hydro, gas, water rates, taxes). Our new mayor was not voted in to do what he wants. He seems to be taking us down the debt road. Absolutely no more car dealerships. The main street looks like a parking lot. Leave our parks alone.

Jun 11, 2010 10:11 PM Living here for 25 years, I have seen many open house meetings. One step forward and two back. Can never please everyone. Foliage and flowers are great.

Jun 11, 2010 10:26 PM Hwy 19A north--no big commercial development. At council meetings, citizen comments should be heard earlier. At the last council meeting I attended, I felt I was viewed as the enemy and was most unwelcome. No big box developments outside the downtown; ie, Canadian Tire or Wembley.

Jun 11, 2010 10:36 PM Craig Bay is the largest residential tax contributor to Parksville. We don't get street cleaning, snow plowing, hydrant maintenance, street light maintenance, sewer cleaning etc. but we pay the same mill rate as a single family home in Parksville. We payover \$300,000 in school taxes but no school was built by Parksville for Craig Bay. Our \$1.2 to \$1.5 million in taxes should give us the right to water meters for each home. You can't build a new home in Parksville without a water meter. How can Parksville allow 406 homes to be built with one water meter. We think the Mayor and Council need to rethink this.

Jun 11, 2010 10:44 PM Councillors should not cater to minority issues.

Jun 14, 2010 3:18 PM I intend to attend a council meeting in the near future where I will again protest the terrible job that has been done to our foreshore. Move the fence over to the music section of the park. One last comment about the beach: Vancouver has just put in cement retainers on the new buildings in False Creek.

Jun 14, 2010 3:27 PM Stop narrowing streets with wide sidewalks; ie, Alberni Hwy.

Jun 14, 2010 3:57 PM We do not appear to have the same level of community involvement as Qualicum Beach on many day to day, week to week issues. ps--We still prefer to live in Parkville over Qualicum Beach.

Jun 14, 2010 4:40 PM We have excellent traffic flow in Parksville--almost no waiting at lights or corners, even at so called 'rush hour', so don't mess it up. I wish we had more view corridors to the ocean. Hope this will improve in the future.

Jun 14, 2010 4:50 PM If what I read lately in the local newspaper is accurate, I am going to attend meetings re: Jensen extension. It disturbs me that the 'silent majority' is not heard. This survey is a good idea, providing everyone participates.

Jun 14, 2010 5:36 PM We love Parksville; the town has grown in population but the downtown core does not change. Pawn shop, dollar stores, banks and drugstores. The three franchised auto dealers provide what I am talking about. An investment in bricks and mortar, depth of inventory and good hours. The fast food outlets do the same. We need business people that will stand up to the bar. This is the only way the downtown core can survive. Do we rely on the City or the Chamber to do this? To date neither have been successful.

Jun 14, 2010 5:37 PM Mail does not seem to work as a method of communication. We had to pick up our survey at City Hall after reading about it in the newspaper. Do not use a computer much except to check email.

- Jun 14, 2010 5:53 PM** One of the things that draws people to the islands is natural beauty. If they want buildings, commerce, etc., they can get plenty of that in Vancouver or any other place that they leave for a quiet holiday. It seems that some people do not recognize that once natural beauty is destroyed, they can't buy it back. My wish would be to stop all unnecessary bits and pieces, purchase Surfside, clear it and make more seafront for families to visit--that is, if you wish to attract more visitors.
- Jun 14, 2010 6:02 PM** Reduction of our costs for policing. We could do this by reducing their automobiles by 50%. Because most of the time, 75% are at the station. Two police to a car. Pedal cycles which should be used all year round. They even ride them in the prairies. Our weather is far better, so no excuse.
- People with trailers, boats, etc. should be charged taxes, and not park them on the roads when they have garages and drives to park them. We are taxed for land and property, and trailers, boats, etc. have to be insured, and value could be taxed as property.
- Jun 14, 2010 6:04 PM** 1. Garbage and recycling pickup from apartments and condos should be improved. Recycling options would reduce need for daily garbage pickup.
2. No mention in survey of addressing health needs, eg. health centre - multi-disciplinary.
- Jun 14, 2010 6:19 PM** We are new residents of Parksville. Owned mobile home in QB for three years previously (winter cottage). Snowbirds from Manitoba since 2000. We have watched with sad hearts as the Beach Club resort was built. What a travesty. Shame on that mayor and council. Shame on the present mayor and council for wanting to continue with more development on the beach--too developer friendly.
- Jun 14, 2010 8:13 PM** We have been members of the silent majority and we did not want the Beach Club or the Jensen extension. The traffic calming procedures on highways are ridiculous. They should be applied to narrow roads going through residential areas.
- Jun 14, 2010 8:19 PM** A. The City planning process is necessary for all taxpayers to have input. B. Sudden, major changes are not welcomed by many taxpayers. C. Public consultation is slower but necessary for traffic patterns, subdivisions, etc.
- Jun 14, 2010 8:54 PM** Thank you for the beautiful new signs appearing in Parksville. The latest one at exit 46 is amazing. We feel this is the 'look' we would like for all of Parksville. Very west coast. Now if some of the businesses would follow this example, Parksville would be part of the 21st century instead of a run down old tired town. Thank you also goes to the businesses that take pride in their appearance, which are many.
- Jun 14, 2010 9:00 PM** Bigger is not better.
- Jun 14, 2010 9:29 PM** Build more walkways/bike paths away from traffic and parked cars, especially along railway right of ways.

Jun 14, 2010 9:39 PM Some streets have been beautifully upgraded and maintained. Others have been completely ignored: eg, Temple St, Willow St, Doehle St and many others in the area mentioned above.

What is needed most is a hospital, all streets maintained, adequate policing, fire protection, ambulances and first responders, etc. After the important things, then add or beautify. I haven't seen anyone sitting on those benches. Don't go spending millions on changing the streets until we have health and protection taken care of. I think it may be easier to cross Hwy 19A downtown to the park than to cross it west of Dogwood. The area from Dogwood to Pym is solid cars. One must use the one push button light near the mini golf to be safe. Cars are always speeding there. Once when I pushed the button for the light to change, one car didn't stop; it rear-ended the one in front.

Jun 14, 2010 10:05 PM I would like to see the area around Wembley mall commercialized with lots of shopping and business, even big box stores.

Jun 14, 2010 10:09 PM 4A through town is too narrow. Right turns into the Bank of Commerce on 4A should be closed. The building next to the Royal Bank on 4A should be torn down.

Jun 14, 2010 10:22 PM Please don't plan any more developments along the waterfront other than parks, etc. No more buildings, please. Save what is left of our waterfront because the Beach Club was a huge mistake.

Jun 15, 2010 3:01 PM I know through the newspaper you're working on getting a medical center for Parksville. I hope we get one. Don't like going to Nanaimo. We also need a public walk-in clinic for everyone to go to, plus a center for women's care. More programs on preventive health care.

Buses are a must. The only problem is money, I know. People take their cars because of convenience. Would appreciate buses running a little later in the evening. Thank you for letting me do this survey.

Jun 15, 2010 3:24 PM I am concerned about what I think is the overuse of consultants. How are these people vetted? It seems to me almost anyone can set themselves up as a 'consultant' and, especially if he or she has a degree after his/her name, it will be considered 'scientific' and the consultant's opinion is to be taken over that of the citizens. These consultants, to the best of my knowledge, don't live here and probably not even in a small town. The people who live here are the ones who drive in and out of town, use its recreations facilities, stores, etc., and they are the ones who know what they want. They should be the consultants, and 'professional' consultants used as a guide and not as ones that 'must be obeyed'.

Jun 15, 2010 4:24 PM Parking on McCarter should be on doctors building side only. People get out of cars without checking traffic and step right into vehicles' pathway. If entering from Hirst, we have seen cars halfway across McCarter before having clear vision.

If the full time residents are happy, then tourists will follow, but it seems more catering to tourists is done and to the devil with full time residents.

Jun 15, 2010 4:47 PM Please stop making all the streets into back alleys. It is impossible for two cars to meet if one car is parked. You have taken away all the local parking in the area. Check out, for instance, Shelly Rd, Pioneer Cres, etc. You must stop and let one car go before there is enough room to pass the parked vehicle.

Jun 15, 2010 4:57 PM Please stop building these high buildings along the waterfront. Over the past 40 years, I have seen a big change in our local beach, a lot of it by nature, now with all this commercial big construction. The beach is really losing its attraction to spend leisurely time for both tourists and locals. Time to rethink the preservation of the city's waterfront. Put your condos and hotels up from the water's edge, but within walking distance to the beach so that everyone can enjoy. I think this survey was a great idea.

Jun 15, 2010 5:16 PM Please continue your openness to the citizens via the suggestions made re: mailings, meetings and workshops.

Jun 15, 2010 6:36 PM I was attracted to Parksville in 1999 because it was an appropriately sized community, composed of distinct neighbourhoods separated from each other by natural areas (woodlands, riparian zones, etc.). I didn't particularly like the plethora of used car lots and derelict buildings in the downtown. I have made good use of local recreation facilities and continue to enjoy and appreciate them. I regard Parksville as a safe community and my neighbourhood is quiet, friendly and peaceful. I wish Surfside was not where it is and was very unhappy with the size and footprint of the Beach Club. I am opposed to further mega-projects on or near the beach. I realize Parksville needs to supply affordable housing options if the city is to attract and retain young families, which are required to maintain the vitality of the community. These must not become a type of 'ghetto' or 'project' complex like some large cities have. Let's support public art and mini-parks in the downtown area, and encourage some existing businesses to relocate away from the core. Council must be careful not to marginalize or alienate those residents who have genuine concerns about their city. We have a very good City staff, but it is

Jun 15, 2010 8:35 PM So much for the Jensen extension. 19A and Corfield, west bound left turn--install advance green. East bound to community park already has advance green. One way Corfield to McMillan--waterfront promenade with wider sidewalks, benches, flower boxes. Traffic routing McMillan to Jensen to Corfield, to 19A. Rename Alberni Hwy. Westbound or eastbound only on 19A. Eastbound to 19A via Jensen and Corfield or vice versa (must keep Shoppers Drug and Dairy Queen happy).

Jun 15, 2010 8:58 PM The small town atmosphere that charmed us into moving to Parksville years ago has been eroded by councils that have ignored the present OCP in order to accede to rezoning demands by greedy developers. Tracts of formerly forested, undeveloped lands have been scraped bare and replaced by suburban sprawl. Our waterfront has been ruined by the Beach Club. No more highrise development on our waterfront or elsewhere. Our mayor and the majority of council try to ram their own agendas down the majority of citizens' throats, and this has resulted in the formation of PRA. While vacant land abounds around City Hall, citizens have to fight to keep apartments out of single family residential areas. We need the review of the OCP, and then strict adherence to it. Consider acquiring the land adjoining the Beach Club and turn it into parkland for the benefit of all citizens. Referendums are needed for any other large proposal. Qualicum saved the Brown property. We can save our beach. It can be done.

Jun 15, 2010 9:40 PM Large expenditures (500,000+) should go to referendum. Significant changes to infrastructure should go to referendum. All land/property acquisitions should go to referendum. All sale of land/property (City) should go to referendum. Bring the waterfront into the current century. Waterfront should be developed and should be non-restrictive to private development. The Beach Club resort has been such an improvement to the ambience and look of Parksville. The demolition of the Island Hall was the best thing that has happened to Parksville. All such resorts on the waterfront (Sea Edge; Parksville Beach Motel) should be demolished.

Jun 15, 2010 10:15 PM It is shameful there are so many open ditches in this community. Very poor planning. Lack of continuity in development in all regards--resources, esthetics, impact on the environment, etc. Those old buildings on Craig St are a disgrace. I feel there is not a sense of pride here. Look to how QB has updated their core. We could do something similar.

Waterfront walkway is wonderful. Thanks for that. But as a walker, going anywhere else is a hazard. Can't tell you how many times my life has been jeopardized because of lack of sidewalks.

Jun 15, 2010 10:39 PM I would really like Parksville to have its own police force. Over the years I have been here, the RCMP is less present in the city. Telephone service is outside of Parksville. Spend a lot of time on drug prevention (this is a federal responsibility and we should not have to pay for this). Sit in cars or drive around for traffic violations; never seen outside of cars. With all the computer facilities now, a small city could be in touch with all crime information services. Our own police force would also provide local jobs. The cost of RCMP services is rising all the time.

Jun 16, 2010 3:11 PM Council flip flop to whatever vocal group gets news coverage. Newspaper coverage has so much misinformation, City needs to do better job of getting facts out in a way that people can understand. Please don't waste tax money on the so-called 'community gardeners'. Would like to see continued support for arts--some good things like Bard to Broadway, Oceanside Arts Council, lots of youth art programs. Arts more important to me than yet another environmental program.

Jun 16, 2010 3:34 PM I believe the majority of residents would like to keep the city (town) about the same size it currently is. There is clearly a happy medium required between costs and expenses. I am sure from a business person's perspective, they would like to see continued population growth to improve their revenue opportunities. However, from the perspective of a retired residential owner, there is a need to consider slower growth and respect the 'silent majority'.

It was stated that this survey would be 15 to 20 minutes to complete. I would suggest 1 to 1 1/2 hours is more appropriate if a person is to give any thought to the questions and answers. At this rate, I do not believe a clear understanding of people's thoughts is achievable. Fewer questions would more likely result in a better return of the surveys, as well as more confidence in the appropriateness of the responses.

Jun 16, 2010 5:05 PM Convert the Park Sands RV park into a mini town square with fountain, clock, benches and commercial vendors, coffee shops, boutiques, souvenir stores, etc.

Jun 16, 2010 5:25 PM Jensen project is unaffordable. In any case, need is not apparent. Seems likely it has become a cause rather than a purpose. City could spend time better on future needs; ie, water, road maintenance, sewer, fire protection, medical facilities, transit.

Jun 16, 2010 5:52 PM With regard to flooding around our house on Allwood Rd., I was not happy with the service I received from the mayor, some City staff, and two engineering firms. Once I contacted the City engineering department by letter and in person, within hours a City crew appraised the situation and proceeded to remedy it immediately and put in safety backup. Thank you City engineering department.

Jun 16, 2010 6:05 PM We try very hard to conserve our precious things like water, electricity, etc: 1. Do not water our grass. 2. Do not use any chemicals in our property--weed killers, etc. 3. Hang my clothes on a line most of the year--inside in winter. 4. Compost.

Would like to see more sidewalks, particularly on Sanderson north of Pym. Pedestrians all the time--a busy street. We'd love to have stairs to the beach restored either on Sunray Rd or Breakwater Rd.

Jun 16, 2010 6:14 PM I am 88 years old. When a boy going to school walking, going to shop for mother or just walking around that she never feared or had reason to fear that someone would do harm to me. But today there are fewer people who live by the morals of the Bible. More persons agree with the man who said "I don't need a God to tell me how to live".

Jun 16, 2010 6:24 PM I look forward to the new OCP.

Jun 16, 2010 6:33 PM Surfside was big mistake. Survey can be interpreted in different ways; not a good survey. Do not commercialize the beachfront; save it for future generations.

Jun 16, 2010 7:59 PM A long term plan for economic development would be very valuable. The demographics of the community require us to attract new residents so that infrastructure and services can be maintained and enhanced.

Jun 16, 2010 9:08 PM You've done a fine job of making this resident survey. I hope that you get many many responses.

Jun 16, 2010 9:11 PM More people living downtown would attract small to medium size business, create less traffic and more pedestrians--hence a new vitality.

Jun 16, 2010 10:23 PM Keep Parksville for family living.

Jun 16, 2010 10:44 PM What a great idea to punish people financially who try to have an attractive garden with a lush green lawn instead of a brown, desert-like look for both locals and visitors to admire.

Jun 16, 2010 10:46 PM Having lived in various cities in the western part of the world, we feel Parksville meets our lifestyle requirements far better than our previous locations. Some minor changes or limited expansion may well be advantageous for the vast majority of residents. However, we feel it is imperative to exercise caution and consider seriously the social and economic impact of implementation and not introduce change for the sake of change.

Jun 16, 2010 10:49 PM The proposed increase in the water bill is out of line. The street light in the 600 block Temple has been out for two months.

Jun 16, 2010 10:54 PM No big box stores. They would kill our small businesses.

Jun 17, 2010 3:15 PM We live in a wonderful, active, friendly community. We need to maintain this atmosphere and enhance our town without becoming too big. Encourage industry to locate in that area and consolidate our downtown shops to make cars less necessary. We love the fact that we can walk to shopping, library, etc. and don't need our car for every trip. Keep our beach accessible and visible, not commercial. I love the new Welcome signs.

We attract tourists with our natural beauty. They come to camp and enjoy this atmosphere. We must work to enhance their experience and encourage trail and park use. Provide recreation such as boat rentals and fishing, and make our stores accessible and welcoming. I think Parksville is a wonderful place to live and would like to maintain this lifestyle. Growth needs to be kept within reason. We only have so much water available and if we get too big we will lose the reason people want to be here.

Jun 17, 2010 4:10 PM Offer incentives for owners/groups to undertake projects such as downtown enhancement, affordable accommodation and special needs housing.

Need 4 way stop at Hirst and McMillan before a serious accident occurs.

Jun 17, 2010 4:18 PM The old adage: 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it' was never more true. 19A is definitely not 'broke'. Don't borrow money to make unneeded changes. If there are any funds available, I suggest making the 2 lane section of the highway to 4 lanes in the area of the x-ray clinic/wine store/Temple store. This is a location where an accident is always 'waiting to happen'.

Jun 17, 2010 4:18 PM Allocate spots where metal could be left for recycling.

Jun 17, 2010 4:34 PM Stop the mayor and council from doing things like the Beach Club building. Stop building those 8 buildings, 3 storeys high, down by the Beach Club. We don't need them and we don't want them. Stop the building down at our waterfront area. Listen to the people. Stop the Jensen street extension.

Jun 17, 2010 4:50 PM I strongly suggest sidewalks on both sides of 19A. There are a great many handicapped people in Parksville.

Jun 17, 2010 5:34 PM One thing that really bugs me is that we have to ration our water re: yards, gardens, but the City wastes a lot of water on community grounds by overwatering, especially Springwood park and the community park. I have seen the flower garden at the corner of 19A and Pym being watered while it is pouring rain. Also, ball diamonds are always far too wet.

Jun 17, 2010 6:14 PM I love this town of Parksville and the more you can improve it, the more we just want to stay home and enjoy.

Jun 17, 2010 6:33 PM Why are the police above the law (eg. parking near fire hydrants and in other illegal ways)? Since we pay for them, surely we should have some control over them. We have seen too many examples of how self-policing doesn't work.

Jun 17, 2010 6:40 PM As we all want more amenities, we have to realize that development is the only way to pay for them without doubling or tripling our taxes. I thank the current mayor's idea of filling in the downtown core is a good one. I'm sorry senior staff still is (or appear to be) halting any ideas that don't suit them. Council should control senior staff, not the other way around.

Jun 17, 2010 6:55 PM Please leave the downtown area and Highway 19A the way they are. No bike lanes on 19A. No cyclists on major roads. Many do not follow traffic rules. They do not stop at stop signs and many ride 2 and 3 across. They can be a hazard on busy streets.

Please leave Jensen Avenue the way it is and leave the community garden where it is.

Too much empty retail space downtown. Beginning to look like a ghost town.

Jun 17, 2010 8:47 PM More concern for our road infrastructure that we have instead of new roads. For example:

1. Doehle between Pym and Temple is a bus route and has busy pedestrian use. No sidewalks, very narrow pavement, and parking is permitted on both sides. It is dicey, meeting a bus. For safety's sake, widen the paved strip.
2. Intersection of McMillan and Hirst needs at least a 4 way stop, and the lane changes are difficult with parking on the west side of McMillan.
3. Huge ditches Temple to Rushton and in front of the x-ray unit on 19A. These should be eliminated.
4. North Dogwood has surface drainage problem. Development on Heather Place blocked natural drainage. Flooding occurs in heavy rains. Lots are long and it is impractical to ditch. There needs to be a connection to drains which are under boulevards. There is a catch basin toward Ruston where there are curbs. These drains need to be taken to the end of Dogwood so connector could be made for surface drainage in front of affected property.

Keep what we have in good repair before any new roads are contemplated.

Jun 17, 2010 9:28 PM I think we need a more central downtown area. However, I do not see how extending Jensen Avenue will benefit this. The last thing Seniors and others need is another through road with lots of traffic to cross to get down to or home from shopping downtown. If you want a ring road why not use Despard Avenue and extend that. This will move the through traffic away from the shopping and allow the shoppers to shop in safety.

Jun 17, 2010 9:49 PM City must be totally transparent to taxpayers both politically and administratively. We're smarter than you think.

Jun 17, 2010 9:58 PM We have many people here that do not have an overflow of money, and that is sad. Our old age pension does not keep up with rent, food and homes.

Jun 17, 2010 10:47 PM Has there been a study as to how many septic tanks, sewers, barnyards, outhouses, fertilizers and pesticides etc. are leaching into the Englishman River? We get our drinking water from below it all, especially when the river floods.

The boardwalk is the best improvement for this town and tourists. It would be nice to see it extended north. No more Beach Club developments. Good that dogs are keeping the geese away.

Jun 18, 2010 3:52 PM It would be nice to see a gym attached to the skating rink at Wembley mall. Also, a special outdoor senior exercise area in the community park, similar to the one in Courtenay/Comox.

It was a good decision to drop the Jensen road extension. The money could be put towards a new firehall or firetruck.

Jun 18, 2010 4:12 PM Question #29: Suggest provision of dedicated bus trips to Nanaimo big box stores.

Question #30: Traffic management/police services. There seems to be no speed limit enforcement. The situation on 19A is particularly bad.

Administrative services (ie, planning) seem to be very inadequate/inefficient. Is this due to lack of staff, poorly trained/qualified staff?

Our elected representatives must remember that they are elected to serve our community, not to pursue and enhance their private interests. Transparency and honesty are vital. No cozying up to the developers.

Jun 18, 2010 4:26 PM Overall satisfied. Very disappointed with existing and continued beach and waterfront commercial development.

Jun 18, 2010 5:05 PM Our current mayor ran and won his election based on his cost-cutting expertise. What happened? Cost for taxes are escalating beyond the increase in the cost of living index. When can we expect a decrease in our taxes? Remember that a high percentage of the residents are retired and living on fixed incomes--in my case since 1990. This community has been rather successful in attracting a huge number of retired people without the foresight or the ability to provide a plan to support this growth. As part of this retirement community, we wonder how long we can afford to live here. We know we aren't alone in our concern over this matter.

Jun 18, 2010 8:09 PM Too many projects and/or developments have been approved and go forward without public input or knowledge. Council members have to stop talking to the newspapers or in public, running taxpayers down. We elected you. You are working on our behalf. Show some respect. It will make for a better city--a fun place to be--if we can all work together. You have to earn respect in public office. I speak from experience, having served as an MLA.

Jun 18, 2010 8:54 PM Corner of Craig and 19A--empty lot just begging for 'pocket park', or public washroom, or entrance to the underground passage to beach area. How about a viewing tower near beach (as in Port Alberni). Perhaps lighthouse in shape, or native design. Bigger concession stand needed in community park.

If outside input is required for OCP, why not offer a scholarship to graduate students in community planning, BC or nationwide? High quality/outside the box plans will result without obvious bias.

Forested area near Thrifty could become the 'Thrifty park area' with support from the grocery. Could be kept more or less as is. Other 'pocket parks' could be sponsored by various local businesses. The Tuesday night market is a great meeting place for tourists and locals.

Jun 18, 2010 9:03 PM The City could use a movie theatre. Badly needed. That's another enjoyment that we have to drive to Nanaimo for. Some elderly people cannot drive but still enjoy a movie out, instead of TV all the time.

Jun 18, 2010 9:04 PM

- no big box stores; Canadian Tire
- no more new and used car dealers
- no further waterfront development
- no Jensen St extension
- do not make 19A one way
- any waterfront developments committed to by the City must not be higher than existing structures to avoid blocking views
- no more fast food outlets
- no building on banks of the river

Things the City should progress on:

- more bike/walking trails and parks
- promote more small stores
- maintain existing roads, parks, sidewalks and water supply instead of expanding new roads, etc.

Jun 18, 2010 9:23 PM Better and safer bicycle trails away from traffic.

Some ditches need cleaning badly - like Despard at Chestnut, entering Springwood Park.

Jun 18, 2010 9:25 PM When it became very evident that the public was not interested in reviving a traffic master plan, why was so much time and energy spent on debating it over and over? Why so many consultants still involved when their eradication was an election promise? Another campaign promise was to have elected officials regain the reins of power from entrenched bureaucracy, whose ideas and plans had simply been rubber stamped by previous councils (especially the last two regimes). Public work contracts often attract corruption (kickbacks) when top bureaucrats are in charge for too long in any jurisdiction at any level of government. Citizens question many City costs over recent years. The pit run and fence are inadequate against winter storm erosion. Why was \$500 K spent there when plans at public meetings were clearly for better material (larger pebbles). Why did that small sign at the community park cost \$75 K? How could the concrete block flower pots at the town clock square cost \$12 K? Why do we suddenly have all these unnecessary signs sprouting up all over the city, grossly overdone and very costly?

Priorities should be getting the OCP up and running and getting the new firehall built. East Kootenay built a 7 bayhall and separate training centre for \$2.2 million. Yet we have bureaucrats and council saying the 3 bay upgrade here, costing \$3 million plus, will only be a stopgap. We need fresh thinking from all advisors, architects, etc. We may need extra quake-proofing here, but Kootenay gets much more snow to deal with. There's a serious disconnect somewhere.

Jun 18, 2010 10:39 PM I visit the public library each week. Keep it healthy.

Jun 18, 2010 10:43 PM I feel very strongly that we should not be building anymore buildings on our waterfront. The Beach Club is an abomination and spoils our waterfront.

I also strongly object to the Jensen extension and the changing of Highway 19A to one way.

Jun 18, 2010 10:46 PM Whether Federal, Provincial or Municipal, politicians talk talk talk democracy while practicing dictatorship. Big brother socialism is rampant. Wall street gangster BANKS are running the world and the masonic lodged are being used to run local governments. But the whole scam is being exposed, slowly but surely. Power to the little people!

This town does not need booming satanic voodoo drums beating in our ears, coming from the young artists market. There are many homes within 200 yards of that building. Why not play that same booming depraved noise (its not music) in the Mayor's office for a day and maybe he'll come to his senses.

Jun 18, 2010 10:51 PM You're doing well. This is a great community and town hall staff is efficient, friendly and kind.

Jun 18, 2010 10:56 PM Nice place to live.

Jun 21, 2010 5:23 PM Because of the congestion on the Alberni Hwy between Jensen and 19A, and the safety of cars entering the Alberni Hwy off side streets, there should not be any parking on the Alberni Hwy between the hours of 8 am and 6 pm in the Jensen to Hwy 19A area.

Development of space in the community park could include a nature house, tennis courts, pitch & putt golf course. It seems that there is a lot of green space not being used. Expand the playground and parking around it. If the City was to purchase the Parksville Beach Motel land (even if it's the waterfront section) that is not being used, we could develop this into gardens, walking paths, picnic areas, and build a bandstand area for ongoing entertainment--either invited or local individuals or groups. There should be more policing in the community park and along the beach after hours. Finding used condoms on the sand is not a good thing. Maybe lighting along the boardwalk would help. The playground definitely needs to be upgraded with more climbing and balancing items to stimulate bodies and mind (similar to school grounds). Place for fountains inside the park.

Jun 21, 2010 5:52 PM You didn't need this survey expense when you are doing a review of the OCP. Restore Healthy Communities Advisory Committee. Bigger is not better any longer in all aspects of living. Get a small movie theatre in the Wembley mall.

Essential features of age friendly cities:

- public areas clean and pleasant
- green spaces with outdoor seating
- pavements non-slip and wide enough for wheelchairs and scooters
- sufficient pedestrian crossings with visual and audio cues and adequate crossing times
- police patrols
- public toilets outdoors and indoors
- public transportation that's reliable and frequent day and night and holidays
- specialized transportation for disabled people
- taxis that are accessible and affordable with courteous, helpful drivers
- priority parking and drop off spots
- sufficient, affordable housing in areas that are safe and close to the rest of the community
- public and commercial rental housing
- events held at times convenient for older adults
- affordable activities and attractions
- respect and social inclusion

Jun 21, 2010 6:22 PM

Please decide where the downtown core is. There doesn't seem to be a core. Too much sprawl. Why so much empty retail or other space along 19A from Alberni Hwy and Corfield? Would like to see it cleaned up. Encourage property owners to lower the cost of rents and leases to attract tenants. Isn't it better to have some income than none at all? Now we are going to see the same thing at the Beach Club site. Parksville doesn't look prosperous. Only the car dealers' strip looks like they do well.

In the residential areas on Mills, McVickers, Bagshaw, Corfield, Weld, need easy access for walking residents. Only Mills has a sidewalk completed up to Stanford. All that is there at Mills and 19A is a coffee shop, car dealership and small school; no traffic light. No grocery store or post office or any shopping area. The sidewalk from Shelly St to the bridge is used very little--waste of money.

As a resident along Stanford, we are seeing more and more use by heavy trucks and buses from Shelly to Corfield. Last summer some of us stopped the Tofino bus and a flat deck freight truck at a stop sign to ask the drivers why they were using Stanford Ave. The answer: 'Going to Alberni Hwy, and have you tried making a left turn off 19A onto the Alberni Hwy and dodging traffic and pedestrians to Jensen? Too many crosswalks on Alberni Hwy from 19A to Hirst.' So they would rather use a residential road, which isn't built for heavy weight traffic, along Stanford to Corfield, up Corfield to Despard to Hwy 4.