



BRIEFING NOTE

To: Council
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: Official Community Plan (OCP) – Public Online Survey

File No.: 6480-01
Date: August 4, 2020

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

2019 - 2022 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REFERENCE:

November 2019 Strategic Priority Chart: Number 1 (NOW) Priority

- OCP – Consultation Process (public input/consult report)

Strategic Priorities 2019 - 2022

We continually invest in our key relationships

- Value and recognize the importance of our volunteers
- ▲ ■ Advocate and cooperate with local and senior governments on regional issues affecting our community

We support diversity in housing & reasoned land use planning

- Complete an update of the City's OCP and Zoning Bylaw

ISSUE:

A series of short online stakeholder meetings (July 27-30) is meant to provide an opportunities for the project staff and community stakeholders as well as local government partners to discuss climate change related issues and challenges in 8 selected policy topics. Also, the meetings are meant to be a mutual learning opportunity for OCP stakeholders from various sectors. Staff thank all the participants for their attendance and sharing their knowledge.

An online public survey is scheduled to be posted on the City's website on August 4. (www.courtenay.ca/ocpupdate). The survey displays draft planning visions and goals, a future growth scenario contains 7 potential growth nodes, visual images of future likelihood of each potential growth node and general planning approaches in each growth node. The key objective of the survey is to collect public feedbacks on the goal statements and the growth scenario for policy formulation in the next phase. The growth scenario is developed based on numerous data collected and analyzed in the previous phases and modeled to achieve the vision of becoming a net zero GHG emission community by 2050. The goal statement has been drafted based on the comments received, mainly at the Ideas Fair in February. Public inputs on the proposed growth scenario is crucial for the rest of project phases. All residents of Courtenay are strongly encouraged to fill out the survey. The survey will be advertised on newspaper, City's website including social media pages, and posters. Closing date is September 8, 2020.

Followed by the mentioned two engagement activities over the summer, the project team will be conducting a series of workshop style sessions with the stakeholders as well as Councillors to further discuss policy issues and identify future opportunities and priorities in September. Councillors will be invited and given an opportunity to choose which workshop(s) to attend, however there will be a limit of 2

Councillors at each session. Staff will follow up with Council once detailed information including a schedule of the workshops is confirmed. The format of the workshop will likely be a hybrid of in-person and online.

BACKGROUND:

Robust citizen engagement is essential to formulate sound policies in the OCP. The community-wide online survey will help the project team identify community’s broader preference/direction on; the draft planning goal statements; proposed physical layout of the city to become a net zero GHG emission community by 2050; and development likelihoods in each potential growth nodes. All these factors are fundamentals to the next project phases.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS/NEXT STEPS:

- Project team conducted a total of 8 virtual meetings with stakeholders during the week of July 27
- Online public survey on the OCP is activated on August 4. All residents of Courtenay is strongly encouraged to participate (www.courtenay.ca/ocpupdate)
- The survey will be available until September 8, 2020
- Topic focused workshops (online and in-person) will be conducted in September
- Council will be notified of the detail of the workshop on subsequent date

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