NEWS RELEASE

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City budget to be focus of upcoming eTown Hall

Residents encouraged to participate on December 2, 2019

Summary

Nanaimo residents wishing to discuss the City's 2020-2024 Financial Plan process will have the opportunity to do so by participating in an upcoming eTown Hall meeting scheduled for Monday, December 2. The meeting follows the tradition of tabling a topic for discussion between Council members and the public but, unlike conventional town hall meetings, Nanaimo's eTown Hall format provides for wider involvement by allowing participants to submit questions online as well as in person.

The eTown Hall will start at 7:00 p.m. during the Regular Council Meeting and will run for one hour. If necessary, an additional 30 minutes will be allocated. Residents are encouraged to review available information prior to the start of the meeting. The draft 2020-2024 Financial Plan is available for review on the City website.

Additional opportunities to provide input and follow the 2020-2024 Financial Plan approval process have been made available with budget presentations and workshops taking place during Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings held on November 20, 22 and 25 and an upcoming one the afternoon of December 2 in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre's Shaw Auditorium. Materials and recordings from these meetings can be found at www.nanaimo.ca/meetings.

Strategic Link: Providing opportunities for public input supports the strategic priority of Governance Excellence.

Key Points

- Residents wishing to participate in the eTown Hall can submit their question through the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall, Twitter using #NanaimoTH and on the eTown Hall event page on Facebook.com/CityofNanaimo. Residents can also ask their questions in person at the meeting or by calling the City at 250-754-4251 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Residents are encouraged to review all related materials before participating in the eTown Hall.
- The City of Nanaimo's eTown Hall meeting format provides greater community involvement through multiple methods to participate and allowing residents to participate in person or online.

Quotes

"An eTown Hall gives residents the opportunity to provide meaningful input to the City's financial planning process through a variety of methods. Residents are encouraged to review the draft 2020-2024 Financial Plan along with the related presentations and documents before participating on December 2."

Laura Mercer
Director, Finance
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- To date, the City of Nanaimo has held 10 eTown Hall meetings on subjects relating to the budget, core services review and strategic priorities. The first meeting, held in March of 2013, was awarded Bronze for Innovation Management by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC).

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