

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed August 23, 2021

City Seeks Feedback on Options for Downtown 'Hub' at Terminal & Commercial

Take the survey and provide feedback on The Hub!

Summary

The Terminal Avenue and Commercial Street intersection is the heart of the city and the gateway to downtown Nanaimo. In connection with the ongoing Terminal Avenue Upgrades project, the City of Nanaimo is considering options for the 500 block of Terminal Avenue, also known as The Hub, which include new plaza and park spaces, improved cycle and pedestrian connections, and streetscape upgrades.

The City is seeking public feedback on options that explore ways to:

- Create a welcoming and safe space that is a gateway for experiencing Nanaimo's Downtown, Victoria Crescent, Old City Quarter and all that Nanaimo has to offer
- Support existing businesses by increasing accessibility and desirability in the area
- Promote redevelopment along the Terminal Corridor and create vibrant pedestrian realm
- Link in strong walking and cycling networks
- Provide a Downtown "hub" for Nanaimo's transit system

Nanaimo's Transportation Master Plan and Official Community Plan outline goals to create a more inclusive, vibrant, and connected downtown. In recent years, the City has undertaken several studies that have identified opportunities for pedestrian, cyclist and transit improvements in the Downtown core including Terminal Nicol Reimagined, Port Drive Waterfront Master Plan and the Downtown Mobility Hub Project. Feedback for The Hub project will focus on early directions that have been developed based on these previous studies and public input shared over the years.

The survey opens on getinvolvednanaimo.ca on August 26, 2021. The deadline to provide input on The Hub is October 4, 2021. To learn about the project and to share feedback, please visit www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/thehub.

Strategic Link: Having downtown recognized as a livable and desirable heart of our community is one of the key focus areas identified under the Economic Health Pillar of the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan.

Key Points

- The City is seeking feedback on options for The Hub, also known as the 500 block of Terminal Ave. The survey opens August 26 and runs until October 4, 2021.
- Council's consolidation of the properties along 500 Terminal recognizes the importance of the Terminal Avenue and Commercial Street intersection in creating a vibrant, thriving downtown
- One potential element of the space at 500 Terminal Avenue is a permanent home for a transit exchange between Terminal Avenue and Shaw Lane
- The Hub presents a real opportunity to accomplish a number of long standing goals in the downtown core: Creating a vibrant pedestrian realm along Terminal Avenue, providing connectivity to Commercial Street across Terminal Avenue and retrofitting the Victoria/Albert/Wallace intersection to better meet all users needs.

Quotes

"In acquiring these lands, Council has made a significant investment to revitalize downtown. Our staff and consultant team have prepared design options which we want to share with the public to get feedback. I encourage everyone, with an interest in the downtown, to visit the project website, tell us what you like about the preliminary designs and what could be improved."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

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