

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed November 15, 2022

Review process for City's 2023 budget begins next week

Participate in the process and share your budget priorities

Summary

Preparations are underway for the City of Nanaimo's 2023-2027 Draft Financial Plan. Residents will have a number of opportunities to review, ask questions and provide input leading up to a budget-focused eTown Hall on Monday, Dec. 5.

Council will begin reviewing draft budgets and project plans over the course of four Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings on Nov. 23, 24, 30 and Dec. 1. All meetings are open to the public and will be held in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre's Shaw Auditorium.

The eTown Hall will start at 7 pm during the Council Meeting and will run for one hour. If necessary, an additional 30 minutes will be allocated. Residents can participate in the eTown Hall a number of ways, including:

- on the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/etownhall,
- on Twitter using #NanaimoTH,
- in the eTown Hall event found on the City's Facebook page (<u>www.facebook.com/cityofnanaimo</u>),
- by calling 250-755-4251 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm), or
- in person during the meeting.

In addition, a form has been added to a Budget Talks advertisements in the Nov. 16 and 30 editions of the Nanaimo News Bulletin, which residents can fill out and mail in to City Hall before Nov. 28 or drop off to City Hall before 4:30 pm on Dec. 2.

The draft plan and other related documents will be available to review at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/budget. Anyone wishing to watch the meetings but cannot attend, can view them on the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/meetings or on Shaw Cable Channel 4 or BlueSky TV on 105.

Strategic Link: Being transparent in the budgeting process and providing opportunities for public input contribute to the strategic priority of Governance Excellence.

Key Points

- If needed, Council will continue deliberations at a meeting scheduled for Dec. 7. Please check www.nanaimo.ca/meetings for up to date meeting information.
- Four Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings will be held on Nov. 23, 24, 30 and Dec. 1 and a budget-focused eTown Hall will be held on Dec. 5.
- The Draft Financial Plan is a starting point and may change as work progresses during the review process.

Quotes

"This is the first budget of a new Council term and public input is a vital component to this process. I encourage Nanaimo's citizens to review the draft budget, view the budget presentations and join us at the e-Town Hall on Dec. 5."

Quick Facts

• In accordance with the Community Charter, municipalities must prepare a five-year financial plan each year. Councils must adopt the five-year financial plan before adopting a property tax bylaw by May 15.

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Contact:

For media enquiries, please contact Communications City of Nanaimo Media.Requests@nanaimo.ca 250-754-4251



View the online edition for more information - https://cnan.ca/3tuh9Gm