

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed January 18, 2024

Alternative Approval Process for Nanaimo Operations Centre Phase One begins

The process runs from Jan. 18 to Feb. 20, 2024.

Summary

The Alternative Approval Process (AAP) to gain permission from residents to borrow an amount not to exceed \$48,500,000 to finance the cost of construction of Phase 1 of the Nanaimo Operation Centre begins today. Eligible voters in Nanaimo will have a 34-day period to vote against the borrowing bylaw and may do so by filling out a response form which is available at City Hall and can be printed off from the City website.

As in an election, each eligible voter is permitted one response. Completed forms must be dropped off or mailed to City Hall by 4:30 pm on Tuesday, Feb. 20. The City cannot accept copies of forms, or forms that are emailed or faxed.

For more information on the Nanaimo Operations Centre Alternative Approval Process visit the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC-AAP, and for more information on the project, visit www.nanaimo.ca/goto/NOC.

Strategic Link: N/A

Key Points

- The Nanaimo Operations Centre Phase One Borrowing Bylaw 2023 No. 7362 is the first in this project consisting of four phases over a number of years to replace and consolidate public works and parks operations onto one site.
- The Alternative Approval Process has begun and will remain open until 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024.
- A Special Governance and Priorities Committee meeting on Thursday, Jan. 18 about the Nanaimo Operations Centre project has been postponed to Monday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. due to inclement weather. For more information, visit the meetings page on the City website: www.nanaimo.ca/goto/meetings.
- If 10 per cent or more of eligible voters submit an Alternative Approval Process form in opposition, the borrowing bylaw will be brought back to Council to determine if Council would like to proceed with the matter and next steps.

Quotes

"The Alternative Approval Process offers eligible electors a convenient way to express their dissent regarding the proposed borrowing bylaw and it's a more cost-effective alternative to a referendum. Until Feb. 20, individuals can register their opposition by submitting completed response forms to City Hall, eliminating the need for in-person voting, as typically required in a referendum."

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