NEWS RELEASE

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Review process for City's 2027 budget begins this week

Residents can participate in the process and share budget questions

Summary

Preparations are underway for the City of Nanaimo's 2027-2031 Financial Plan with a number of opportunities for residents to review the details of the budget and ask questions during a budget-focused eTown Hall.

Council will begin reviewing draft budgets and project plans over the course of three Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings on Nov. 20, 25 and Dec. 2. All meetings are open to the public, the Nov. 20 meeting will be held in the Service and Resource Centre boardroom and the others will be held in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre's Shaw Auditorium.

The eTown Hall will take place on Monday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. 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 in a number of ways, including:

- on the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/etownhall,
- on Bluesky, Instagram and X using #NanaimoTH,
- in the eTown Hall event found on the City's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/cityofnanaimo),
- by calling 250-755-4251 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), or
- in person during the meeting.

A form has also been added to a Budget Talks advertisement in the Nov. 18 and 25 editions of the Nanaimo News Bulletin, which residents can fill out and drop off to City Hall before 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 4.

The draft financial plan and other related documents are available to review prior to the meetings 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 Rogers TV Nanaimo channel 4 or 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

- Three Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings focusing on the 2027 budget will be held on Nov. 20, 25 and Dec. 2 with a budget-focused eTown Hall to be held on Dec. 7.
- The Draft Financial Plan is a starting point and may change as work progresses during the review process.
- 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.

Quotes

"The City budget directly impacts our daily lives - from when we turn the tap on to make our morning coffee to the route we take to work. The City's Budget Talk sessions are a great way to learn about budgeting process and what priorities there will be for next year. I encourage Nanaimo citizens to review the draft budget, join us at the budget presentations and get your budget-related questions ready for the e-Town Hall."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

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View the online edition for more information -
https://www.nanaimo.ca/NewsReleases/NR261118ReviewProcessForCityS2027BudgetBeginsThisWeek.html