



# PLAN NANAIMO

## MANAGING URBAN GROWTH

You are invited to help decide where we live, work and play. The 10-Year Review for the City of Nanaimo Official Community Plan (Plan Nanaimo) is a public process intended to reaffirm and build on strategies for meeting the many growth challenges the City continues to face.

This review is intended to update the City's Official Community Plan (OCP), which will guide Council in making development decisions for the next 25 years.

Backgrounder No. 3 is intended to highlight policies of the OCP Goal Three, **Managing Urban Growth**. Over the next two (2) weeks, watch the newspapers and City website for additional OCP "Backgrounders" on the other goals of the Official Community Plan.

### What Is An Official Community Plan?

The BC *Local Government Act* defines an Official Community Plan (OCP) as "a statement of objectives and policies to guide decisions on planning and land use management, within the area covered by the plan, respecting the purposes of local government."

In broad terms, an OCP sets out the location, type, and density of all types of land use, from residential and commercial to industrial, utilities and parks. An OCP can also include policies relating to social needs, agricultural activities, and preservation, protection, and restoration of the natural environment.

The 10-Year Review is intended to determine:

- How well have we done in meeting the **PLAN NANAIMO** goals for shaping development, land use and other aspects of living in Nanaimo?
- Where are the successes and the shortcomings?
- Are these the right goals to carry forward through the next 25 years?

The City of Nanaimo needs citizen involvement to help answer these questions.

### Managing Urban Growth

One of the goals of **Plan Nanaimo** is to prevent the spread of residential and commercial development into rural areas by accommodating growth in the City's urban areas, thereby preserving the character and environment that our citizens value.

**Plan Nanaimo** sets out methods to accomplish this by:

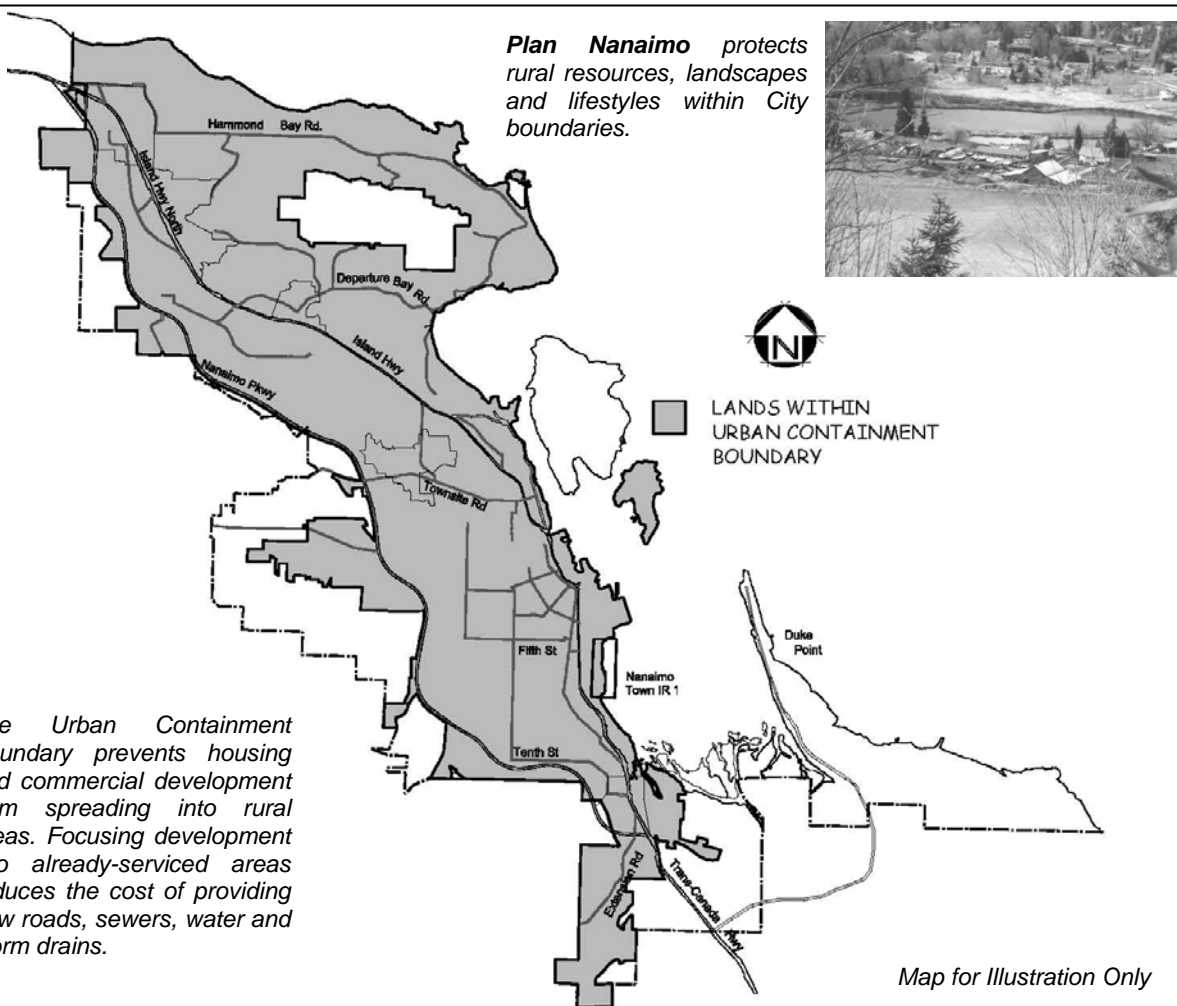
- Using the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) to provide separation between rural and urban development, and directing additional urban development to areas within the UCB;
- Restricting the expansion of servicing (eg/ water, sewer) to areas outside of the UCB;
- Protecting rural areas valued both for high agricultural, forestry and resources potential, and for environmental, recreational, and open space potential; and by
- Protecting the Parkway highway area from urban development to maintain its natural character and provide for future interchange potential.

### What is An UCB?

An **Urban Containment Boundary** provides a well defined boundary between areas of the City designated for urban growth and those protected for rural values, and where urban services (eg/ water, sewer) are available for development.



*Plan Nanaimo discourages commercial and industrial development along the Nanaimo Parkway.*



### Get Involved!

#### Attend a Free One-Day Community Conference

Saturday, 2006-NOV-18  
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Malaspina University-College

The conference will feature guest speakers, focusing on social, environmental, urban design, and smart growth topics.

Workshops will also be held to share your ideas for the community.

Pre-registration is required to confirm availability.

Register early to guarantee a seat.

Online at [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca), or

By phone at (250) 755-4473

#### Need More Information?

Want to express your views but can't attend the Community Conference?

Contact us to find out about other ways to obtain information or participate in the **PLAN NANAIMO 10-Year Review**.

Email: [plan.nanaimo@nanaimo.ca](mailto:plan.nanaimo@nanaimo.ca)

Web: [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)

Phone: (250) 755-4483

Fax: (250) 755-4479

Mail: City of Nanaimo Community Planning  
455 Wallace Street  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6

View **PLAN NANAIMO** on the City website, or at the Vancouver Island Library downtown branch, Malaspina University-College library, or City Hall (*copies available for purchase*).

### Things to Think About

- Should the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) be amended to follow the same boundary as City of Nanaimo city limits?
- Under what circumstances should the UCB be adjusted?
- Where do you think heavy industry is best located – inside or outside the UCB?
- How well has the City done in meeting the goal of avoiding commercial strip development along the Island Parkway within City boundaries?

